



Bangladesh Extends Voter Registration, Smart NID Services to Citizens in Canada



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The Bangladesh Election Commission has introduced a program enabling Bangladeshi nationals in Canada to register as voters and obtain smart National Identity (NID) cards, in a move aimed at strengthening the political participation of the diaspora.

Chief Election Commissioner A. M. M. Nasir Uddin formally launched the initiative on Friday at the Bangladesh High Commission in Ottawa. He said the measure was designed to make the country's democratic process more inclusive by extending voting rights to citizens abroad.

“To make democracy more inclusive, it is essential to ensure the voting rights of expatriates. Those who contribute to the economy through remittances, investment and technology transfer must also be given a role in shaping the nation's future,” the CEC stated.

Bangladeshi citizens living in Canada will now be able to complete voter registration and receive their smart NID cards through the High Commission in Ottawa and the Consulate General in Toronto.

At the launch event, the CEC handed over smart NID cards to several registered expatriates, marking the official commencement of the service. A subsequent question-and-answer session allowed members of the diaspora to raise issues directly with the commission.

The initiative is regarded as a significant milestone in Bangladesh's efforts to safeguard the democratic rights of nearly 10 million expatriates and to facilitate their engagement in national development and decision-making processes.