

## Govt will not take any decision against national interest on ports: Shipping Adviser

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**Dhaka: The government will not take any decision concerning the country's ports that goes against national interest, Shipping Adviser Brigadier General (retd) Dr. M. Sakhawat Hossain said on Monday.**

Speaking to journalists during a briefing at the Ministry of Shipping in Dhaka on February 2, the adviser said the government is closely examining the individuals involved in the ongoing situation surrounding Chattogram Port.

He said the current situation has disrupted port operations, adding that the Chattogram Port Authority is working to address the issue. "The Ministry of Shipping supports whatever is beneficial and welfare-oriented for the port and the country," he said.

The adviser urged all concerned to keep the port operational in the greater national interest, noting that disruptions at the port have caused suffering for the general public. He assured that the present government would not implement any decision that undermines the country's interests, describing the situation that led to the unrest as "unwanted."

Referring to the upcoming month of Ramadan, Dr. Sakhawat said some traders are attempting to hoard goods on lighter vessels in a bid to raise prices. He said mobile courts are being conducted regularly by the Department of Shipping and other relevant agencies to curb such illegal activities.

The adviser added that strict legal action will continue to be taken against those involved, based on evidence.

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