

Staff reporter

Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon on Saturday said the Chittagong Hill Tract (CHT) Peace Accord will be implemented fully during the tenure of the present government to ensure rights of the indigenous people.

“The rights of the indigenous people will be given back,” he said while addressing a discussion meeting organized by Bangladesh Adivasi Forum, an organization of indigenous people, at Central Shaheed Minar in the capital marking the International Day of the World’s Indigenous People.

Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique, Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Dr Mizanur Rahman and President Communist Party of Bangladesh Mujahidul Islam Selim, among others, spoke at the programme.

It was presided over by president of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity Jyotirindra Bodhipriya Larma.

Referring to alleged military rule in the CHT, Menon said some people want to deprive indigenous people of their rights in the name of restoring security.

NHRC chairman Dr Mizanur Rahman lamented that it is unfair to Adivasi people if the state deprives them of their rights.

He stressed the need for protecting rights of the indigenous people for the development of the country.