

Secular Parties in Bangladesh Rush to Gulp the US Bait of making the Country a Regional Leader

News:

News & Comment

On the occasion of Independent Day of Bangladesh, US Secretary of State Antony J Blinken has said that Bangladesh is "quickly becoming a regional leader" with a rapidly growing economy, an increasingly well-educated workforce, and a dynamic youth demographic. Blinken said he looks forward to "deepening their partnership" with Bangladesh in the years ahead. "Most recently, we have made real strides together battling Covid-19, tackling climate change, and promoting a free and open Indo-Pacific region," he said. (*The Bangladesh Standard, March 26, 2023*)

Comment:

Blinken's statement has revealed the US vision about role of Bangladesh in the region. The strategy was also declared in the US Department of State website saying, ".....to continue to work closely together to advance a shared vision of a free and open, prosperous, inclusive, peaceful, and resilient Indo-Pacific region". During the visit of US Deputy Secretary of State Stephen E Biegun back in 2020, in a joint statement Bangladesh Foreign Minister Abdul Momen said, "US doesn't see Bangladesh through the eyes of India", while Biegun said, "the US sees Bangladesh as one of the key partners in the Indo-Pacific region". (15 October 2020, Prothom Alo English). So it is clear that 'making Bangladesh a regional leader' is a US bait for the lackey secular rulers of Bangladesh who would think that the US would elevate Bangladesh's position and role in this region. US surely wants to exploit Bangladesh in its Indo Pacific Strategy (IPS) in the region to restrict Chinese influence.

It has not been that long, when Pakistan was used similarly while the US needed them to play a greater role in combating Soviet expansion to the Afghanistan. Pakistan's then secular governments and opposition parties all got into the US trap and engaged them in the US designed conflict for the US interest. Undoubtedly, Pakistan already knows the cost of it, and it has also seen how the US quickly shifted its alignment towards India for its new regional policy, scrapping Pakistan and its secular politicians into trash. That is the reality of the US. Secularism is their belief and basis of state in which only thing is constant, that is, benefit, nor the friend neither commitment. But it is astonishing that even after knowing this established fact Awami League led Bangladesh government and BNP led opposition parties all are rushing to compete each other to present the country to the hands of the biggest and fiercest devil on the Earth. This has been portrayed in a latest analysis of Foreign Policy Magazine (30 March 2023) that said that 'Bangladesh tilts toward the US in the Indo-Pacific'. The secular segment of the media and intellectuals are also trying to fool the people drawing false picture of development that the US can bring to the country.

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