

Bangladesh to request extradition of Sheikh Hasina from India

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Ousted leader faces charges of massacres after 15-year rule ends in exile.

DHAKA – Bangladesh's war crimes tribunal plans to seek the extradition of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina from India, accusing her of orchestrating "massacres," according to the tribunal's chief prosecutor, Mohammad Tajul Islam.

Hasina, who stepped down on August 5 amid mass protests led by students, fled to India by helicopter, ending her 15-year rule. Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal (ICT), which she established in 2010 to investigate crimes from the 1971 independence war, now accuses her of mass detentions and extrajudicial killings of political opponents.

"We will initiate the legal process to bring her back," said Islam, citing a 2013 criminal extradition treaty between the two nations.

Hasina, 76, has not been seen publicly since her departure, and Bangladesh has revoked her diplomatic passport. If extradited, she would face trial for the alleged atrocities committed under her leadership.