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## JULY CHARTER DEADLOCK

# Govt decision on Nov 13 if parties fail to agree

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The government has said it will make its own decision on Thursday if parties fail to reach an agreement on issues surrounding the implementation of constitutional reforms under the July charter by that time.

After the end of a week-long deadline set by the government, parties remained unmoved yesterday on the timing of a referendum on the reforms, an order on implementation, and the fate of the notes of dissent. Officials said the administration will wait a few more days, but is ready to act if the deadlock continues.

Contacted for comments, Energy Adviser Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan told The Daily Star yesterday, "We are waiting for the political parties' decision... If we don't get it, we will make a decision on November 13 [Thursday]."

Environment Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan echoed the stance, telling reporters at the Secretariat that the government had given parties ample time to decide.

"No decision came from them. Since they didn't sit for discussions within the seven-day window, the government will now make a decision... it has the responsibility and the authority," she said.

She said the government's doors were open to all parties. "But I haven't heard of any new invitations for dialogue. My understanding is that the

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Despite a ban, sand extraction from the Piyain river in Sylhet's Jaflong area continues in plain sight. Locals allege that poor monitoring allows traders, aided by corrupt officials, to freely lift sand from the riverbed with small boats, putting the environment at risk. The violation is even more glaring in light of the recent uproar over a similar incident at the Sada Pathor area in Sylhet's Bholaganj. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

# Climate finance fuels 'debt trap'

A new report places Bangladesh in "high risk" category

PINAKI ROY

Ten years after the Paris Agreement vowed climate justice for vulnerable nations, global leaders have gathered in the Brazilian city of Belém for COP30. But as negotiations unfold, Bangladesh, one of the world's least responsible for greenhouse gas emissions, finds itself sinking deeper into climate debt.

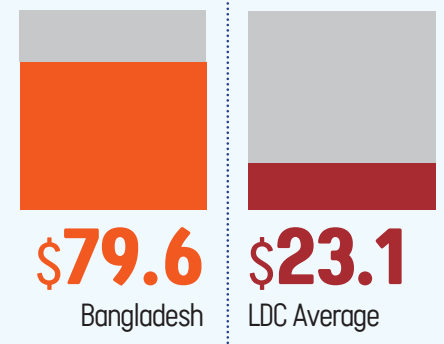
The inaugural Climate Debt Risk Index, published by Dhaka-based think tank Change Initiative, has placed Bangladesh in the "high risk" debt-trap category with a score of 65.37 out of 100, forecasting a continued upward trajectory to 65.63 by 2031.

The report, which analysed debt scenarios across 55 countries, says that global climate finance has turned into an instrument of financial burden, straying far from the grant-based, justice-driven commitments made in the Copenhagen and Paris accords.

"Bangladesh enters COP30 carrying one of the world's heaviest climate-debt burdens, not because it over-borrowed, but because the global climate finance system keeps forcing the most vulnerable to pay for survival," said M Zakir Hossain Khan, managing director and chief executive of Change Initiative.

The financial burden on Bangladeshi citizens is starkly disproportionate. According to the

## PER CAPITA CLIMATE DEBT BANGLADESH VS LDC AVERAGE



study, Bangladesh's cumulative climate-related borrowing from 2002 to 2023 has created a per capita debt burden of \$79.61, about 3.5 times higher than the average for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), which stands at \$23.12.

The country is now compelled to borrow \$29.52 for every tonne of carbon emitted, just

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# They came, fired, vanished Two gunmen kill top criminal in broad daylight

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It was like any other morning on the busy Johnson Road in Old Dhaka yesterday.

Around 11:00am, rickshaws slowly made their way past the Dhaka National Medical Institute Hospital while the nearby court area buzzed with crowds.

At that moment, a sudden and thundering sound broke the routine.

Two masked gunmen emerged from the crowd, raised their pistols, and opened fire on a man standing next to a parked car.

Their target, Tariq Saif Mamun, 55, turned and ran through the hospital gate, desperately trying to get away. The gunmen chased him, firing one round after another until he collapsed near the entrance. The entire attack lasted less than three minutes, according to witnesses.

After the incident, the killers showed no urgency. They calmly tucked their pistols into their waists, turned and walked away, disappearing into the traffic.

Police later identified the victim as a top-listed criminal and one of the ringleaders of the "Emon-Mamun Gang".

Once an associate of notorious underworld figure Sanjidul Hassan Emon, Mamun had long been locked in a deadly rivalry with Emon over control of Dhaka's criminal network, said sources.



IMAGE: CCTV FOOTAGE

Attackers shooting at victim (not in frame).

Family members said Mamun had gone to court in the morning to attend a hearing in a 29-year-old murder case and was on his way home in Aftabnagar when he was killed.

Shahinur Alam Shahin, bench assistant of Dhaka Speedy Trial Tribunal-2, confirmed that Mamun did appear in court.

"The judge took the bench around 10:30am. After one case, Mamun's name was called. He stood in the dock and marked attendance, but no witnesses appeared. The next hearing was set for February 4 next year," he said, adding that Mamun left the court around 10:45am.

The shooting sparked panic across the hospital area. Patients, attendants, and passersby ran for cover, while others stood frozen, watching a scene that felt more like a crime thriller than real life.

Police later sealed off the area and collected CCTV footage. "It was a planned hit: swift, calculated, and professional," said an officer involved in the investigation.

Lalbagh Division Deputy Commissioner Mallik Ahsan Uddin Sami confirmed that Mamun was a top-listed criminal. "We're analysing CCTV

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# Dhaka on high alert following crude bomb, arson attacks

MUNTAKIM SAAD

A wave of arson and crude bomb attacks at multiple locations across Dhaka yesterday, targeting public transport, institutions linked to the chief adviser and fisheries adviser, the National Citizen Party, and religious establishments, has sparked public anxiety.

Crude bombs were hurled at 11 locations throughout the day, while three buses were set on fire, prompting the authorities to ramp up security. No casualties were reported in the arson incidents.

The police headquarters directed all stations in Dhaka to intensify patrols and surveillance ahead of November 13, when the International Crimes Tribunal is scheduled to set the date for delivering its verdict in a case against ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

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# 'Women to get full day's pay for 5-hr workday'

Shafiqur says Jamaat  
govt will pay for the  
rest three hours

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Shafiqur Rahman yesterday reiterated that, if elected to power, his party would ensure the safety of women in workplaces.

"Women will work for five hours and receive wages for eight. Employers will pay for five hours, while the government will cover the remaining three."

He added, however, that women who wish to work eight hours would have their decision respected. He also stated that homemakers would be honoured as "Ratnagarbha mothers."

Shafiqur made these remarks while addressing a reception rally as the chief guest at the field of Islami Bank Model School and College in Mirpur last night.

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Police check documents and bags of motorcyclists at a temporary checkpoint near the U-loop on DIT Road in the Rampura TV Bhaban area. Law enforcers have stepped up security in the capital to prevent untoward incidents. Several crude bomb and arson attacks were reported in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR