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## Bangladesh issues arrest warrant for MP Tulip Siddiq



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Dhaka, April 13 (Agencies)— An arrest warrant has been issued for British MP Tulip Siddiq by Bangladesh's Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) in connection with allegations that she illegally received land. The investigation is part of a broader probe into corruption within the regime of her aunt, former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Siddiq, who resigned as the UK's economic secretary to the Treasury in January, has been named

alongside more than 50 others in the warrant. Her legal team has denied the charges, calling them politically motivated and asserting that no evidence or direct communication regarding the warrant has been provided to Siddiq.

The ACC is investigating claims that Sheikh Hasina and her family embezzled up to £3.9bn from infrastructure projects in Bangladesh. One of the allegations involves Siddiq allegedly helping broker a 2013 deal with Russia that inflated the cost of a nuclear power plant in Bangladesh.

Siddiq's lawyers have firmly rejected the allegations, stating there is no basis for the charges, and that Siddiq has never owned land in Bangladesh. The UK's extradition agreement with Bangladesh requires clear evidence before any action is taken.

The ACC chairman, Mohammad Abdul Momen, defended the investigation, stating it is based on documentary evidence and urged Siddiq to face the court proceedings in Bangladesh.

Siddiq had previously referred herself to the UK Prime Minister's ethics adviser when corruption concerns arose, but the adviser found no evidence of wrongdoing, though he noted reputational risks related to her ties with her aunt.