U.S. Senator Bob Menendez, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, issued a congratulatory statement marking the 50th anniversary of Bangladesh’s independence. He extended best wishes to the people of Bangladesh. Senator Menendez said that the members of Congress have a proud history of support for Bangladesh’s freedom. “Senator Ted Kennedy’s 1971 visit drew international attention to the repression the people of Bangladesh faced, and Kennedy became a champion for the importance of Bangladesh’s independence,” the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee said in the statement.

“I look forward to strengthening the U.S.-Bangladesh relationship on the basis of those values to address major issues including climate change, human rights, and humanitarian challenges,” Menendez said.

Senator Menendez expressed gratefulness for the contributions made by Bangladeshi-Americans to the United States.