



Foreign Minister Dipu Moni and Turkish Minister of State Mehmet Aydin exchange documents after signing an agreement on healthcare at the Prime Minister's Office in the city yesterday. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and visiting Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan were present at the signing ceremony.

Dhaka, Ankara ink deal on healthcare

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh and Turkey signed an agreement on healthcare and a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on exchange of land for setting up embassy offices in the two countries.

The deals were signed at the Prime Minister's Office in presence of Prime Minister (PM) Sheikh Hasina and visiting Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan yesterday morning.

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni signed both the deals on behalf of Bangladesh

while Turkish Minister of State Mehmet Aydin and Finance Minister Mehmet Simsel signed the deals on healthcare and exchange of land respectively.

Finance Minister AMA Muhit, Commerce Minister Faruk Khan,

Advisers to the PM Mashiur Rahman and Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, Ambassador-at-Large M Ziauddin, Principal Secretary to the PM MA Karim, Press Secretary to the PM Abul Kalam Azad and high officials from both sides were present.

Turkish support to enhance Erdogan tells Zillur

UNB, Dhaka

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan yesterday assured that Turkish cooperation with Bangladesh would rapidly increase, emphasising on education and cultural affairs.

He gave the assurance when he called on President Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban in the city.

Erdogan said Turkey is eager to turn the two-way trade into US\$ three billion by 2015, more than three times the existing volume. Bilateral trade was US\$ 47 million in 2002 and increased to US\$ 658 million in 2009.

Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Ali Babacan, Turkey-Bangladesh Joint Commission for Trade, Economic, Technical Cooperation Co-chair and State Minister Mehmet Aydin, Finance Minister Mehmet Simsek and Energy and Natural Resources Minister Taner Yildiz accompanied Erdogan.

Erdogan apprised the president that two agreements were signed yesterday between Turkey and Bangladesh.

Welcoming the Turkish prime minister to Bangabhaban, the president said Turkish Father of the Nation Mustafa Kemal Pasha is very popular in Bangladesh and Bangladesh's national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam wrote poem about him.

Describing the relation between Dhaka and Ankara as historical, Zillur urged the Turkish entrepreneurs to further increase their investments in Bangladesh, taking advantage of cheap labour and land.

He also urged Turkey to recruit skilled and unskilled manpower from Bangladesh.

"We need more and more Turkish cooperation," he said.

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, Commerce Minister Faruk Khan, Ambassador-at-Large Mohammad Ziauddin and ambassadors from both the countries were present.

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