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itting out on a busy city street is posing a risk to vehicles behind. The motorcyclist, without any safety se between his ear and shoulder while riding past the truck. Such disdain for safety can lead to acciken near Dhaka University's TSC yesterday afternoon.

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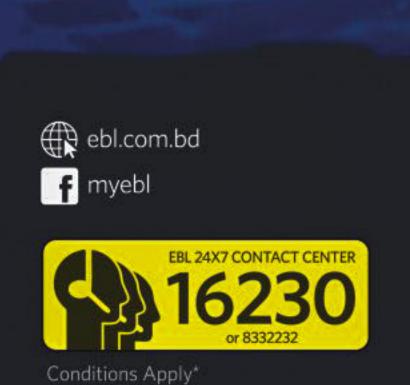
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IN Security Council to undertake igladesh to witness the humaniingya amid continuous influx of

would add "momentum to the Masud Bin Momen, permanent lesh to the UN, at a Security rk on Tuesday.

700,000 Rohingya refugees fled flux, though reduced in recent yanmar's assurances of stopping

February, about 1,500 Rohingya n told the Security Council meet, e violence began in late August.

rges UNSC European Parliament Rohingyas for inclusive polls

Visiting team says it's important for BNP to concentrate on polls

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A visiting European Parliament delegation has called for an inclusive parliamentary election in Bangladesh, and said it is important for the BNP to concentrate on the polls.

It hopes all political parties would be willing to contest the upcoming polls to ensure people have a real choice at the ballot

The delegation has also said the BNP faces a "challenge" following its Chairperson Khaleda Zia's sentencing in a corruption case.

"We would agree that the situation is a difficult one but as a political party it is SEE PAGE 2 COL 5 | important for the BNP to concentrate on the

upcoming election," Jean Lambert, chair of the European Parliament Delegation to South Asia, said at a press conference at the European Union Embassy in Dhaka yesterday. "...it [sentencing of Khaleda]

certainly presents a challenge to madam Zia's party," she said. "We know there have been challenges so

far in terms of organising, in terms of actually being able to conduct the [election] campaign [by the BNP], so this is something we raised with the Election Commission [of Bangladesh]."

Responding to a question, Lambert said the delegation would talk to BNP leaders to know the party's view on these issues.

PHOTO ON PAGE 3 SEE PAGE 13 COL 5



KHALEDA'S CONVICTION FOR GRAFT

BNP mulls second round of agitation

First spell ends peacefully with nationwide hunger strike STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The first spell of the BNP's agitation programmes over the jailing of its Chairperson Khaleda Zia came to an end yesterday with the staging of token hunger strikes across the country.

In the capital, party leaders and activists broke the hunger strike in front of the Jatiya Press Club at 1:00pm, three

hours ahead of schedule upon request from law enforcers. Meanwhile, seven days have passed since the jailing of Khaleda, but her lawyers are yet to get the certified copy of the special court's verdict in the Zia Orphanage Trust graft case.

Court sources said the copy might be supplied today. The lawyers neither can file an appeal nor can lodge a bail petition for Khaleda with the High Court without having the certified copy.

BNP sources said it was drawing up plans to go for a mass signature campaign, submitting memorandums to the deputy commissioners of districts and holding a mammoth rally in the capital to press home the demand to free Khaleda.

Earlier, BNP leaders and activists brought out processions on Friday, staged demonstrations on Saturday, formed a human chain in front of the Jatiya Press Club on Monday and staged a sit-in in front of the party's Nayapaltan central office on Tuesday protesting the five-year prison sentence of the party chief.

Hundreds of BNP leaders and activists began the hunger strike at 10:00am yesterday in presence of a large number of law enforcers.

Addressing the programme, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said the party would continue its movement until the government released Khaleda Zia.

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