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KSA to offer 500 scholarships to Bangladeshi students: envoy

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Saudi Arabian ambassador to Bangladesh, Abdullah Zafer H bin Abiyah, met with the Bangladesh prime minister's adviser and his office spokesperson, Mahdi Amin, in Dhaka on Thursday. | BSS photo.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will provide 500 scholarships annually to Bangladeshi students following the assumption of office by prime minister Tarique Rahman.

Saudi Arabia ambassador to Bangladesh Abdullah Zafer H bin Abiyah made the announcement when he called on prime minister's adviser and his office

spokesperson Mahdi Amin at the prime minister's office in Dhaka on Thursday.

During the meeting, the Saudi envoy expressed his country's keen interest in working closely with Bangladesh's new government in various fields, including politics and the economy.

The two sides also held detailed discussions on Saudi Arabia's possible support for the development of Bangladesh's education sector, said an official hand out here.

The envoy said that the Saudi government had confirmed the allocation of 500 scholarships every year for Bangladeshi students and added that he had already informed prime minister Tarique Rahman about the initiative.

The meeting also discussed expanding opportunities for exporting skilled Bangladeshi manpower to Saudi Arabia, making access to the Saudi labour market easier and removing existing procedural complexities in the recruitment process.

In addition, the two sides exchanged views on Hajj and Umrah, strengthening people-to-people contacts and exploring new avenues of bilateral cooperation.

Around 3.8 million Bangladeshis currently living in Saudi Arabia are making significant contributions to the Kingdom's economy and development.

At the same time, the remittances they send home continue to play a vital role in Bangladesh's economic progress.

Both sides underscored the importance of further strengthening the partnership and mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries.

Members of the Saudi delegation, including vice-ambassador Khalid Saeed M Al Hadal and deputy head of the consular section Mohammed Fahad Dhi Al Suhaimi, were present.

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