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

## Feb 12 voter turnout may surpass 1991 polls: Touhid

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Voter turnout for the February 12 election may surpass 55 percent, the turnout rate for the 1991 elections, said Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain.



He made the remark on the concluding day of the two-day training on election reporting jointly organised by the Diplomatic Correspondents Association Bangladesh (DCAB) and MRDI at a Dhaka hotel yesterday.

Responding to queries about Awami League's campaign for boycotting the polls and "no" voting for the referendum, Touhid said Jamaat and NCP actively campaigned for the referendum, while some local BNP leaders supported it. BNP central leadership was less vocal. However, now the confusion has been cleared as BNP Chairman Tarique Rahman has supported it.

"People will read the conditions and then decide how to vote, but realistically, SEE PAGE 9 COL 4



Discussants at the Just Energy Transition Conference 2026, organised by Manusher Jonno Foundation at the Military Museum in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Commit to women-centred energy policies in manifestos

### Speakers urge political parties at MJF conference

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at an event yesterday highlighted that women, despite being among the most affected by climate change and energy poverty, remain largely excluded from policy decision-making.

They urged political parties to address renewable energy initiatives and women's inclusion together, calling for clear manifesto commitments to a women-centred energy transition.

The remarks came during a session titled "From Dialogue to Commitment: Holding Political Parties Accountable for a Gender-Responsive Energy Future" at the Just Energy Transition Conference 2026, organised by Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) at the Military Museum in Dhaka.

The national-level conference, themed "Voices for a Gender-Responsive Energy Future", focused on the social dimensions of energy transition, including equity, inclusion and justice, alongside technology and finance, with an emphasis on translating grassroots realities into policy and investment recommendations.

At the programme, Sharif Jamil, member secretary of Dhoritri Rokkhai Amra (DHORA), said the energy transition must move from dialogue to concrete political commitments.

He stressed that election manifestos should address SEE PAGE 9 COL 7

## A day on the campaign trail with Nabila Tasnid



SHAMIMA RITA

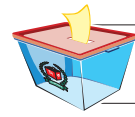
Around 11:30am on Thursday, National Citizen Party (NCP) Dhaka-20 candidate Nabila Tasnid set out on her campaign in Jhilkuti village of Dhamrai, about 40 kilometres northwest of the capital city.

Accompanied by 10 to 15 supporters, she walked through the village, seeking votes and listening to residents.

At times, the group moved along narrow paths between mustard, red amaranth and spinach fields, the grass still wet with morning fog.

At other times, they followed winding paved roads, where Tasnid paused to speak with voters, hand out leaflets, and seek their support while exchanging smiles and brief conversations.

SEE PAGE 9 COL 1



## FEBRUARY 12 ELECTION | DHAKA-18

# Civic reforms, bridging urban divides top candidate agendas

SADI MUHAMMAD ALOK and SHARIF M SHAFIQUE

The election in the Uttara area -- widely seen as a crucial gateway to the capital -- has drawn intense attention from the outset.

A palpable tension now mixes with the festive air of the election across the winding lanes of Uttara, Turag, Uttarkhan, and Dakshinkhan.

Candidates are campaigning throughout the Dhaka-18 constituency, invoking the legacy of long-standing street struggles and the July uprising.

The central theme of local conversations is a familiar promise: bridging the gap between the gleaming high-rises of Uttara and the deprivation in the surrounding neglected neighbourhoods.

Dhaka-18 comprises Wards 1, 17, and 43 through 54 of Dhaka North City Corporation, along with the Airport area.

It is a diverse constituency, home to the elite and middle class in Uttara Model Town and Basundhara, as well as large lower-middle and working-class populations in densely populated areas such as Khilkhet, Uttarkhan, and Dakshinkhan.

A walk through the constituency reveals streets choked with dust and waste.

Residents say many roads go under water during the monsoon, while unplanned construction contributes to chronic traffic congestion.

The rise of teen gangs and drug abuse in Uttara and Khilkhet has become a growing concern, alongside

frequent shortages of gas and water in residential areas. As the election draws near, the area is bustling with campaign activities.

Candidates are reaching out to voters, listening to grievances, and offering assurances.

SEE PAGE 9 COL 4



## HC issues rule over Limon's shooting, compensation

### Seeks names, whereabouts of Rab personnel involved

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a rule asking the authorities concerned of the government to explain why detaining, shooting and harassing Md Limon Hossain in 2011 by implicating him in several cases should not be declared illegal, and why they should not be directed to pay Tk 2.6 crore in compensation to him.

The court also directed the authorities to provide the names and whereabouts of the then Rab personnel involved in the incident.

The HC bench of Justice Ahmed Sohel and Justice Fatema Anwar passed the order and rule following a writ petition filed by Limon seeking necessary directives.

After the HC passed the order, Limon's lawyer Barrister Sara Hossain told reporters, "Today's order marks a major milestone in a 15-year-long struggle for justice. When Limon Hossain was a

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



# ডাচ-বাংলা ব্যাংক ক্রেডিট কার্ড

অজস্র সুবিধা  
একসাথে আপনার হাতে







## ফ্রি

- এয়ারপোর্ট লাউঞ্জ ব্যবহার
- মিত এন্ড গ্রিট
- পিক এন্ড ড্রপ
- হেলথ চেকআপ

POS ও ই-কমার্সে কেনাকাটায়  
আকর্ষণীয় রিওয়ার্ড পয়েন্ট

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