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Protect unity against fascism, avoid distractions

Says Tarique after inaugurating July Mass Uprising Memorial Museum

STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman yesterday vowed transparent and impartial trials for those accused of atrocities during the anti-fascist movement, warning that attempts to destabilise post-fascist Bangladesh could pave the way for the return of the ousted authoritarian forces.

Addressing a discussion titled "July-36" after inaugurating the July Mass Uprising Memorial Museum on the second anniversary of the uprising, he said his government believes justice for every crime is essential to uphold the rule of law.

Paying tribute to those who died during the July uprising and the 16-year struggle to restore democracy, the prime minister said the mass uprising belonged to no individual, group or political party, and that the museum should preserve not only the memory of the July-August 2024 uprising but also the broader history of Bangladesh's democratic movements.

Tarique also pledged to build a self-reliant, prosperous, secure and democratic Bangladesh envisioned by the martyrs, guided by the BNP's 31-point election manifesto and the July National Charter, reported UNB and BSS.



Prime Minister Tarique Rahman visits the July Uprising Memorial Museum in the capital's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar on July Uprising Day yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

> **The museum will inspire future generations to uphold the spirit of the July uprising and build a better nation.**
>
> PROF MUHAMMAD YUNUS

- PM vows transparent trials for July atrocities
- Warns against moves that can help return of authoritarian forces
- Govt to name institutions after anti-fascist movement martyrs

He also warned against creating unnecessary controversies that could undermine the unity of anti-fascist forces.

"In a Bangladesh freed from fascism, some are trying to create unnecessary issues and destabilise the country. We need to consider whether, knowingly or unknowingly, such actions are facilitating the return of the defeated, deposed and fugitive authoritarian forces," he said.

The prime minister also said the government has decided to name at least one institution in each victim's locality after every person killed during the anti-fascist movement over the past 17 years and the July uprising.

Earlier, after inaugurating the July Mass Uprising Memorial Museum at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, formerly Gono Bhaban, Tarique toured galleries depicting the July 2024 mass uprising, the role of students and ordinary people, Bangladesh's political developments, and the 16-year autocratic rule of ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

A prayer was offered after the inauguration. The museum will open to the public tomorrow.

On August 5, 2024, Hasina fled to India as protesters breached security barricades and entered Gono Bhaban, then the prime minister's official residence. The complex was later vandalised.

The interim government led by Prof Muhammad Yunus later decided to convert it into a museum to preserve photographs, documents and artefacts related to the uprising and its historical significance.

Accompanying the prime minister, Prof Yunus described the museum as a bridge between Bangladesh's past and future.

"The museum will inspire future generations to uphold the spirit of the July uprising and build a better nation," he said, adding that it would help the nation rediscover its democratic ideals whenever it lost its way.

Tarique said his government has begun implementing the BNP's 31-point election manifesto and the July charter to rebuild the state and fulfil the aspirations of those who sacrificed their lives.

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Big oil firms make $93b in war profit

STAR REPORT

The world's eight largest listed oil producers posted combined profits of roughly $93 billion in the three months to the end of June, as the US-Israeli military strikes on Iran disrupted fossil-fuel supply and pushed benchmark crude above $126 a barrel.

The windfall war profits have reignited calls for oil and gas supermajors such as Saudi Aramco and BP to pay for the environmental damage caused by "cashing in on human misery" and fund a rapid transition to renewable energy, according to a report published by The Guardian on Tuesday.

The companies have used the biggest disruption of fossil fuel supplies in the market's history to almost double their combined

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FSRU fragility exposing gas supply vulnerabilities

Every disruption at floating terminals spirals into national gas crisis



ASIFUR RAHMAN

Bangladesh's floating LNG terminals have repeatedly exposed the fragility of the country's gas supply.

Each disruption -- whether caused by technical faults, maintenance or cyclones -- has sharply reduced supplies, forcing power cuts, scaled back industrial production, long queues at CNG stations and dwindling pipeline gas at households.

The latest shutdown of Excelerate Energy's floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU) at Maheshkhali has once again underscored this vulnerability.

The July incident cut roughly 450 million cubic feet per day (MMcfd), or half the LNG supply, from the national grid, worsening an already severe deficit.

Electricity shortages exceeded 3,000MW at times, industries faced critically low gas pressure, CNG stations struggled to refuel

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- Domestic gas production fell from **27.2**bcm in FY19 to **19.6**bcm in FY25
- LNG imports rose from **3.28**bcm in FY19 to **7.9**8bcm in FY25
- Expert warns import dependence increases financial, price, production vulnerabilities
- Suggests boosting exploration, efficiency, conservation
- Recommends investing in coal, renewables

HASINA'S MEDIA EVENT

'Detrimental' to Dhaka-Delhi ties reset

Says foreign ministry; Hasina reiterates plans for Dec return

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

India allowing ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina to interact openly with the media in Delhi was deeply hurtful to Bangladeshis and detrimental to the development of harmonious ties between Bangladesh and India, the government said last night.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, "Bangladesh is outraged that the absconding convicted genocider [sic] Sheikh Hasina was allowed this evening to engage in live interaction with the media in New Delhi where she and her henchmen launched venomous vitriol against the State of Bangladesh and her people."

It also questioned the timing of the event.

"On a day when the people of Bangladesh are observing the second anniversary of the July Revolution, this interaction by Sheikh Hasina on Indian soil stands as an affront to the sovereignty of Bangladesh and a grievous insult to the martyrs of the July Revolution," the statement said.

"Dhaka deeply regrets that in spite of concerns conveyed apriori to the Government of India about the likely ramifications of this event on the reset of our bilateral relations, this public event was permitted to be held," read the statement.

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Chhatra Dal, Shibir clashes continue

At least 19 hurt

STAR REPORT

Clashes erupted once again between activists of Chhatra Dal and Chhatra Shibir in several districts yesterday.

In some places, Chhatra Dal activists, along with BNP men, were also accused of attacking activists of Students Against Discrimination and Jatiya Chhatra Shakti.

Just the day before, dozens of people, including student leaders and journalists, were injured in clashes at Jagannath University, Alia Madrasa, Dhaka College, and Begum Rokeya University in Rangpur.

No cases have been filed over the incidents as of yesterday, police said.

At Barishal University, at least 10 people were injured in a clash between Chhatra Dal and Shibir activists over a procession marking July Uprising Day.

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Supporters of the Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Islami Chhatra Shibir, armed with sticks and bamboo poles, clash on the road in front of Dak Bangla in Narayanganj city's Chashara yesterday afternoon.

PHOTO: SAURAV HOSSAIN SIAM

US, Iran having 'very good' talks

Says Trump, warns Tehran to open Hormuz or get 'hit very hard'

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump said his administration had "very good discussions" with Iran during all-day negotiations on Tuesday, fuelling expectations of an imminent end to the five-month conflict.

Oil prices fell and stocks jumped in Asian trade yesterday after Wall Street hit record highs on hopes that a deal could soon be reached to restore traffic through the blockaded Strait of Hormuz.

- 'Positive' Oman talks over Hormuz continuing: Iran
- Houthis attack Saudi Arabia tanker in the Red Sea
- Israeli strikes hit south Lebanon after evacuation warning

"They had an all-day negotiation," Trump told Fox News' "@ Night" show. The Strait of Hormuz "is going to be open very soon," Trump added. "If they back out again, they are going to get hit really hard."

Trump has often threatened massive strikes if Tehran did not reach an agreement and then cited progress in talks that have so far failed to end hostilities.

Axios, citing two regional sources and a US official, reported the US and Iran are closing in on an interim agreement to reopen the strait with the agreement of

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