

চুক্তি এ রিপোর্ট প্রিয়ের প্রয়োজন নে...

যেকোনো শাখা থেকে রোমটিয়াল গ্রহণ করলেই  
পাবেন সরকার নির্ধারিত ২.৫% প্রশংসন

সাথে আরও আরও নিশ্চিত আত্মস্থীর্পণ প্রস্তুত।

\* শর্ত প্রযোজন



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Π

ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং সেবা প্রদানে 'ইসলামী ব্যাংকিং কর্ণার' পুবালী ব্যাংকের প্রায় সকল শাখা এবং উপশাখায়

Polls likely by Dec this year  
Says Yunus; EU pledges 68m euro for Rohingya

STAR REPORT

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus yesterday reaffirmed the interim government's commitment to holding a free and fair election.

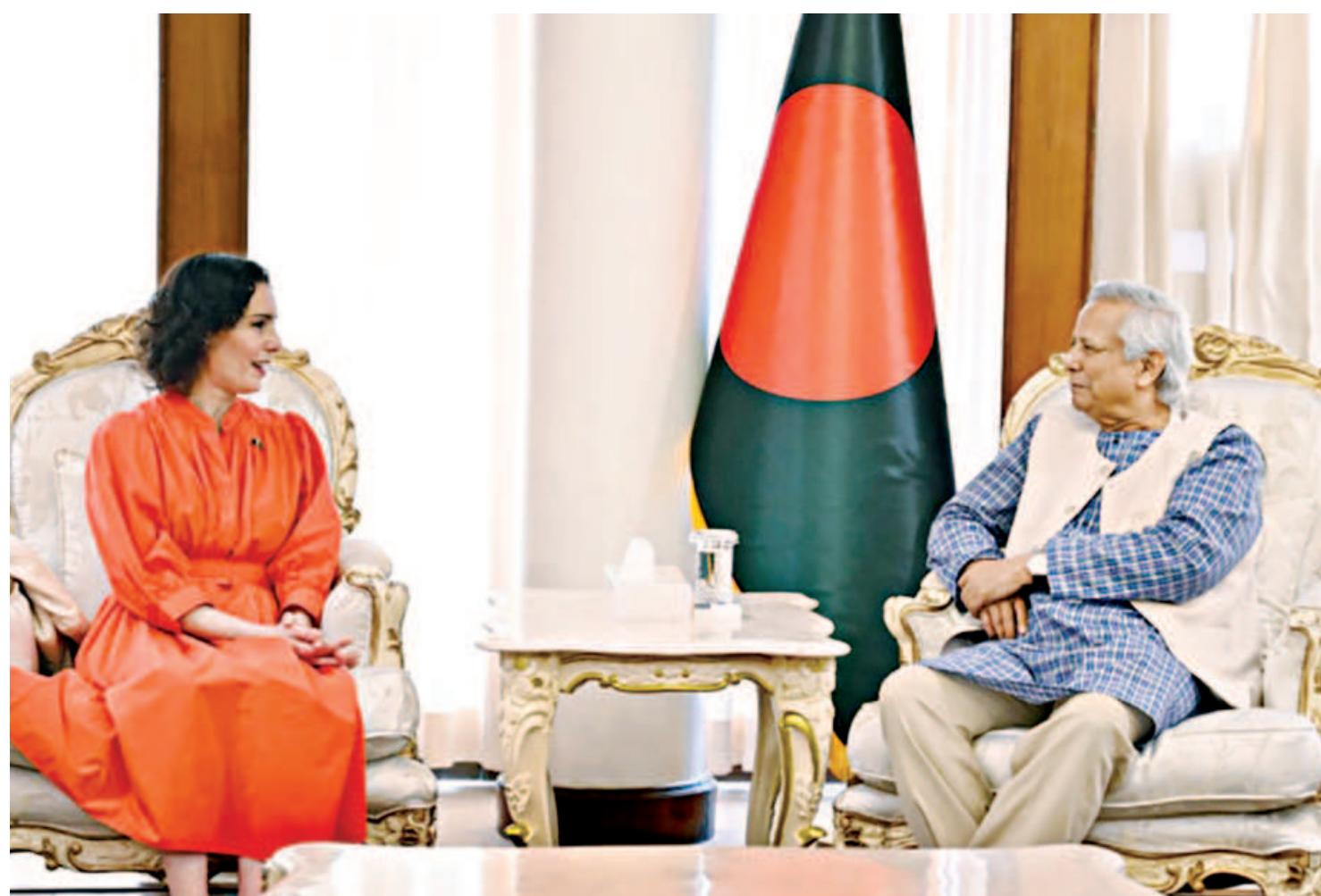
The vote is likely to take place by December this year, he said.

He said this at a meeting with Hadja Lahbib, the EU commissioner for Equality, Preparedness and Crisis Management, at the state guest house Jamuna in Dhaka.

At the meeting, Lahbib said the EU will provide 68 million euro this year for the Rohingya response, including support for host communities in Bangladesh and humanitarian aid for those affected by the ongoing conflict in Myanmar's Rakhine state.

Despite the increased funding compared to last year, Lahbib warned

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EU Commissioner Hadja Lahbib at a meeting with Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus at the state guest house Jamuna in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: CA PRESS WING

Rights violations persists in Feb  
HRSS monthly report paints grim picture

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The human rights situation in February remains disheartening, with numerous violations reported across various sectors, according to the latest monthly report from the Human Rights Support Society, which was released yesterday.

Political violence, mob lynching, harassment of journalists, suppression of freedom of expression, extrajudicial killings, and abuse of women and children were reported throughout the month. Besides, extortion, theft, snatching, robbery, murder, and rape have increased in the month.

The situation worsened centring the controversial statement by former autocrat Sheikh Hasina, which was broadcasted during a virtual event by the banned student organisation Chhatra League. This led to widespread protests by students, resulting in attacks, vandalism, and arson on Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's residence in Dhanmondi, Sheikh Hasina's residence Sudha Sadan, and

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**At least 10 people were killed and 13 injured in 17 incidents of mob violence, while 12 accused or convicts died in prison custody.**

## Tk 10,310cr in assets seized since Aug 5

AL leaders, cronies main targets

DIPAN NANDY

Since the fall of the Awami League government following last year's mass uprising, courts have ordered the seizure and freezing of assets worth Tk 10,310 crore belonging to AL leaders, activists, and beneficiary businessmen across the country.

Additionally, properties and assets worth over Tk 165 crore owned by AL figures abroad have been ordered to be confiscated or frozen, according to the Anti-Corruption Commission's Asset Management Division.

These court orders, issued between August 5 and February 20, followed petitions filed by the ACC.

The most significant action was taken against the S Alam Group, with a substantial amount of assets seized and frozen.

The court ordered the freezing of shares worth Tk 8,672 crore owned by Chairman Saiful Alam, his wife Farzana Parveen, his sons Ahsanul



**The court has approved the ACC petitions, leading to the seizure and freezing of a massive amount of illicit wealth, surpassing Tk 10,000 crore.**

ACC PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

Alam and Asharaful Alam, and his brothers Mohammad Abdullah Hasan, Osman Gani, Abdus Samad, Rashedul Alam, Sahidul Alam, and Morshedul Alam.

Additionally, immovable properties -- land, flats, and commercial buildings -- worth Tk 200 crore in Gulshan, Dhanmondi, Uttara, and Bashundhara, owned by Saiful Alam and his family, have been seized.

Ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina's former industry and investment adviser Salman F Rahman and his family have had 1,967 decimals of land confiscated.

Former Padma Bank chairman Chowdhury Nafeez Sarafat, his wife, and their son have lost 22 flats across Dhaka's Gulshan, Cantonment, Banani, Baridhara, Bashundhara, Nikunja, Panthapath, and Pallabi, as well as properties in Gazipur and Kaliakair.

Sarafat personally owned

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Army chief off to Central African Republic

UNB, Dhaka  
Chief of Army Staff General Waker-Uz-Zaman left Dhaka yesterday for Central African Republic on a three-day official visit.

During the visit, he will inspect the activities of the Bangladeshi contingents stationed in the Central African Republic and the Bangladeshi peacekeepers present there, according to a press release from the ISPR.

Besides, the army chief is scheduled to inaugurate a community clinic built by the Bangladesh Army peacekeepers for the service of the local population, it said.

Currently five contingents of the Bangladesh Army are engaged in peacekeeping missions in the Central African Republic.



**'Devil Hunt' to continue in focused manner**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"Operation Devil Hunt" will continue with a more focused approach based on ongoing assessments, Nasimul Ghani, senior secretary to the home ministry, said yesterday.

Speaking to reporters at the Secretariat, he said, "We have been working towards our set targets, reviewing results monthly. If patrolling is ineffective in certain areas, we withdraw and redeploy resources where necessary. Our current focus is on Dhaka city, particularly in tackling petty crimes."

On Sunday, a core committee meeting on law and order was held. A senior ministry official told this newspaper that the chief adviser had objected to the operation's name, prompting discussions on a possible change.

However, Ghani said, "No decision was made in the core committee meeting regarding a name change."

Since February 8, around 12,500 people have been arrested under Operation Devil Hunt, according to government data. No further details were provided following Sunday's meeting.

Ghani said, "I am not denying any figures. I am comparing past and present situations. We inherited a struggling police force, with many officers unfamiliar with Dhaka city. They are now adapting, and we are seeing continuous improvements."

On the recent mob harassment of two women in Lamatia, he said, "Mob actions are not premeditated. Sometimes, an individual triggers an incident. Such occurrences cannot always be anticipated. As a nation, we need more time to mature socially."



To maintain order and ensure a systematic sale of essential goods, buyers who arrived to purchase TCB products were assigned numbers by the truck sale authorities. The photo was taken from the Katabon area in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO PRABIR DAS

**43,236 sought asylum in EU last year**

Only 4pc accepted, says report on Bangladesh

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A record number of Bangladeshis applied for asylum in the European Union last year, but their acceptance rate remained very low.

According to the latest Asylum Trend 2024 report published by the European Union Asylum Agency (EUAA) yesterday, 43,236 Bangladeshis sought asylum in 2024, up from 40,332 in 2023.

The report did not specify the reasons for the increase, but 2024 was a significant year, which was marked by a mass uprising and violent clashes that left around 1,400 people dead and thousands injured. Italy saw the highest number of Bangladeshi

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Number up from 40,332 applications in 2023

Italy had most Bangladeshi applicants

Applications in Italy rose 43pc to 33,455

France saw a drop in Bangladeshi applications

Greek applications increased from 640 to 1,004

**'I quit AL, I am done with politics'**  
**Ex-minister Kamal Majumder tells court**

EMRUL HASAN BAPPI

Kamal Ahmed Majumder, former state minister for industries of the ousted Awami League regime, told a court yesterday that he would no longer engage in politics and that he had renounced his Awami League membership.

Kamal made the remarks as he became emotional before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka. He, along with five others, including top AL leaders and former police chiefs, was produced before the court in connection to a case filed with Kafrel Police Station over a murder that took place during the July uprising.

Kamal approached Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Partha Bhadra after he took his seat.

"I am 76 years old. I don't see very well. I also have diabetes. But the prison authorities are not allowing me to have a device to check my blood sugar levels," Kamal said as he broke down in tears.

"Honourable court, I will no longer engage in politics. I have resigned from the Awami League. Yet, I face a barrage of new cases. At this age, I should be enjoying time with my grandchildren."

The judge said, "Submit all your requests through your lawyer."

Addressing journalists outside the courtroom,

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