

## Remittance flows over \$30 billion in FY25

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Remittance inflows crossed the \$30 billion mark on Saturday, two days before the fiscal year is due to end, making it the highest receipts yet in Bangladesh's history.

In the first 28 days of this month, the country received \$2.53 billion in remittance, up 7 percent year-on-year, according to data from the Bangladesh Bank.

The trend indicates the remittance receipts in fiscal 2024-25 would hit a historic high. As of June 28, \$30.4 billion was received in remittance in fiscal 2024-25.

Before this, Bangladesh received the highest volume of remittance in fiscal 2020-21: \$24.8 billion.

The surge in money sent home by Bangladeshi expatriates is being



credited to a cocktail of factors, such as a narrowing gap between official and informal exchange rates, a clampdown on money laundering and renewed sense of patriotism among Bangladeshis living abroad after the political changeover in August last year.

This has lifted the country's gross foreign exchange reserves to \$26.32 billion, this highest since October 2022.

Foreign reserves were propped up by the release of \$1.34 billion as third and fourth instalments of the International Monetary Fund's loan programme and budget support from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other development partners, said a BB official.

The reserves are sufficient to meet four-and-a-half months' import bills.

## Draft polls code seeks to regulate digital campaigns

### Enables EC to cancel candidature for violations

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR and AHMED DEEPTO

The Election Commission is likely to have a set of guidelines in its electoral code of conduct for the use of social media in campaigning.

The guidelines are aimed at curbing misinformation and promoting responsible online behaviour during electioneering.

A draft of the guidelines also introduces stricter provisions, including

granting the commission the authority to disqualify candidates found guilty of serious violations.

Besides, it imposes a ban on posters and the use of any kind of plastic materials for campaigning.

The EC yesterday evening uploaded the draft code of conduct for political parties and candidates on its website, inviting citizens' feedback by July 10.

#### CAMPAIGN ON SOCIAL MEDIA

According to the draft, any candidate,

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'Adviser from Muradnagar' abusing power

**Says Fakhrul: Adviser Asif Mahmud blames AI allies for crimes**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An adviser of the interim government from the Muradnagar area is continuously abusing power to serve his own interests in that area, said BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir.

Without directly naming anyone, he said: "Since becoming an adviser, he has been busy establishing dominance and influence in the area like Awami MPs."

Asif Mahmud Shojib Bhuiyan, the adviser to LGRD and youth and sports ministries, hails from Muradnagar.

If the adviser remains more focused on self-interest than public service, peace in the area will be disrupted, Fakhrul said in a statement.

"Just like during the fascist period, they are occupying and persecuting the homes of minorities and then blaming others. This pattern is still ongoing."

Emboldened by the adviser's actions, miscreants have been involved in various anti-social activities.

"And for this, they are receiving constant support from both domestic and foreign sources."

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## Govt okays draft MoU to host UN rights office

STAR REPORT

The advisory council yesterday approved in principle a draft memorandum of understanding (MoU) that will pave the way for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to set up an office in Bangladesh.

After the council's meeting, presided over by Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus, Law Adviser Prof Asif Nazrul told a press briefing at the Foreign Service Academy that the mission will be established for three years initially after the MoU is signed, reports BSS.

"United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk had visited our country, and the agency wanted to open a mission here

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UP member hacked to death in front of family

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

A union parishad (UP) member was hacked to death by a group of armed assailants posing as law enforcers in Islampur upazila of Jamalpur early yesterday.

The deceased, Abdur Rahim, 50, was a resident of Jigatola village under Ward 1 of Kulkandi union. He had been elected a member of his local union parishad twice consecutively.

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