

Govt aims to double tourism's contribution to GDP

- A Monitor Desk Report

Date: 05 May, 2026



Dhaka: The government has set a target to significantly expand Bangladesh's tourism sector, aiming to raise its contribution to national GDP from the current 3 percent to around 6-7 percent.

Speaking at the Deputy Commissioners' Conference in the capital on May 4, Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Afroza Khanam said the move is part of a broader strategy to diversify the country's economy and unlock the sector's full potential.

She noted that Bangladesh already has more than 1,700 tourist sites across the country, indicating strong opportunities for growth in every district. A comprehensive master plan is currently being developed to guide future investments and development.

Officials emphasized the role of local administration in driving tourism expansion. State Minister M Rashiduzzaman Millat said deputy

commissioners could help transform regional economies by identifying new destinations and ensuring clean, safe, and visitor-friendly environments.

The government also highlighted the importance of developing heritage attractions, including sites like Baliati Palace and Teota Zamindar House, to attract both domestic and international tourists.

Authorities believe that with coordinated planning and grassroots initiatives, Bangladesh can strengthen its position in the global tourism market while creating new economic opportunities nationwide.

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