

DAILY BANGLADESH WATCH

10 August 2026

Takeaways

Politics

- ◆ **What analysts say on Hasina's Delhi press conference and declaration to return home:**
Former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who was ousted following a student-led mass uprising, addressed a virtual press conference from New Delhi, India, on Wednesday. The Bangladesh government has expressed a strong reaction to the Indian government for permitting her to hold the media conference from New Delhi. During the press conference, Sheikh Hasina announced her intention to return home in December this year, a declaration made two years after fleeing to India. **According to analysts, her statement reflects a desperate bid to maintain her political relevance, retain her supporters, and reactivate Awami League, whose activities remain banned in the country.** A report published on Thursday by the influential Japanese news outlet, Nikkei Asia, cited Michael Kugelman, a South Asia analyst at the US-based think tank Atlantic Council, who outlined three possible motivations behind Sheikh Hasina's announcement to return. Analysts contend that even if Sheikh Hasina returns, her immediate scope for political activity will remain severely constrained. Nevertheless, her presence could significantly impact the current political landscape in Bangladesh. According to a report by The Diplomat, forcibly deporting Sheikh Hasina to Bangladesh is not a realistic option for India. However, if she returns voluntarily, current bilateral tensions may ease to some extent. **Speculation suggests that India is liaising covertly with several European nations to guarantee her safety upon return, though the Indian Ministry of External Affairs has refrained from commenting on the matter** (*Prothom Alo*, [07 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Home Minister says India must rethink friendly ties if it allows Hasina political activities:**
Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed has warned India over the political activities of former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, who is currently staying in the country. **He said India would need to reconsider its friendly relations with Bangladesh if it allows Hasina, who fled the country amid the mass uprising, to conduct political activities from Indian soil.** "You will play the Hasina card and seek friendly relations with Bangladesh; remember, the two are contradictory. I hope the Indian authorities and the Indian government will understand this," the home minister said. He made the remarks on Saturday as the chief guest at a discussion held at the Nawab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Building at Dhaka University to mark the second anniversary of the July mass uprising. **Salahuddin Ahmed urged India not to allow Sheikh Hasina to make political statements or support activities against Bangladesh. He said Bangladesh wanted to maintain friendly diplomatic relations with neighbouring India based on mutual interdependence and respect for sovereignty** (*Prothom Alo*, [08 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Jamaat calls Hasina's Delhi press conference a 'gross violation' of diplomatic norms:**
Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami has described India's decision to allow former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, who is currently staying in the country, to address a press conference in New Delhi as a "gross violation" of diplomatic norms. **In a statement issued on Friday, Jamaat Secretary General Mia Golam Porwar alleged that the Indian government was disregarding Bangladesh's diplomatic appeals by continuing to shelter Hasina. He also urged the**

government to take more effective steps to bring her back to Bangladesh. In the statement sent by Jamaat's central publicity department, Porwar said Bangladesh remains committed to maintaining diplomatic relations with all countries, including neighbouring India, on the basis of mutual respect and equality. He added that Bangladesh also respects the independence and sovereignty of other nations. He alleged that Hasina was continuing to conspire against the people of Bangladesh from New Delhi, and India had ignored Bangladesh's diplomatic requests to stop such activities and continued to provide her with shelter. "This is a gross violation of international norms and diplomatic etiquette," Porwar said. He also added that Bangladesh sought to maintain relations with all countries, including neighbouring India, on the basis of mutual respect and equality, but accused New Delhi of disregarding Dhaka's repeated requests regarding Hasina. Calling the move a violation of international norms and diplomatic etiquette, he urged the government to take more effective steps, including seeking an Interpol red notice and UN assistance, to bring Hasina back. He also alleged that India was ignoring the existing prisoner exchange agreement between the two countries (*The Daily Star*, [07 August 2026](#); [08 August 2026](#)).

◆ **Nahid alleges 'Indian aggression' exhibits removed from July Museum:** Opposition Chief Whip and National Citizen Party (NCP) Convener Nahid Islam alleged that exhibits depicting "Indian aggression" have been removed from the July Mass Uprising Memorial Museum, claiming that the BNP is "afraid of India." He made the remarks at the premises of the museum, at what used to be Gono Bhaban, the official residence of the ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina. Earlier, Nahid, along with a delegation of over 50 NCP leaders, visited the museum. Nahid, who was a key coordinator of the Students Against Discrimination which spearheaded the July Uprising, said there was a specific segment on border killings in the museum. "There was a list of our brothers and sisters killed by the Indian BSF at the borders, along with a sculpture of Felani. Those have been removed. Some memories and photos of the anti-Modi movement have also been taken down," he added. Replying to a query from journalists, he said the BNP might be afraid of India. "If they weren't afraid, why would something that is a part of history be excluded?" he questioned (*The Daily Star*, [08 August 2026](#)).

◆ **IRI survey: Bangladesh almost evenly split over country's direction:** Bangladeshis are almost evenly divided over whether the country is moving in the right direction, with public optimism declining since late last year, according to the latest International Republican Institute (IRI) survey. The nationwide poll found that 46% of respondents believe Bangladesh is heading in the right direction, while 44% think it is moving in the wrong direction. Another 9% did not know or declined to answer. The narrow two-point gap marks a significant shift from October 2025, when 53% believed the country was heading in the right direction and 42% said the opposite. The findings suggest that the optimism recorded last year has weakened as Bangladesh navigates its post-election political and economic transition. The mood also varies considerably across the country. Rangpur emerged as the most optimistic division, with 59% saying Bangladesh was heading in the right direction. Barisal followed at 52% and Chittagong at 51%. At the other end, only 29% of respondents in Sylhet said the country was moving in the right direction, while 59% said it was heading the wrong way. Dhaka was also more pessimistic than optimistic, with 42% saying right direction against 48% saying wrong direction. Among those who said Bangladesh was heading in the wrong direction, the most frequently cited reason was rising commodity prices, mentioned by 18%. Another 17% pointed to deterioration in law and order and the judicial situation, while 10% cited increasing corruption. Gas shortages, lack of employment opportunities and low agricultural prices were among the other concerns. The

findings show that the public verdict on the country's overall trajectory remains finely balanced despite comparatively positive assessments of democracy recorded elsewhere in the same survey. IRI surveyed 5,000 adults across all 64 districts between May 16 and June 24 (*Dhaka Tribune*, [09 August 2026](#)).

- ◆ **IRI survey: BNP gains public favour as Jamaat loses ground:** Public attitudes towards Bangladesh's major political parties have shifted since last year, with the BNP gaining favour while Jamaat-e-Islami has lost ground, according to the latest nationwide survey by the International Republican Institute (IRI). The June 2026 survey shows that 57% of respondents hold a favourable view of the BNP, up from 51% in October 2025. The increase gives the party the highest favourability among the major political forces measured in the survey. Jamaat-e-Islami, meanwhile, moved in the opposite direction. Its favourability fell to 48%, down from 53% in October last year. The findings point to a changing political landscape following the February 2026 national parliamentary election. The National Citizen Party (NCP), which emerged from the political realignment following the July 2024 uprising, remains further behind the two established parties. Its favourability stands at around 37%, little changed from the previous survey. The Awami League continues to face the most difficult public perception among the major parties surveyed. Only around 22% of respondents expressed favourable views of the party, while roughly 72% viewed it unfavourably. IRI asked respondents whether they strongly or somewhat liked or disliked nine political parties, including the BNP, Jamaat, NCP, Islami Andolan Bangladesh, Awami League and Jatiya Party. The latest findings are particularly significant because they capture public attitudes several months after the February election, providing an early indication of how the country's political forces are being perceived in the post-election environment. The survey was conducted between May 16 and June 24 among 5,000 adults across all 64 districts. IRI said the nationally representative survey has a margin of error of ± 1.7 percentage points (*Dhaka Tribune*, [09 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **IRI survey: Economic pain weighs on public verdict of new govt:** Public approval of Bangladesh's new government stands at 55%, but support drops markedly among people struggling financially, according to the latest International Republican Institute (IRI) survey. The findings suggest that household economic conditions are emerging as an important dividing line in how Bangladeshis assess the government's performance. Overall, 26% of respondents said the new government was doing a "very good" job and another 29% rated its performance "somewhat good", giving it a combined positive rating of 55%. By contrast, 15% described its performance as somewhat bad and 12% as very bad. Approval, however, varies substantially depending on respondents' financial circumstances. Among those who described themselves as "living comfortably", 68% rated the government positively, 42% saying it was doing a very good job and 26% somewhat good. That falls to 57% among those who said they were "getting by" and 49% among respondents who said they were "finding it difficult". Among those finding their financial situation "very difficult", positive assessments stand at around 47%. The divide is significant because economic pressure remains widespread (*Dhaka Tribune*, [09 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Survey: Police struggle for public trust as Army tops approval ratings:** The Bangladesh Army enjoys by far the strongest public approval among major national institutions, while police are the only institution surveyed where disapproval outweighs approval, according to the latest International Republican Institute (IRI) survey. The findings reveal a sharp contrast in how Bangladeshis perceive different state and social institutions, with the Army receiving an approval rating of 78%. The High Court and local government institutions, upazila parishads and city corporations, follow with approval ratings of around 61% each. The media receives

about 59% approval, while religious leaders stand at around 58%. Public assessments become less positive further down the institutional rankings. The student movement receives an approval rating of about 56%, while the Election Commission stands at roughly 53%. Political parties collectively fare worse, receiving around 51% approval. **Police sit at the bottom of the list** (*Dhaka Tribune*, [09 August 2026](#)).

◆ **Hefazat presents nine demands in meeting with PM:** Hefazat-e-Islam leaders joined a meeting with Prime Minister Tarique Rahman in Chattogram on Sunday, and presented nine demands including a strict blasphemy law, exemplary punishment for the 2013 Shapla Square massacre, and declaration of Kadiyanis as non-Muslims. The meeting was held at Al-Jamiatul Islamia Azizul Uloom Babunagar Madrasa in Fatikchhari, Chattogram. Upon arriving at the madrasah, Prime Minister Tarique Rahman embraced Hefazat Ameer Allama Shah Mohibullah Babunagari and asked for his prayers. **Asked about the meeting, Hefazat-e-Islam Joint Secretary General Azizul Haque Islamabadi told Prothom Alo, “The prime minister told us that just as we stood with them before the election, we should continue to do so. I told him, ‘You should remain steadfast for Islam and the country; we are with you.’”** Hefazat Ameer Shah Mahibullah Babunagari and other senior leaders of the Islamic organisation including Secretary General Maulana Sajedur Rahman and Joint Secretary General Azizul Haque Islamabadi took part in the meeting. The government delegation, led by Tarique, included Finance Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury, Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed, State Minister for Energy Aninda Islam Amit, and State Minister for Land Mir Mohammad Helal, among others. **The nine demands from Hefazat are: 1) maximum punishment for defamation of Allah, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), and anything relating to Islam under a new blasphemy act – and the government must drop all new laws that violate Islamic principles, 2) exemplary punishment for the planners and executioners of the 2013 Shapla Chattar massacre, crackdown on anti-Modi protests in 2021, and atrocities in July Uprising 2024, 3) dropping of all “false cases” filed against Islamic scholars and leaders during the Awami League government’s tenure, and measures for integrating them in the nation rebuilding process, 4) according the master’s degree status to Dawrae Hadith certification from Qawmi Madrasahs, 5) making Islamic studies mandatory for all Muslim students up to higher secondary level, 6) officially declaring the Qadiyani group as non-Muslims, 7) banning Hizb-ut-Tawhid, 8) stopping all the alleged conspiracies of domestic and foreign Christian missionary groups in the Chattogram Hill Tracts region, 9) maintaining the entry ban on Maulana Sa’ad and hosting the Bishwa Ijtema annual gathering under the supervision of Islamic religious leaders.** Prime Minister Tarique Rahman on Sunday said ulema would remain government partners in safeguarding national stability, warning that opposition conspiracies threaten the country’s future following the BNP’s landslide election victory. He said ulema would remain key partners of the government, even without formal administrative roles. Speaking to scholars and leaders of Hefazat-e-Islam — a “non-political”, Qawmi madrasa-based organisation — at Al Jamiatul Islamia Azizul Uloom in Babunagar, Fatikchhari, Tarique directly linked national political stability to cooperation between the state and religious leaders, with Hefazat supremo Muhibbullah Babunagari in the chair (*Prothom Alo*, [09 August 2026](#); *Daily Sun*, [10 August 2026](#); *Daily Times of Bangladesh*, [10 August 2026](#)).

◆ **Presidential race:** Despite lacking a majority and facing certain defeat, the 11-party alliance led by Jamaat-e-Islami has announced the name of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) President Colonel (retd) Oli Ahmed for the presidential race. The announcement was made on Sunday by Nahid Islam, convener of the National Citizen Party (NCP), after a meeting of the alliance

at the residence of the Leader of the Opposition on Bailey Road in Dhaka. Speaking after the announcement, Oli Ahmed expressed gratitude for being chosen as the candidate. He claimed that in his long political career he has never faced allegations of corruption and that he leads a transparent life. **Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Secretary General and Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives Minister Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir is set to become the country's next president. Multiple high-level BNP sources have confirmed to Prothom Alo that party chairman and Prime Minister Tarique Rahman has finalised his nomination.** The sources also said that a presidential candidate is required to submit either a consent signature on the nomination paper or a written statement expressing his consent to contest the election. Mirza Fakhrul reportedly signed such a statement last Saturday (*Daily Times of Bangladesh*, [09 August 2026](#); *Prothom Alo*, [10 August 2026](#)).

- ◆ **Nat'l minorities demand end to discrimination, indigenous status:** National minority rights groups and civil society organisations on Sunday called for the full implementation of the 1997 Chittagong Hill Tracts Accord and an effective CHT Land Commission to resolve long-standing land disputes. They also demanded recognition of national minorities as indigenous peoples. The demands were made as the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples was observed across the country, including in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, with rallies, discussions and cultural programmes. They also called for the day to be observed nationally, separate ministries and land commissions for minorities in the plains, and a 5 per cent quota for national minorities in government jobs and admission to educational institutions (*New Age*, [10 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Chief Prosecutor says Tarique Rahman was held in Aynaghar during 1/11:** Chief Prosecutor Aminul Islam has said that Tarique Rahman, now the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, was held at the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI)'s secret detention facility, commonly known as Aynaghar, during the 1/11 period. Aminul Islam said that sufficient evidence has been found to substantiate the incident. The Chief Prosecutor made the remarks on Saturday (8 August) after inspecting the DGFI's secret detention facility. He said people were picked up and kept inhumanely in Joint Interrogation Cell (JIC) facilities, adding that much of the evidence and information related to those cells had been destroyed. "Anyone who commits a crime must be brought to justice, but no one can be detained extra-judicially," the Chief Prosecutor said. He added that trials are already underway in connection with many of these incidents and that anyone found to have been involved in the future would also be brought under the law (*Daily Sun*, [08 August 2026](#)).

Economy

- ◆ **PM Tarique calls for diversified energy mix as he inspects Matarbari Power Plant:** Prime Minister Tarique Rahman today stressed the maximum and efficient use of existing infrastructure to strengthen Bangladesh's power and energy security, alongside ensuring transparency and accountability in project management, regular maintenance and long-term integrated energy planning. **He also emphasised the need to diversify energy sources to meet the country's growing electricity demand, while giving the highest priority to economic viability, environmental impacts and the long-term interests of the people in power generation and the management of large-scale infrastructure.** The prime minister made the remarks during a visit to the 1,200MW Matarbari Ultra-Supercritical Coal-Fired Power Plant in

Maheshkhali upazila of Cox's Bazar. He stressed the integrated development of power and energy facilities, the deep-sea port and related industrial infrastructure centring on Matarbari, saying their planned and efficient utilisation would play an important role in ensuring energy security, promoting industrialisation and expanding overall economic activities (The Daily Star, [09 August 2026](#)).

- ◆ **PM says 41 lakh mothers will get Family Cards this fiscal year:** The BNP government will distribute Family Cards among 41 lakh families across the country in the fiscal year ending 30 June 2027, said Prime Minister Tarique Rahman on Saturday. **The mothers or homemakers of each of these families will get the cards to support household budgets alongside their husbands or male counterparts, the PM said while addressing flood-affected people in Baharchhara union, Bashkhali upazila of Chattogram. At the time, government officials handed over keys to newly built homes among 1,000 families affected by the floods.** The Family Card initiative is aimed at women empowerment and ensure that a woman can also take the reins of a family by themselves or in cooperation with male members, Tarique Rahman told the audience at the event (*Daily Sun*, [09 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Fair share of water to be ensured politically:** Water Resources Minister Md. Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anee today said Bangladesh will pursue political efforts to secure its fair share of water from Transboundary Rivers, including through renewal of the Farakka Treaty. He made the remarks while addressing a seminar titled "Transboundary Cooperation in South Asia: Prospects and Challenges" as the chief guest at the auditorium of the Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) in the capital. The minister said Bangladesh shares 57 transboundary rivers with neighbouring countries, and regional peace, food and water security, environmental sustainability, climate resilience and economic prosperity are closely connected to these rivers, he said. "The Farakka Treaty will be renewed politically and the fair share of water will be ensured," the minister said. The minister blamed the previous government's lack of political foresight and a subservient policy for failing to ensure Bangladesh's fair share of water from the Farakka (*BSS News*, [09 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Pilot project for Teesta master plan to begin soon:** State Minister for Water Resources Farhad Hossain Azad today said that the technical committee has been working on the implementation of the Teesta Master Plan and its consultations are also being held with the experts from different countries. **"A pilot project under the master plan will be launched within a short time," he made the remarks while talking to the journalists at Chilmari river port area here. Earlier, the state minister visited several river erosion-hit areas at Chilmari, Ulipur, Roumari and Rajibpur upazilas of the district. Responding to questions about the Teesta project, Azad said,** "The Teesta is a major project. It is not possible to implement such a large project in a single day. Our government is only five months old. Give us some time. We will begin work on the Teesta Master Plan as a pilot project within a short time" (*BSS News*, [08 August 2026](#)).

Foreign Policy

- ◆ **Jaiswal says India doesn't endorse Hasina's comments:** The Government of India does not endorse anything said by Bangladesh's ousted and convicted former prime minister Sheikh Hasina during a press conference held in New Delhi. Indian Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal made the remarks on Friday while responding to questions at the ministry's weekly media briefing in New Delhi. During the New Delhi event, Sajeeb Wazed,

who joined virtually from the United States, said Bangladesh was rapidly turning into another Pakistan. Referring to that remark at Friday's briefing, a journalist asked whether India endorsed the allegation and how concerned it was about the situation in Bangladesh. In response, Jaiswal said, **"We keep a close watch on all the developments in our neighbourhood. India pays particular attention to its national security and takes appropriate steps in response to any development or situation."** Jaiswal did not comment on whether India endorsed or rejected Sajeeb Wazed's allegation (*Prothom Alo*, [07 August 2026](#)).

◆ **Dhaka-Delhi relations face fresh tensions over Hasina:** The decision to allow Sheikh Hasina to directly interact with journalists in Delhi has created new tensions in Bangladesh-India relations. Although the BNP government had been signalling from the very beginning of its tenure that it wanted to rebuild bilateral relations with India, Wednesday's interaction has dealt a major blow to that effort. **Several responsible government and diplomatic sources in Bangladesh told Prothom Alo that, two days before Sheikh Hasina's event in Delhi, Bangladeshi representatives at the policymaking level communicated with a senior representative of the Indian government. During their conversation, Bangladesh's concerns over Sheikh Hasina's interaction with the media in Delhi were conveyed. In response, the Indian side had assured them that a recorded statement by Sheikh Hasina would be played at the event and that the presence of media personnel would be limited; only members of the organising body would participate. However, ultimately, the assurances were not reflected in the event.** Considering the broader scope of bilateral relations, Indian media outlets also criticised Sheikh Hasina's remarks in Delhi. Diplomatic sources in Dhaka and Delhi said Bangladesh has repeatedly asked India to take measures to ensure that Sheikh Hasina cannot conduct anti-Bangladesh activities from Delhi or make attempts to create instability in Bangladesh. As India has not responded to those requests, a crisis of trust has emerged between the two countries. According to diplomatic analysts, India should remain vigilant to ensure that Sheikh Hasina's political activities do not damage New Delhi's relations with the democratically elected government of Tarique Rahman in Bangladesh. Diplomats in Dhaka say Sheikh Hasina's interaction with journalists in Delhi last Wednesday has made the Bangladeshi prime minister's participation in BRICS even more uncertain. In particular, Dhaka has been displeased by India's failure to take any visible steps to prevent Sheikh Hasina from conducting political activities from Indian soil (*Prothom Alo*, [08 August 2026](#)).

◆ **Prime Minister almost certain not to attend BRICS summit:** Fresh tensions have emerged in Bangladesh-India relations after ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina was given an opportunity to speak directly to journalists in Delhi. Against this backdrop, it has become almost certain that Prime Minister Tarique Rahman will not attend the outreach session of the BRICS summit, scheduled to be held in Delhi on 12-13 September. **Several high-level sources of the Bangladesh government told Prothom Alo yesterday, Saturday, that following the recent developments, the possibility of the prime minister attending the BRICS outreach session has effectively vanished.** Diplomatic sources in Dhaka and Delhi say the two countries are looking for ways to restore normal relations so that the recent tensions do not develop into a prolonged crisis. Both sides have continued communicating on how to manage the situation and rebuild mutual trust. Diplomatic observers say the possibility of putting Bangladesh-India relations on a new footing after the February election has not gained the expected momentum. **Although there had been talk of a new chapter in relations, observers believe there was a lack of political and diplomatic initiatives needed to build mutual trust.** Following the recent tensions, how to overcome these shortcomings and move the relationship forward is now a major

challenge for both countries, they say. Dhaka, meanwhile, has viewed positively the remarks made by Indian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal at the ministry's regular briefing on Friday. Responding to a question, Jaiswal said that the Indian government did not endorse anything said at the forum, especially with regard to the duly constituted Government of Bangladesh. **According to members of Bangladesh's diplomatic community, India's position indicates that, despite the recent tensions, neither country is interested in allowing relations to deteriorate further.** There is still an opportunity to take the relationship forward on the basis of mutual respect, dignity, shared interests and sensitivity towards each other's concerns (*Prothom Alo*, [09 August 2026](#)).

- ◆ **High Commissioner Trivedi says PM-to-PM dialogue can resolve India-Bangladesh problems:** All outstanding issues between Bangladesh and India can be resolved if the prime ministers of both nations engage in direct talks, according to Dinesh Trivedi, the Indian high commissioner in Dhaka. After opening a children's play zone at the Indian Visa Application Centre (IVAC) in Jamuna Future Park on Sunday, he said Bangladesh's prime minister is held in high esteem by everyone. **"I have listened to his speeches on numerous occasions and observed that he speaks from the heart. He is a man of the people, just as our prime minister."** He added, **"I firmly believe that when the two leaders talk, all problems will be resolved. Solutions emerge when we engage in dialogue. I have full confidence that the people remain united, a resolution will definitely happen. There is nothing negative here, it is entirely positive."** Tensions with India rose during the interim government's tenure following the fall of Sheikh Hasina's government in August 2024 amid a student-led mass uprising (*bdnews24.com*, [09 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Indian envoy calls on Foreign Minister:** Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dinesh Trivedi today called on Foreign Minister Dr Khalilur Rahman and discussed various issues concerning bilateral relations and mutual interests. The meeting was held at a state guest house in the capital this afternoon. **"It was a regular meeting on bilateral issues," a spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs told BSS.** During the meeting, the foreign minister and the Indian envoy exchanged views on different aspects of Bangladesh-India relations as well as issues of mutual interest, the spokesperson added (*BSS News*, [09 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Focus on putting Dhaka-Delhi ties back on a positive track:** Tensions suddenly emerged in Bangladesh-India relations last Wednesday following former prime minister Sheikh Hasina's interaction with journalists in Delhi. After moving past this latest phase of tension, the two neighbouring countries are focusing on bringing their relations back onto a positive track through dialogue. **As part of this effort, Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dinesh Trivedi will pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Tarique Rahman on Monday morning. This will be his first meeting with Bangladesh's prime minister since he assumed office as India's high commissioner in Dhaka in June.** As a preparatory step ahead of his courtesy call on the prime minister, Dinesh Trivedi met Foreign Minister Khalilur Rahman on Sunday afternoon (*Prothom Alo*, [10 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Indian envoy calls on PM Tarique amid Dhaka-Delhi tensions:** Indian high commissioner to Bangladesh Dinesh Trivedi called on prime minister Tarique Rahman on Monday amid heightened diplomatic tensions between Dhaka and New Delhi. According to a message from the prime minister's press wing, the meeting began around 11:00 am at the Bangladesh Secretariat. Details of the discussion were not immediately available. **The Indian high**

commissioner met the prime minister at a time when Dhaka-New Delhi relations have hit a low over India's decision to allow ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina to continue her political activities from Indian soil. The prime minister's proposed bilateral visit to India in October has also entered an uncertain phase over the Hasina issue, the officials said (*New Age*, [10 August 2026](#)).

Security

- ◆ **Bangladeshi killed by BSF gunfire in Indian territory:** A Bangladeshi man has been shot and killed by India's Border Security Force (BSF) across the border from Moulvibazar's Kulaura, according to Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB). The incident took place around 3:45am on Sunday at a place called Maguruli inside India, said Lt Col Sarker Asif Mahmud, commander of BGB-46. The Maguruli area lies across the border Prithimpasha Union of Kulaura Upazila. The deceased, 20-year-old Md Tara Mia, was hailed from Muraichhara Basti village in the Upazila. BGB said a case had previously been filed against him over allegations of involvement in smuggling. Lt Col Asif said four to five smugglers illegally entered India on Saturday night, following which the BSF opened fire. **Tara Mia was shot, while the others fled and went into hiding. He said that immediately after learning of the incident, he spoke with BSF commanders to condemn and protest the shooting. In response, the BSF told him that several smugglers had advanced towards BSF personnel, forcing them to open fire, he said.** The BGB commander added said Indian police would hand over the body to their Bangladeshi counterparts after completing the postmortem and other legal procedures in India. The procedures are currently under way, he said (*bdnews24.com*, [09 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **BGB foils push-in attempt by BSF in Chuadanga:** Border Guard Bangladesh on Sunday foiled an alleged attempt by India's Border Security Force to push three people into Bangladesh through the Jibannagar border in Chuadanga. With the latest incident, the BGB and local residents have foiled at least 73 such push-in attempts since early May, following the Bharatiya Janata Party's victory in the recent West Bengal polls, according to BGB officials. According to a BGB press release, the incident occurred shortly after 3:00am under the jurisdiction of Maheshpur BGB Battalion-58. It said personnel of the Metreri Camp of India's 32 BSF Battalion allegedly attempted to push three people – a man and two women – into Bangladesh through a gate near border pillar 70/2-S. A BGB patrol team from the Madhabkhali Border Outpost spotted the three people before they could cross into Bangladesh and prevented them from entering beyond the zero line. Following the BGB's firm stance, the three people moved about 40 yards into Indian territory from the zero line and later returned towards the barbed-wire fence shortly before 5:30am. At around 7:55am, BSF personnel from the Metreri Camp opened the gate and took the three people back into Indian territory (*New Age*, [09 August 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Panchagarh locals detain Indian man after BSF abduct Bangladeshi man:** Border residents in Panchagarh detained an Indian national on Saturday in what they said was a retaliatory act following the alleged abduction of a 78-year-old Bangladeshi man by members of India's Border Security Force. The Indian national was identified as Dipankar Gop, 35, of Rajganj area in India's Jalpaiguri district. A flag meeting between company commanders of the Border Guard Bangladesh and BSF was held over the spike in tensions, but no resolution was reached. According to local people, Gop was detained on Saturday morning after he entered a sugarcane

field on the Bangladeshi side near Sub-Pillar No 12 of Main Pillar No 742 at the Birajot border in Satmara Union of Sadar Upazila. Local people alleged that Bangladeshi farmer Tamiz Uddin had gone to the Birajot border area on Wednesday morning to search for his missing cow. He was later allegedly picked up by members of BSF from the Chaulhati camp. In retaliation, local people detained Gop after he allegedly entered Bangladesh from the Indian side while working at a tea garden near the border. The border residents claimed that Gop was caught after attempting to enter a Bangladeshi village and crossing an embankment. They also said that Gop would be handed over to the Indian authorities if they return Tamiz Uddin to Bangladesh (*New Age*, [09 August 2026](#)).

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