

## Bangladesh now world's top peacekeeper

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh is now the largest troop contributing country to the UN peacekeeping operations.

Bangladesh has earned the distinction of being the top troop-contributor in UN peacekeeping operations as of October 31, said Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury on Thursday.

Currently, 9,457 Bangladeshi peacekeepers have been deployed in various countries. Pakistan ranked second with 9,068 peacekeepers while India ranked third with 6,878 personnel.

"This is indeed a matter of great pride and satisfaction for my country," Ambassador Chowdhury told the media after the UN has made the announcement, according to a message received in Dhaka yesterday.

"It reflects Bangladesh's deep and abiding commitment to global stability and our interest in actively associating ourselves with the goals and purposes of the UN and the international community."

At present, 107 countries are taking part in the UN peacekeeping missions.

The number of Bangladeshis in the missions will further increase with the completion of deployment in Congo and Sudan in near future, said Dr Iftekhar.