# No One Is a Minority in Bangladesh: Home Minister

Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed. Photo: collected

No citizen of Bangladesh should be regarded as a minority simply because of their religious identity, Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed has said. He stressed that every citizen has full freedom to practice their respective religion and that this right must be ensured not only in the Constitution or on paper but also in everyday life.

The minister made the remarks on Friday (September 4) at the inaugural ceremony held at Dhakeshwari National Temple in the capital on the occasion of Janmashtami.

Salahuddin Ahmed said people may have their own religious identities, but that should not be considered their primary identity in the eyes of the state. As citizens of Bangladesh, everyone has equal rights. Therefore, no citizen of an independent country should feel the need to identify themselves as a minority.

Calling for the preservation of social and religious harmony, Salahuddin Ahmed said members of the Hindu community in Bangladesh had broken away from the conventional notion of a vote bank during the 13th National Parliamentary Election.