

Rubio and Yunus Commit to Stronger US-Bangladesh Economic and Security Ties

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Bangladesh’s interim Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus held an important phone call this week to discuss ways to strengthen economic cooperation and promote stability across the Indo-Pacific region.

According to an official statement, Secretary Rubio and Dr. Yunus agreed to deepen trade and security ties between the two countries as Bangladesh prepares for national elections next April.

“Secretary Rubio and Chief Advisor Yunus affirmed their shared commitment to expanding economic ties between the United States and Bangladesh and to enhancing security and stability throughout the Indo-Pacific region,” said State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce.

The call comes at a critical time for Bangladesh. In 2024, mass protests led by students brought down the long-time government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The interim administration, led by Yunus, has promised a fair and transparent election to restore public trust in democratic institutions.

“The upcoming national election will be the most credible and peaceful one in the country’s history,” Yunus’ spokesperson Alam said recently. He added that the interim government has taken steps to ensure free voting without fear or intimidation.

Bangladesh has become an increasingly important partner for the United States in South Asia. Its location near key shipping routes in the Bay of Bengal makes it central to efforts to keep the Indo-Pacific region open and secure.

Earlier this month, Bangladesh’s National Security Adviser, Dr. Khalilur Rahman, met with senior U.S. officials in Washington, including Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau and Assistant U.S. Trade Representative Brendan Lynch. The talks focused on reducing tariffs and creating better market access for Bangladeshi goods like textiles and technology products.

For Yunus, building stronger economic ties with the U.S. is a priority as Bangladesh works to recover from political turmoil and support job growth.

Rubio emphasized that the United States will stand by Bangladesh as it moves forward with reforms and elections.

“This is an important time for Bangladesh,” he said. “The United States will be a committed partner in supporting democratic progress and economic opportunity.”

As the election approaches, both countries appear determined to strengthen their relationship and create a foundation for lasting cooperation and prosperity.