

## THE STATE MINISTERS



**M RASHIDUZZAMAN MILLAT**

**Ministry:** Civil Aviation and Tourism  
**Constituency:** Jamalpur-1  
**Background:** Treasurer at BNP



**ANINDYA ISLAM AMIT**

**Ministry:** Power, Energy and Mineral Resources  
**Constituency:** Jashore-3  
**Background:** An organising secretary at BNP



**SHARIFUL ALAM**

**Ministries:** Commerce; Industries; Textiles and Jute  
**Constituency:** Kishoreganj-6  
**Background:** An organising secretary at BNP



**SHAMA OBAID ISLAM**

**Ministry:** Foreign Affairs  
**Constituency:** Faridpur-2  
**Background:** An organising secretary at BNP



**SULTAN SALAHUDDIN TUKU**

**Ministries:** Food; Agriculture; Fisheries and Livestock  
**Constituency:** Tangail-5  
**Background:** Publicity secretary at BNP



**BARRISTER KAISER KAMAL**

**Ministry:** Land  
**Constituency:** Netrokona-1  
**Background:** Law affairs secretary at BNP



**FORHAD HOSSAIN AZAD**

**Ministry:** Water Resources  
**Constituency:** Panchagarh-2  
**Background:** Rural development secretary at BNP



**MIR MOHAMMAD HELAL UDDIN**

**Ministry:** Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs  
**Constituency:** Chattogram-5  
**Background:** An assistant organising secretary at BNP



**MD ABDUL BARI**

**Ministry:** Public Administration  
**Constituency:** Joypurhat-2  
**Background:** Former bureaucrat



**MIR SHAHE ALAM**

**Ministry:** Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives  
**Constituency:** Bogura-2



**ISHRAQUE HOSSAIN**

**Ministry:** Liberation War Affairs  
**Constituency:** Dhaka-6  
**Background:** Former Dhaka mayor candidate from BNP



**FARZANA SHARMIN**

**Ministries:** Women and Children Affairs; Social Welfare.  
**Constituency:** Natore-1  
**Background:** A Supreme Court advocate



**SHAIKH FARIDUL ISLAM**

**Ministries:** Environment; Religious Affairs; Law  
**Constituency:** Bagerhat-3



**YASSER KHAN CHOWDHURY**

**Ministry:** Information and Broadcasting  
**Constituency:** Mymensingh-9  
**Background:** Convener of BNP's Nandail Upazila unit



**M IQBAL HOSSAIN**

**Ministry:** Disaster Management and Relief  
**Constituency:** Mymensingh-3



**MA MUHITH**

**Ministries:** Health and Family Affairs; Science and Technology; Posts, Telecommunications  
**Constituency:** Sirajganj-6



**AHAMMAD SOHEL MONZOOR SUMON**

**Ministry:** Housing and Public Works  
**Constituency:** Pirojpur-2



**ALI NEWAZ MAHMOOD KHYOM**

**Ministry:** Cultural Affairs  
**Constituency:** Rajbari-1



**BOBBY HAJJAJ**

**Ministry:** Education, Primary and Mass Education  
**Constituency:** Dhaka-13



**ZONAYED SAKI**

**Ministries:** Finance; Planning;  
**Constituency:** Brahmanbaria-6



**NURUL HAQUE NUR**

**Ministries:** Labour and Employment; Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment  
**Constituency:** Patuakhali-3



**MD AMINUL HAQ**

**Ministry:** Youth and Sports  
**Technocrat state minister**



**RAJIB AHSAN**

**Ministries:** Railways; Shipping  
**Constituency:** Barishal-4  
**Background:** BNP executive member



**HABIBUR RASHID HABIB**

**Ministry:** Road Transport and Bridges  
**Constituency:** Dhaka-9  
**Background:** BNP executive member

## ADVISERS TO THE PRIME MINISTER (WITH THE STATUS OF STATE MINISTER)



**HUMAYUN KABIR**

Joint Secretary General (international relations) of BNP



**BRIG GEN (RETD) SHAMSUL ISLAM**

Chief Security Officer of BNP chairman



**ZAHEDUR RAHMAN**

Physician-turned-political analyst



**MAHDI AMIN**

Adviser to BNP chairman



**REHAN ASIF ASAD**

Chief of BNP Research and Monitoring Cell



PHOTO: PTD

Chief Election Commissioner AMM Nasir Uddin administers the oath to elected representatives from Jamaat-e-Islami as members of parliament at the oath chamber of the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

## Tarique takes the reins

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state ministers in the BNP governments led by Tarique's mother and late BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia.

Only three of the ministers and state ministers are women -- all first timers.

Two ministers are leaders of BNP's allied parties and three are technocrat appointees.

After taking the oath, Tarique, dressed in a black suit and white shirt, signed both the oath of office and the oath of secrecy. Accompanied by his wife Zubaida Rahman and daughter Zaima Rahman, he arrived at the South Plaza at 4:02pm to warm applause.

A few minutes later, the president arrived at the venue, and the swearing-in ceremony began at 4:08pm.

Cabinet Secretary Nasimul Ghani conducted the proceedings, which opened with the national anthem and a recitation from the holy Quran.

Then chief adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus, Chief Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury, Chief Election Commissioner AMM Nasir Uddin, advisers of the interim government, Supreme Court judges, chiefs of the three forces, diplomats, newly elected lawmakers, political leaders, journalists, and top civil and military officials attended the event.

Among foreign dignitaries present were Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu, Bhutanese Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay, Indian Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, and Pakistan's

Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhary.

Hundreds of people, including supporters of the new MPs, thronged the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban since morning to catch a glimpse of the oath-taking ceremony, which was broadcast live on internet and TV. The crowd, allowed to assemble along Manik Miah Avenue, erupted in cheers each time the names of ministers and state ministers were announced.

Earlier in the day, the BNP Parliamentary Party at a meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban elected Tarique as its leader.

The new cabinet will hold its maiden meeting today at the Secretariat at 3:00pm, according to sources.

Region-wise, almost half of the council of ministers are from Dhaka and Chattogram divisions, while only two ministers are from the Sylhet division. Dhaka division has the highest representation with four ministers and eight state ministers. Chattogram division has nine ministers and two state ministers.

Three ministers and one state minister are from Rangpur division, while Rajshahi has two ministers and four state ministers; Khulna two ministers and two state ministers; Barishal two ministers and three state ministers; and Mymensingh four state ministers.

The swearing-in ceremony came six days after the BNP secured a stunning landslide in the 13th

national election. The party alone won 209 seats, with Tarique himself entering parliament for the first time after winning two constituencies. Its allies fetched three seats.

Jamaat-e-Islami, which is the main opposition party now, secured 68 seats, while its allies got nine.

In the morning, all 212 newly elected lawmakers of the BNP and its allies, 76 of Jamaat and its partners, and seven independents were sworn in by CEC Nasir Uddin at the oath chamber of the Sangsad Bhaban.

The BNP lawmakers, however, opted not to take oath as members of the Constitution Reform Council -- a body for the implementation of July charter reforms following the victory of "Yes" in the referendum.

Jamaat and National Citizen Party lawmakers were sworn in in sequence after the BNP, although they had earlier indicated that they would refrain from taking any oath unless the BNP joined the reform council process.

Jamaat and NCP did not attend the swearing-in ceremony of the new council of ministers. After taking oath as MP, Jamaat Ameer Shafiqur Rahman said the BNP showed "disrespect" to July uprising martyrs through its refusal to take oath as reform council members.

With the swearing in ceremony, the curtain fell on the 18-month-long Yunus-led interim government rule. The interim government was formed in August 2024 after the Awami League regime was ousted by the student-led July uprising.

Yesterday, the interim government was formally dissolved through a gazette notification issued by the Cabinet Division, marking the end of the Advisory Council that governed during the transitional period.

The notification stated that the president appointed Tarique as prime minister, recognising him as an MP who commands the confidence of the majority in parliament, and giving consent for the formation of a new government under his leadership.

The eldest son of late president Ziaur Rahman and Khaleda, Tarique returned home to an ecstatic welcome in December last year after over 17 years in exile in the UK.

**WHO GETS WHICH MINISTRY**  
Although the Cabinet Division usually publishes a gazette distributing portfolios among the cabinet members after the oath-taking ceremony, no gazette was issued as of writing this report at 1:00am.

According to a post published by the BNP on its verified Facebook page, party Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir was given the charge of the local government and rural development ministry while Standing Committee Member Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury was appointed finance and planning minister.

Standing Committee Member Salahuddin Ahmed was assigned the home ministry, while fellow members Iqbal Hasan Mahmud and Maj (retired) Hafiz Uddin Ahmed were entrusted with the power, energy and mineral resources portfolio and the Liberation War affairs ministry

respectively.

Khalilur was given charge of the foreign affairs ministry. Another technocrat minister, BNP Chairman's Adviser Mohammad Amin Ur Rashid, was assigned the agriculture, fisheries and food portfolios.

Standing Committee Member AZM Zahid Hossain was assigned the women and children affairs and social welfare ministries; BNP Vice-Chairman Abdul Awal Mintoo the environment ministry; Vice-Chairman Kazi Shah Mofazzal Hossain Kaikobad the religious affairs ministry; BNP Chairman's Adviser Mizanur Rahman Minu the land ministry; Vice-Chairman Nitai Roy Chowdhury the cultural affairs ministry; BNP Chairman's Adviser Khandaker Abdul Muktedir the commerce, industries, jute and textiles ministries; BNP Chairman's Adviser and former Sylhet City Corporation mayor Ariful Haque Chowdhury the labour and employment and expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministries; and BNP Chairman's Adviser Zahir Uddin Swapon the information and broadcasting ministry.

ANM Ehsanul Hoque Milon was given the education and primary and mass education ministries; BNP Joint Secretary General Shahid Uddin Chowdhury Anee the water resources ministry; Divisional Secretary (Rangpur) Asadul Habib Dulu the disaster management ministry; immediate past Attorney General Md Asaduzzaman the law ministry; BNP Executive Committee's Employment

Affairs Secretary Zakaria Taher the housing and public works ministry; Sarder Md Sakhawat Hossain the health and family welfare ministry; Fakir Mahub Anam the post and telecom, and science and ICT ministries; BNP National Executive Committee Member Shaikh Rabiul Alam the road, rail and shipping ministries; and BNP Chairman's Adviser Dipen Dewan the Chattogram Hill Tracts affairs ministry.

BNP Advisory Council Member Afroza Khanam Rita is the only woman to be a minister. She got the civil aviation and tourism ministry.

**10 ADVISERS**  
The new government yesterday appointed 10 advisers to Prime Minister Tarique, granting them the status of ministers and state ministers, according to an official gazette notification issued by the Cabinet Division.

Apart from BNP Standing Committee members Abbas and Nazrul, and Senior Joint Secretary General Rizvi, the five advisers who will hold the rank of ministers are BNP Advisory Council Member Ismail Jabiullah, and Dhaka University development studies teacher Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir.

The five advisers with the rank of state minister are BNP Joint Secretary General (international relations) Humayun Kabir; party chairman's Adviser Mahdi Amin and Chief Security Officer Brig Gen (retired) Shamsul Islam; writer and political analyst Zahed Ur Rahman; and Rehan Asif Asad.