

## United States Embassy, Dhaka, Bangladesh Security Message for U.S. Citizens

September 28, 2015

There is reliable new information to suggest that militants may be planning to target Australian interests in Bangladesh. Such attacks, should they occur, could likely affect other foreigners, including U.S. citizens.

In light of the increased threat, U.S. citizens should consider limiting their attendance at events where foreigners may gather, including events at international hotels. U.S. citizens should maintain a high level of vigilance and situational awareness and should exercise caution in public places including restaurants, hotels and other places frequented by foreigners.

The U.S. government continues to receive information that terrorist groups in South Asia may also be planning attacks in the region, possibly against U.S. government facilities, U.S. citizens, or U.S. interests. Terrorists have demonstrated their willingness and ability to attack locations where U.S. citizens or Westerners are known to congregate or visit.

Until further notice, all official U.S. government personnel are prohibited from attending large gatherings in Bangladesh, including events at international hotels, unless they have obtained Regional Security Office permission.

The Embassy advises U.S. citizens residing in or visiting Bangladesh to remain vigilant regarding their personal security and to be alert to local security developments.

It is always advisable to keep your security and situational awareness levels high. Please follow these good personal security practices:

- Avoid crowds or large gatherings when traveling in public;
- Know where you are going and have a plan of what to do in the event you encounter demonstrations or violence;
- Identify safe areas (for example police stations, hospitals, government buildings) in your area and how to get to them quickly;
- Tell co-workers or neighbors where you're going and when you intend to return;
- Minimize your profile while in public;
- Always carry a cell phone and make sure you have emergency numbers preprogrammed into your phone such as the US Embassy phone number (88) (02) 5566-2000. Emergency numbers: Police (88) (02) 999, Fire (88) 01713-038181;
- Be prepared to postpone or cancel activities for personal safety concerns;
- Report concerns you may have to the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

For further information:

- See the State Department's travel [website](#) for the [Worldwide Caution](#), Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Bangladesh [Country Specific Information](#).
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the [U.S. Embassy](#) in Bangladesh, located at Madani Avenue, Baridhara, Dhaka 1212 at (88) (02) 5566-2000.

- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).