

# Welcome Remarks

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It is indeed a pleasure for me to join my colleagues in welcoming you to the Asian Development Bank (ADB)'s Regional Workshop on Strengthening the Criminal Justice System. I would like to particularly welcome the delegates from India and Pakistan. ADB Bangladesh Resident Mission is pleased to be involved in and has supported holding this regional workshop.

Over the next 2 days, you will have opportunities to share information and best practices on judicial, criminal law, prosecutorial service, legal education, and police reforms. We are quite privileged to have distinguished speakers from the region—Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan—and hope that the workshop will be a useful forum for you to exchange ideas and experiences in the areas of the criminal justice system.

I understand the key objectives of the workshop are to share and discuss the progress and experiences of the three countries in separating

the judiciary from the executive and criminal justice system, identify the challenges, and agree on the next steps. I hope the similarities in the legal tradition and cultural background of the three countries will facilitate the culmination of relevant and applicable lessons to all participants. I thank the honorable Minister, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Government of Bangladesh, for the generous support and cooperation in holding this regional workshop.

Finally, I wish for the success of the regional workshop and look forward to productive and fruitful discussions.



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