

DAILY BANGLADESH WATCH

07 October 2026

Takeaways

Politics

- ◆ **July warriors seek constitutional recognition, legal protection, rehabilitation:** Injured July warriors and representatives of families of martyrs of the July uprising on Tuesday called for constitutional recognition of the mass uprising, legal protection for July fighters and proper treatment and rehabilitation for those injured during the movement. The demands were placed at the sixth meeting of the Special Committee on Constitutional Amendment, held at the Cabinet Room of the National Parliament Building with committee Chairman and Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed in the chair. **More than 60 representatives of families of martyrs and injured July warriors took part in the meeting and presented their views and proposals on various issues. They proposed incorporating the July Declaration and the spirit of the July mass uprising into an appropriate part of the Constitution, granting immunity to July warriors, resolving legal complications they face, and expediting the trials of genocide and crimes against humanity committed during the July mass uprising. The participants also proposed changes to important constitutional provisions, including the incorporation of a provision for a referendum on changes concerning the judiciary, Election Commission and caretaker government system to strengthen democratic institutions.** They stressed ensuring a safe and discrimination-free environment for women in politics, taking into consideration their participation in the July mass uprising. During the discussion, a proposal was also made to permanently incorporate the spirit and declaration of the July mass uprising into an appropriate part of the Constitution. The committee agreed to consider the proposals, said a press release issued by the Parliament Secretariat (*Dhaka Tribune*, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Court orders further probe against Hasina, 25 others in Sifat killing case:** A Dhaka court on Monday ordered the Police Bureau of Investigation to conduct a further investigation into the case filed over the killing of Md Sifat Hossain in Mirpur during the July mass uprising, in which ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina and 25 others are accused. Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Ariful Islam passed the order after hearing a Naraji (no-confidence) petition filed by Sifat's father, Kamal Howlader, against a charge sheet submitted in the case. The court directed the PBI to complete the probe and submit a report by November 10, prosecution sub-inspector Rafiqul Islam said on Tuesday. Earlier, sub-inspector Mizanur Rahman of Mirpur model police station submitted the charge sheet to the court on May 28, accusing 26 individuals, including Sheikh Hasina (*New Age*, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **CPJ calls for prompt investigation into attack on journalists at RU:** The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) calls on authorities to promptly and transparently investigate the 4 October attack on at least four journalists at Rajshahi University and prosecute those responsible for the violence against journalists. The New York-based global organisation that advocates for journalists' rights made the call in a statement issued on social media on Tuesday. **CPJ said in the statement that leaders and activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), the student wing of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party, allegedly beat campus**



correspondents for The Daily Star, Samakal, bdnews24.com, and Agamir Shomoy with sticks and batons while they covered an incident outside a dormitory, according to reports. All four journalists were hospitalised. The university filed a case against unidentified persons on 5 October, despite reports that video footage shows those involved, CPJ added (*Prothom Alo*, [06 October 2026](#)).

- ◆ **Editors' Council condemns attacks on journalists, demands action against perpetrators:** The Editors' Council has expressed deep concern over and condemned recent incidents of attacks, threats, harassment and obstruction of journalists while they were performing their professional duties in different parts of the country. **In a joint statement issued on Tuesday by President Nurul Kabir and General Secretary Dewan Hanif Mahmud, the council described the latest incident involving attacks on journalists at Rajshahi University as "deeply concerning".** It said the journalists were not acting on behalf of any particular side; rather, they were carrying out their responsibility to gather information and report the news in the public interest. According to the statement, the Editors' Council firmly believes that disagreement with any news report, opinion or professional activity of a journalist can never justify attacks, threats or obstruction of their professional duties (*Daily Sun*, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Tight security planned across Dhaka for Durga Puja:** Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Commissioner Mosleh Uddin Ahmed has said tight security measures will be in place across the capital during Durga Puja. "Every puja mandap will be secured with the utmost vigilance to ensure peaceful celebrations," he said at a meeting on security, law and order and traffic management at DMP headquarters on Tuesday. He said security measures would remain in place from Mahalaya through the festival and idol immersion. **All puja mandaps will be covered by CCTV cameras, while mandap officials will use body cameras. Uniformed and plainclothes police will be deployed, with SWAT, Crisis Response Team, Quick Response Team, crime scene vans and bomb disposal units kept on standby, he said.** The commissioner urged puja committees to monitor volunteers and visitors and contact 999 or the nearest police station in case of emergencies. **This year's Durga Puja will be an "acid test" for law-enforcing agencies, Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Mosleh Uddin Ahmed has said** (*Dhaka Tribune*, [06 October 2026](#); *bdnews24.com*, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **President for ensuring rights of Christian community to build harmonious Bangladesh :** President Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir today called for ensuring the rights and dignity of the Christian community to build harmonious Bangladesh. "Bangladesh does not want division and communalism in the name of religion. The return of autocracy and fascism is also never desirable, and a social movement must be built to prevent it," he said. **The President made the call as a 25-member delegation of the Christian Community, led by Assistant Bishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Dhaka Subrata B. Gomes, paid a courtesy call on him at Bangabhaban this noon, President's Press Secretary Md Sarwar Alam told BSS. During the meeting, the delegation raised various issues concerning the Christian community with the President and sought his cooperation in then matters.** The President said, "Bangladesh is the country of all citizens, where everyone is equal." "It is of utmost importance to ensure that no citizen is deprived or discriminated against because of religious identity," he added (*BSS News*, [06 October 2026](#)).

- ◆ **Factional feuds deepen in fugitive AL:** Factional disputes are widening across Awami League even as most of its leaders remain either in hiding or in prison following the mass uprising that ousted the party from power, and its activities remain banned in Bangladesh. The rifts, spanning the central leadership to grassroots units, have become increasingly visible among fugitive leaders. **Party insiders say disputes exist in almost all of AL's 83 organisational district units. To contain the divisions, a core committee headed by AL President Sheikh Hasina, who is staying in Delhi, has been formed, while a separate platform, the Awami League Research Team (ART) is collecting organisational information to support its work. Several central leaders told TIMES that meetings joined virtually by Hasina have seen leaders from different units trade allegations against one another.** Claims that a presidium member, several former ministers and a number of central leaders are fuelling the disputes are now increasingly surfacing in the open. The divisions have intensified since Hasina announced that she would return to the country in December, creating unease among grassroots leaders and activists. **AL Presidium member Abdur Rahman, who recently returned to Kolkata from London, sought to play down the tensions. Leadership disputes are playing out openly in Dhaka, Gazipur, Narayanganj, Barishal, Feni, Tangail and Noakhali, while organisational tensions of varying intensity persist in almost every district and upazila, according to party sources** (*Daily Times of Bangladesh*, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Adviser Zahed says Political reconciliation difficult without repentance:** Prime Minister's Information and Broadcasting Adviser Zahed Ur Rahman today said political reconciliation following the mass uprising would be a good thing but said it would be difficult without acknowledgement of wrongdoing and repentance. **He said several factors must be considered, including the basis of reconciliation, who would fall under its purview, whether the context has been established, and whether reconciliation can take place without repentance. Welcoming any initiative by third parties to initiate reconciliation, he also advised interested parties to engage with the Awami League [whose activities are banned].** The prime minister's adviser outlined the government's stance during a weekly press briefing at the Secretariat on the progress of various government activities. Responding to a question from a journalist, Zahed said, "We do not disagree that reconciliation was needed; much has been said on this matter following August 5 [2024]. The question is, what are the conditions for reconciliation, on what basis will it take place... what happened regarding [reconciliation in] South Africa... that must be examined." "The fundamental aspect of reconciliation is that whichever group, political party, or quarter it is, acknowledging the crime committed and feeling remorse are essential. Only then can the question of reconciliation arise," he added. The adviser said, "Had such an environment existed, discussions could have [begun] on between whom and how reconciliation could take place" (*The Daily Star*, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **HRW reports 'Cycle of political repression' persists under BNP govt:** New York-based Human Rights Watch has said that mass arrests continue 'the cycle of political repression' in Bangladesh, even though the BNP came to power promising to restore human rights and the rule of law. 'Instead, the new government has arbitrarily detained perceived opponents and rolled back human rights safeguards the interim government proposed,' said Elaine Pearson, Human Rights Watch's Asia director, overseeing the work of the Asia division in more than 20 countries. Pearson said the current ruling party, the Bangladesh National Party, faced severe repression under the Awami League government. Since being elected in February,

it has targeted its own perceived opponents with arbitrary detention and hundreds of Awami League members are currently in jail, mostly without charge, she said. The international human rights law guarantees freedoms of expression and association for all. **Pearson said past violations of those rights committed when the Awami League was in power cannot justify the Bangladesh Nationalist Party's current violations of the same rights** (*New Age*, [07 October 2026](#)).

- ◆ **Constitutional Reform Committee: BNP focusing on its polls promises:** The special parliamentary committee on constitutional reform will prioritise implementing the BNP's agenda in line with its election manifesto alongside the July charter, ruling party members of the committee have said. **Key BNP proposals include restoring "Absolute trust and faith in Almighty Allah" as a fundamental state principle, excluding the judiciary and the president from the caretaker government system, and limiting an individual's tenure as prime minister to 10 years. The BNP also favours allowing the prime minister to simultaneously serve as the party chief and introducing the post of vice-president.** Committee members Chief Whip Nurul Islam Moni and Zainul Abidin confirmed the party's position on the matter to The Daily Star, saying that constitutional matters included in the manifesto would be considered alongside the charter. **Committee Chair and Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed reiterated that the BNP would fully implement the charter exactly as it was signed** (*The Daily Star*, [07 October 2026](#)).

Economy

- ◆ **Cargo vessel heads to Bangladesh as India revives pre-Partition Dibrugarh-Dhaka river route:** The pre-Partition-era water transport route between Dibrugarh in Assam and Dhaka in Bangladesh has been formally revived with the departure of a vessel carrying 540 tonnes of methanol for Bangladesh. DLB Patkai, carrying the consignment, was flagged off by Union Minister of Shipping and Water Transport Sarbananda Sonowal from Bogibeel in Dibrugarh on Monday, Deccan Herald reports. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma joined the flag-off event virtually, according to the Indian daily. The route, once used by the British to transport tea, timber and coal through Kolkata, remained closed after the 1947 Partition. An official of the Inland Waterways Authority of India said the Brahmaputra river port at Dibrugarh itself was closed in 1956. **The methanol, produced by state-owned Assam Petro-Chemicals Ltd at Namrup, is bound for Pangaon Port in Dhaka.** The vessel will travel about 768 kilometres along National Waterway-2 on the Brahmaputra in India to the Indo-Bangladesh border before continuing along the Indo-Bangladesh Protocol Route. It will cover a total distance of about 1,300 kilometres from Bogibeel in Dibrugarh to Narayanganj in Dhaka. **Officials said the voyage is being observed as a test of whether the Brahmaputra can become a commercially viable freight corridor linking India's Northeast with overseas markets. Regular methanol shipments to Bangladesh are planned** (*bdnews24.com*, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **New gas reserve found in Noakhali well:** A new gas reserve has been found after drilling a well at Bara Charigaon village under Nabipur union in Noakhali's Senbug upazila. **The well, named "Sundalpur-4 Exploration cum Development Well," is currently being drilled and**

details about the reserve and the extractable amount of gas will be confirmed after the completion of the exploration. Officials are primarily assuming that around 7 million cubic feet of gas could be added to the national grid from the well every day. Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration and Production Company Limited (BAPEX) confirmed the availability of gas in the well on Tuesday afternoon. The drilling of the well began on 28 July (Daily Sun, [07 October 2026](#)).

Foreign Policy

- ◆ **India envoy Trivedi meets Modi over Bangladesh ties, Tarique visit: report:** Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has met with India's High Commissioner to Bangladesh Dinesh Trivedi in New Delhi, the BBC reports. Trivedi travelled to New Delhi from Dhaka on Monday night on an unannounced visit and met Modi around 1pm local time on Tuesday, according to the BBC. **Citing diplomatic sources in New Delhi, the report said Trivedi had travelled to convey Dhaka's current position on a possible visit by Prime Minister Tarique Rahman to India and bilateral issues.** Neither the Indian High Commission in Dhaka, India's foreign ministry nor Modi's office has officially commented on the visit (*bdnews24.com*, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Bangladesh seeks Airbus deliveries before 2030 as Biman moves to buy 10 aircraft:** Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister M Rashiduzzaman Millat today stressed the need to begin deliveries of Airbus aircraft before 2030 as Bangladesh set to sign an agreement to purchase 10 aircraft for Biman Bangladesh Airlines on Wednesday. "We are working towards signing an agreement to purchase 10 Airbus aircraft for the development of Biman Bangladesh Airlines. However, it is essential to bring forward the delivery schedule," the minister said, emphasizing that deliveries should begin before 2030. He made the remarks when a Lufthansa delegation, led by German Ambassador to Bangladesh Rüdiger Lotz, paid a courtesy call on him at his ministry office at noon. The meeting discussed air connectivity between Bangladesh and Germany, Biman's development and other matters of mutual interest (*BSS News*, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Bangladesh seeks closer UN alignment with development priorities:** State Minister for Foreign Affairs Humaiun Kobir today called for stronger coordination among United Nations agencies and closer alignment of their programmes with its Five-Year Strategic Framework for Reform and Development (2026-2031), reaffirming its commitment to a stronger partnership. He made the call during a meeting with UN Resident Coordinator ad interim Carol Flore-Smreczniaak at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here, said a ministry press release. "**Bangladesh highly values its longstanding partnership with the United Nations and remains committed to further reinforcing its cooperation in support of shared priorities and national development,**" he said. The state minister stressed the need for stronger coordination among UN agencies and closer alignment of their programmes with Bangladesh's reform and development framework. On the Rohingya crisis, Kobir appreciated the UN's humanitarian assistance and called for sustained efforts to ensure the early and sustainable return of the Rohingyas to their ancestral homes in Myanmar (*BSS News*, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Bangladesh, Indonesia seek stronger economic ties, strategic partnership:** Bangladesh and Indonesia today expressed their readiness to deepen economic cooperation and work

towards a long-term strategic partnership, with Dhaka proposing a **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement** to advance bilateral relations. The discussions took place when visiting Indonesian Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Anis Matta met State Minister for Foreign Affairs Humaiun Kobir at his office here, a foreign ministry press release said. Kobir urged stronger economic engagement, while Matta proposed undertaking priority joint projects over the next five to ten years to help develop a strategic partnership. **The two sides reviewed cooperation in trade and investment, energy, health, disaster management, education and training, and consular affairs. They also discussed regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest. Welcoming Matta, Kobir presented five proposals to deepen bilateral cooperation, including restoring visa-on-arrival facilities for Bangladeshi nationals visiting Indonesia.** He requested Indonesia to import more Bangladeshi pharmaceutical products to meet its growing demand and procure jute bags through a government-to-government arrangement for environmentally friendly packaging of coffee, beans and other products. The state minister also sought access to the Indonesian market for Bangladeshi potatoes and proposed institutional cooperation in disaster management (*BSS News*, [06 October 2026](#)).

- ◆ **Bangladesh, Turkey review progress on FTA talks, investment cooperation:** Bangladesh has sought to advance negotiations with Turkey on a free trade agreement (FTA) and expand trade and investment cooperation between the two countries. **Commerce Minister Khandakar Abdul Muktedir met Turkish Ambassador to Bangladesh Ramis Sen in Dhaka on Monday, where the two sides discussed the FTA, business links for fruit imports, hazardous waste management and Bangladesh's participation in international trade events, according to the industries ministry. On the FTA, the two sides reviewed progress on starting talks.** Muktedir said he would like to hold bilateral discussions with his Turkish counterpart and meet an investment agency during his upcoming visit to Turkey. Dhaka also sought contact details of Turkish fruit-exporting organisations to strengthen import links, which the commerce ministry will share with relevant Bangladeshi businesses (*bdnews24.com*, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **Govt working to ensure investment-friendly environment:** Prime Minister Tarique Rahman on Tuesday said his government is working to ensure a stable, competitive and investment-friendly environment for both domestic and foreign investors. He made the remarks when a high-level delegation of Toyota Tsusho Corporation, led by its Vice Chairman Ichiro Kashitani, paid a courtesy call on him at his office at the Secretariat, said the PM's Deputy Press Secretary Shahadat Shadhin. **During the meeting, the Toyota Tsusho delegation informed the prime minister about its plan to establish a Toyota automobile manufacturing plant in Bangladesh. The delegation said the initiative would create employment, promote industrialization, facilitate technology transfer and help develop skilled human resources in the country. They also discussed the expansion of Toyota's operations in Bangladesh, potential areas of investment and its long-term business plans.** Welcoming Toyota's interest in expanding its investment and operations in Bangladesh, Prime Minister Tarique Rahman said the government is committed to ensuring necessary policy support, infrastructure and other facilities for foreign investors (*Dhaka Tribune*, [06 October 2026](#)).

Security

- ◆ **Four detained in Panchagarh while attempting to cross border into India:** Four people, including three teenagers, were detained by Border Guard Bangladesh while attempting to enter India illegally through crossing border at Tetulia in Panchagarh on early Tuesday. A patrol team of Sharialjot BOP of Panchagarh 18 BGB Battalion detained them. According to BGB sources, on Tuesday morning, a patrol team of Sharialjot BOP was on duty in the border area. At that time, seven Bangladeshis tried to enter India through the Sharialjot Forest via Main Pillar 440, Sub-Pillar No 25. BGB members, led by patrol team commander Havildar Md Sekendar Ali, chased them and detained the four, while three others managed to escape. Inspector (investigation) of Tetulia Model Police Station, Abdul Malek, said, 'A case will be filed against them under the Passport Act.' (New Age, [06 October 2026](#)).
- ◆ **150 Bangladeshis 'deported' from Kashmir after authorities flag 'illegal' residence:** At least 150 Bangladeshi nationals have reportedly been detained in Kashmir and sent back to Bangladesh over allegations of illegal residence in India, according to ThePrint. The newspaper reported that the group was detained on Monday and flown from Srinagar to Bagdogra in West Bengal on a special Indian Air Force aircraft, before being handed over to the Border Security Force (BSF) and escorted across the border into Bangladesh. ThePrint mentioned it was the first publicly documented large-scale deportation of Bangladeshis from Kashmir. **Indian records put the number of Bangladeshis in Jammu and Kashmir at 504, including 458 in the Kashmir Valley. The official said there are two transit points in West Bengal, Malda and Bagdogra, from where the BSF escorts people across the international border.** It was not immediately clear whether the 150 people were sent through Malda or Bagdogra ([bdnews24.com](#), [06 October 2026](#)).

[Disclaimer: We do not subscribe to the views or interpretations expressed by various Bangladeshi commentators we make available for perusal by our experts/analysts/policymakers every day. We put it all together in Daily Bangladesh Watch (DBW) with a view to acquainting our readers with the existing thought process in Bangladesh having its bearing on India, with the hope that such effort will help us in devising appropriate policies to deal with Bangladesh in a more effective manner. DBW is curated by Dr. Ankita Sanyal, Research Fellow, CPS]