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PRESS RELEASE

**AMBASSADOR MORIARTY MEETS WITH
FOREIGN AND COMMERCE MINISTERS**

DHAKA, MARCH 24 -- Ambassador Moriarty met March 22 with Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, Commerce Minister Lt. Col. (Ret) Faruq Khan, and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's advisor, Tarique Siddique, to provide an update on U.S. assistance to Bangladesh's investigation into the BDR mutiny. The Ambassador explained that the FBI team had shared its expertise in investigating complex cases with the Police Criminal Investigations Division, which has primary responsibility for conducting this important investigation. He noted the massive scale of the investigation and suggested it could take considerable time to complete.

With FBI assistance, the Police have put in place the mechanisms necessary to conduct this complex investigation in a thorough and transparent manner. The Ministers assured the Ambassador that Bangladesh would devote all the resources required to complete the investigation, taking into account the formidable task that lies ahead. Ambassador Moriarty assured the Ministers that the FBI would continue to work with its local counterparts.

While the initial phase of their collaboration is complete, FBI officials will return to Bangladesh at an appropriate time in the future to review the progress of the investigation and provide any additional suggestions that might be appropriate. The Ambassador stressed that the United States was committed to strengthening its partnership with Bangladesh law enforcement agencies over the long-term.

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Note: A Bangla translation of this press release is also available at the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section, Tel: 8837150-4, Fax: 9885688; e-mail: DhakaPA@state.gov; Website: [http:// dhaka.usembassy.gov](http://dhaka.usembassy.gov)