



## Bangladesh May Cut Duties on US Imports to Avoid 37% Tariff



Collected

Bangladesh is considering granting zero-duty access to US goods in return for reduced reciprocal tariffs from the United States, following Washington's recent decision to cut tariffs on Vietnamese imports from 46% to 20%.

Commerce Secretary Mahbubur Rahman said the government has no major objection to tariff concessions on US products and is already increasing imports of items like aircraft, LNG, and wheat.

He confirmed that Bangladesh cannot accept US domestic laws in trade agreements and prefers to sign under WTO rules. The US has agreed to create a separate tariff structure for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), which could mean lower rates for Bangladesh than Vietnam.

The US had earlier imposed a 37% reciprocal tariff on Bangladesh, but it remains suspended until 9 July. Officials expect this will not be implemented as talks are ongoing.

Bangladesh is awaiting an annex document from the US to finalize its position. A meeting is scheduled for 9 or 10 July in Washington. Commerce officials, including Secretary Mahbubur and Adviser SK Bashir Uddin, are leading the negotiations, prioritizing national interest and the RMG sector.