IPU Secretary General Pays Courtesy Call on Opposition Leader

Collected photo

International Parliamentary Union (IPU) Secretary General Anda Philip, who is currently visiting Bangladesh, paid a courtesy call on the Leader of the Opposition and Ameer of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami, Dr Shafiqur Rahman. The meeting was held at the Office of the Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban on Monday (August 31).

During the meeting, the two sides discussed various issues related to parliamentary democracy in Bangladesh and ways to make the Jatiya Sangsad more effective. They also exchanged views on developing parliament into the primary forum for discussion and dialogue on important national issues.

The Opposition Leader highlighted the role of the opposition in a parliamentary democracy. He also stressed the need to ensure equal participation of members of both the ruling party and the opposition in parliament.

The meeting emphasised the importance of maintaining regular discussions and dialogue between members of the government and opposition on various important national and international issues. The participants also discussed making parliamentary committees more effective and increasing the participation of young members of parliament.

The IPU Secretary General assured continued support from the organisation for the advancement of parliamentary democracy in Bangladesh. At the end of the meeting, both sides expressed hope that mutual communication and cooperation would continue in the future.

Also present at the meeting with the IPU Secretary General were the organisation's Programme Officer Roberto Rodriguez Valencia and Senior Expert Herieno A. Angoro.

Those accompanying the Opposition Leader included Member of Parliament Barrister Najib Momen, the Opposition Leader's Foreign Affairs Adviser Barrister Mir Ahmad Bin Quasem Arman, and Ali Ahmad Mabroor, a member of the Foreign Affairs Advisory Committee.

Four injured fighters of the July Mass Uprising, Jasimuddin Khan, Kamrul Hasan, Rifat Hawlader and Zakir Shikdar, also attended the meeting as special guests.