A Babe in the Woods

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BNP chief Khaleda Zia and some of her party leaders have recently threatened to wage street agitation against the Awami League-led government that returned to power through holding the January 5 controversial and voter-less parliamentary election. The aim of the fresh agitation is to force the government to call for an early general election under a non-partisan election time administration.

The threat, as the BNP leaders believe, has prompted the government to take a hard-line stance against the opposition. Khaleda, her elder son Tarique Rahman and seven others have been indicted in two corruption cases by a special Dhaka court on March 19. The trial will begin on April 21. In indicting them in the cases the judge however reportedly ignored a Criminal Procedure Code provision prompting Khaleda's lawyers to allege that the cases were not framed in compliance with the CrPc. As per the provision, if a court frames a charge against anyone, the charge shall be read and explained to the accused. And the