

**100 Days of the Government after the 13th National Parliamentary Election:
Review of the Implementation of Good Governance and Anti-Corruption Commitments**

Executive Summary

**7 June 2026
(Updated on 21 June 2026)**

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The Context

- Following the collapse of the authoritarian kleptocracy, the 13th National Parliamentary Election was held on 12 February 2026, to establish an accountable, well-governed, and corruption-free government. The BNP-led alliance emerged victorious, securing a two-thirds majority to form the government.
- The firm commitment to establishing an accountable, well-governed, and corruption-free governance system in Bangladesh has been reflected in BNP's 31-point state reform agenda, the election manifesto, the party Chairperson's election speeches, and the Prime Minister's inaugural address to the nation, along with the pledge of the implementation of the July Charter.
- Following its formation, the new government announced a 180-day action plan across various sectors and ministries to implement the commitments made in its election manifesto and the 31-point reform outline.
- Several exemplary decisions were taken after the formation of the new government, including the announcement of the Prime Minister as the Leader of the ruling party that the Members of the Parliament (MPs) would not take tax-free cars or government plots, as well as his decision to forgo certain entitled government privileges, such as the use of official vehicles with fuel provisions, setting a noteworthy precedent.

Rationale

- Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) conducts regular research, advocacy, and citizens' engagement activities, as part of its efforts to play a supportive role in strengthening the accountable democratic framework, establishing good governance, and effectively combating corruption.
- TIB monitored the implementation of electoral commitments related to good governance and anti-corruption throughout various stages of democratic progress in the past.
- Drawing on the BNP's commitments, the July Charter, and the ACC Reform Commission's recommendations, TIB submitted a comprehensive set of governance and anti-corruption recommendations on 5 March 2026 to the new government, based on its continuous research.
- Regular monitoring of the newly formed government's various activities is crucial to fulfil the commitment to implement the election manifesto and meet public expectations, in continuation of which the current observation-based research initiative has been undertaken.

Research Objectives

- The main objective of the research is to review the activities of the government during the first 100 days following the 13th National Parliamentary Election. The specific objectives are -
 - To review the progress in implementing government commitments across various sectors and institutions, with a focus on preventing corruption and establishing democracy and good governance.
 - To identify the limitations and challenges hindering the fulfilment of these commitments.

Scope of the Study

The issues covered in the research are:

- **Parliament** – Formation of Parliament, parliamentary activities (discussions on matters of public importance, accountability of the executive branch, lawmaking, etc.).

- **Judiciary** – Legal and institutional reforms, judicial activities, trial of crimes against humanity.
- **Executive Branch** – Cabinet formation, activities based on various ministries (public administration, law and order, etc.).
- **Local Government** – Legal and institutional reforms, appointment of administrators, election preparations, and regular activities.
- **Good Governance and Anti-Corruption** – Legal reforms, formation of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), various initiatives to prevent corruption, trial of corruption, prevention of money laundering, and recovery of laundered money.
- **Protection of Human Rights** – Legal reforms, formation of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), and human rights situation.
- **Media and Freedom of Expression** – Formation of the Media Commission, harassment and torture of media workers, freedom of expression, etc.
- **Right to Information and Disclosure of Information** – Formation of the Information Commission, legal and institutional reforms.
- **Other Sector/ Ministry/ Institution-based Activities** – Banking and financial sector; education; health; social security; environment and climate; others.

Research Methodology and Timeline

- **Basis of Research:** Analysis of information collected based on BNP's 31-point state reform agenda and election manifesto.
- **Data Collection and Analysis Method:** Data collection and analysis followed qualitative research methods. Quantitative data were used in specific cases. The accuracy and reliability of information collected from various sources were verified through other direct and indirect sources.
- **Sources of Information:** Relevant government circulars, ordinances, and rules (draft/final); news, articles, opinions, and analyses published in newspapers and websites; published interviews of representatives of political parties, experts, researchers, journalists, students, and civil society; government and other websites.
- **Reference Period for Data Collection and Analysis:** 17 February to 27 May 2026 (first 100 days of the government).

Study Findings

Significant Positive Steps Taken by the Government in 100 Days

- Special privileges for MPs to obtain duty-free vehicles and government plots were abolished.
- VVIP protocols for the Prime Minister's movement and formalities at airports were limited.
- Security arrangements for the Prime Minister's family have been kept limited. The PM used his own vehicle including fuel and resided at his personal residence instead of government allocated premises.
- The practice of requiring Deputy Commissioners (DCs) and Superintendents of Police (SPs) to provide protocol for Ministers, Ministers of State, and Deputy Ministers has been abolished.
- Directives were issued for Ministers, Ministers of State, and Deputy Ministers to reimburse costs if government facilities are used during personal trips.
- In continuation of the Interim Government's initiatives, agreements have been signed with three countries to repatriate laundered funds, and laundered assets have been seized in one country.
- Mandating that government employees be present in offices by 9:00 a.m. and remain in the office, refraining from external engagements during the first 40 minutes, as well as restricting leaving the workplace without permission. The Prime Minister, by being present at the ministries at 9:00 a.m. has been supervising the activities.
- Surprise visits were made by ministers to monitor the service activities of several ministries and sectors, and actions were taken in specific cases.
- A specific 180-day action plan for the government was announced to implement election manifesto commitments.
- Announcement of the removal of the relevant Minister or Minister of State from their position was made if they fail to demonstrate visible success or if negligence is proven in their respective ministries. Announcement of the progress evaluation of the work of Ministers and Ministers of State after six months was also made.
- Commencement of activities such as Farmer Card; Family Card for poverty alleviation and women's empowerment; canal excavation; tree plantation, allowances to heads of religious places of worship; providing Sports Cards and sports allowances to athletes, etc.

Establishing an Effective Parliament

Government Commitments regarding establishing an effective Parliament

- Election of the Deputy Speaker from the opposition
- Ensuring leadership and representation of the opposition in parliamentary committees
- Amending Article 70 of the Constitution

Initiatives/Steps

- Decision to elect a Deputy Speaker from the opposition and a proposal to the opposition to nominate a candidate.
 - The offer was declined by the Opposition, citing the government's failure to clarify its stance on the July Charter; nonetheless, the treasury bench maintained the vacant post for the opposition.

- Formation of five standing committees (Standing Committee of Privileges, House Committee, Business Advisory Committee, Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions, Library Committee, etc.) and two special committees during the first session of Parliament.
 - Formation of a 13-member special committee comprising members from both the treasury and opposition to scrutinize 133 ordinances promulgated during the interim government, and a 10-member special committee to address the energy crisis.

Observations

- Unlike previous parliaments, which typically formed standing committees within the first session, the 13th Parliament has yet to form most of the committees.
- The ruling party dominates the recently formed committees, occupying a majority of committee members and failing to elect a single opposition member as Chairperson of any of the seven committees.
 - The ruling alliance holds 10 of the 13 members on the special committee tasked with scrutinizing ordinances, leaving the opposition with only three representatives.
- The government has yet to clarify its stance regarding the amendment of Article 70 of the Constitution.

a. Discussion on Matters of Public Importance and Accountability of the Executive Branch

Government Commitments regarding an effective Parliament

- Ensuring accountability at every level of the state
- Keeping the Parliament informed regarding the execution of international treaties

Initiatives/Steps

- Ministries provided answers to 1,778 out of 2,509 submitted questions during the first parliamentary session.
- The session facilitated 40 hours of discussion over 25 days, with participation from 280 MPs.
- The Parliament held focused debates on the President's speech, the President's resignation, implementation of the July Charter, and liberation war issues during the first session.
- The opposition maintained its presence through active participation on various issues and several walkouts following parliamentary norms.
- The government decided to establish 'Inspection Rooms' (dedicated seating space) for MPs at Upazila Parishads.

Observations

- Instances of active participation in the National Parliament's question-and-answer sessions and efforts to ensure ministerial accountability were observed. However, the failure to form most standing committees has hindered scrutiny of bills and accountability of the executive.
- Although the first session of the 13th Parliament was shorter than that of the 11th Parliament, a greater number of MPs participated in the discussions.
- Opportunities were provided for all MPs to speak. While the roles of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker in maintaining parliamentary discipline and enforcing procedural rules were appreciated, allegations of discrimination in granting speaking opportunities were raised in some cases.
- With 220 first-time MPs, many demonstrated a keen interest in active participation. However, a lack of procedural proficiency and instances of rule violations resulted in disruptions of parliamentary discipline.

- No instances of unparliamentary language were observed during the first session. However, following the indecorous conduct of several MPs during the speech of an independent Member, the Speaker called for the maintenance of decorum.
- Although Opposition MPs staged walkouts, no instances of a parliamentary boycott were observed.
- Although an independent MP raised matters of public importance in the Parliament, including rising commodity prices, the trade agreement with the United States, and the measles outbreak, no discussion took place on these issues.
- Despite the provision of travel allowances for MPs, a demand by one Member for a government vehicle was criticized as being contrary to the spirit of the mass uprising and the ethos of public service.
- Despite disagreements that existed between government and opposition members on various issues, there was consensus among all parties on expanding privileges and authority—for instance, the allocation of designated sitting spaces in Upazila Parishads under the name of “MP inspection rooms,” which risks undermining the autonomy of the Upazila Parishads.

b. Enacting Laws

Initiatives/Steps

- A 13-member special committee comprising members from both the treasury and opposition benches was formed to scrutinize 133 ordinances promulgated during the interim government, and the report was submitted on 2 April 2026.
- During the 25 workdays of the first session of the National Parliament, 97 ordinances were passed directly, and 13 were passed with amendments, converting them into laws; 7 ordinances were repealed, and 16 ordinances were deferred for further scrutiny.

Observations

- Despite some debate and criticism regarding the pressure of reviewing a large number of ordinances within a short timeframe (requiring an average of 4.5 ordinances per day), 133 ordinances were disposed of within the stipulated time.
- The government failed to provide a specific roadmap for amending and enacting the repealed or deferred ordinances into law.
- The repeal or suspension of ordinances concerning judicial independence, the NHRC, the ACC, and the prevention of enforced disappearances is widely viewed as being inconsistent with the government’s stated commitments.
- There were deviations from the special committee’s core recommendations regarding the introduction and repeal of bills, alongside a failure to consider the notes of dissent from both the Treasury and opposition members in parliamentary committee reports.
- There was a failure to amend and enact certain deferred ordinances despite the opportunity to do so; conversely, the conversion of numerous ordinances into law was made, including provisions that will amplify executive branch control.
- Several ordinances were enacted into law without incorporating necessary amendments in line with stakeholders’ expectations and recommendations, including The Cyber Security Act, 2026, The Personal Data Protection Act, 2026, The National Data Management Act, 2026, The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2026, and The Public Accounts Audit Act, 2026.

c. Constitutional Reform

Government Commitments

- Formation of a Constitution Reform Commission
- Establish a balance of power among the legislature, cabinet, president, prime minister, and the judiciary
- Limit the tenure of the Prime Minister to no more than two consecutive terms
- Introduce an Upper House in Parliament and keeping 10% female members in the Upper House
- Reintroduction of the Caretaker Government system
- Implementation of constitutional reforms in the manner in which consensus was reached and signed in the July Charter

Initiatives/Steps

- Debates took place in the Parliament regarding the formation of a Constitution Reform Council and the constitutional validity of the verdict and the referendum process. The BNP took a stance in favor of amending the Constitution in accordance with Article 142 of the Constitution.
- A proposal was made for the formation of a 17-member special committee comprising members from both the treasury and opposition benches (12 from the treasury and 5 from the opposition), alongside introducing the Constitution Amendment Bill in the second (budget) session.

Observations

- The government and opposition parties held differing positions on the oath issue and on “reform” versus “amendment” of the Constitution during the oath-taking ceremony of MPs; the practice of failing to build a culture of consensus among political parties on fundamental issues of national interest continued.
- Objection was raised to the implementation of forming an Upper House based on proportional representation, as the BNP had recorded a note of dissent on this in the July Charter.
- Debates took place regarding convening a session of the Constitution Reform Council; if a solution is not reached through parliamentary discussion, the opposition has threatened that they will protest in the streets.
- Differing statements from high-level leaders of the ruling party regarding the July Charter have created public doubt about its implementation.
 - Although the Prime Minister repeatedly stated that the July Charter would be implemented “word for word”, other party leaders made different statements. For example, the Home Minister stated in the Parliament, “We signed the July Charter by compromising on everything so that they cannot prevent the election under the ‘pretext’ of reform.”
- The opposition proposed the inclusion of 50 percent of members from the opposition in the special committee for constitutional reform in Parliament. However, the ruling party objected.

Judiciary

Independence of the Judiciary

Government Commitments

- Ensuring effective independence of the judiciary in light of the Masdar Hossain case, strengthening the Supreme Judicial Council, and enacting a law for the appointment of judges
- Vesting the control over the appointment of judges of the subordinate courts entirely in the Supreme Court

Initiatives/Steps

- The Supreme Court Secretariat Ordinance, 2025, The Supreme Court Secretariat (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025, and The Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 2025 were repealed.
- The Supreme Court Secretariat was abolished, and 15 officials, including the Senior Secretary of the Secretariat, were attached to the Ministry of Law.
- It was decided to conduct further scrutiny and seek stakeholder consultation regarding the enactment of laws concerning the appointment of judges and the Supreme Court Secretariat.

Observations

- The repeal of three ordinances related to the independence of the judiciary indicated a retreat on the issue of judicial independence, reflecting a stance contrary to the government's commitment to ensuring it.
 - In this regard, the Supreme Court failed to demonstrate the moral courage to take a firm stance against this initiative.
- Although the government promised to reintroduce these laws as bills in the future after amendments, citing "balance and further scrutiny," a specific roadmap in this regard remained absent.

a. Legal and Institutional Reforms

Government Commitments

- Reducing case backlogs through the appointment of judges; ensuring harassment-free access to justice
- Prioritizing honesty and efficiency in the appointment and promotion of judges
- Establishing permanent prosecution/attorney services at the district level gradually through the law

Initiatives/Steps

- The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2026, was passed to facilitate the expeditious disposal of cases, incorporating provisions for the service of summons through SMS and voice calls, filing of complaints and written statements by affidavit, direct cross-examination, and simplification of decree execution procedures.
- The process of creating 304 judicial posts is underway, and the recruitment of 150 Civil Judges is ongoing.
- Forty individuals were promoted to the rank of Senior District and Sessions Judge.

- Recruitment notices were issued for 968 positions in the subordinate courts through the Bangladesh Judicial Service Commission Secretariat, and recruitment for an additional 553 positions is ongoing.
- E-bail bonds were introduced to digitize judicial services, and technological support for judicial services is expanding. Restructuring of the Development Project Proposal (DPP) for the e-Judiciary project, submitted to the Planning Commission, is ongoing.
- A total of 7,104 cases were disposed of by the High Court in a single day to expedite the judicial process through the reduction of case backlogs, including 3,842 old criminal miscellaneous cases and 3,262 old writ cases.

Observations

- Visible initiatives were observed to reduce case backlogs and enhance the efficiency and accessibility of the judicial system.
- While the disposal of long-pending criminal miscellaneous and writ cases to expedite the judicial process is a positive development, the simultaneous disposal of a large number of cases within a short period may create a risk of ‘miscarriage of justice’.

Access to Justice

Government Commitments

- Commitment to the rule of law and to the principle that no one is above the law
- Trial of all crimes against humanity committed during the fascist government’s regime, including the July mass uprising

Initiatives/Steps

- The government established district committees headed by District Magistrates and a central committee led by the Law Minister to recommend the withdrawal of politically motivated harassment cases filed during the previous authoritarian regime.
 - The BNP reports that 142,983 political cases were filed against its leaders and activists between 2007 and 2024. To date, 23,865 cases have been withdrawn, with the process for the remaining cases currently underway.
- Legal proceedings continue regarding alleged crimes against humanity committed during the authoritarian regime and the July mass uprising.
- Authorities issued directives to provide district-level data within one month to verify cases related to the July mass uprising that were filed during the interim government.
- The Home Minister issued verbal instructions to review and withdraw fictitious and harassing “ghost” cases filed against journalists.
- An initiative was undertaken to restructure the prosecution and investigation agencies of the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) to expedite the trial process for crimes against humanity and address allegations of controversial activities.
- An accused was sentenced to death for the rape of a nine-year-old child in Meherpur, delivering the verdict within an expedited timeframe of 29 working days.
- Progress was made in the murder case of Sohagi Jahan Tonu after ten years, with the arrest of a former army officer.

Observations

- It is observed that the practice of filing and withdrawing cases or granting bail based on political considerations continues, reflecting a persistent culture of targeting individuals with dissenting views through the judicial system.
 - Observations indicate a dual trend where harassing political cases against ruling party activists are being swiftly withdrawn, while new harassing cases are being filed against journalists and dissenting political activists, whose bail is being repeatedly stayed.
- Despite high public expectations regarding the trials for the murders of journalist couple Sagar-Runi, Munia, and Taqi, no progress has been observed.

Government/Executive

Cabinet Formation

Initiatives/Steps

- A 49-member cabinet was formed, comprising the Prime Minister, 25 Ministers, and 23 Ministers of State
- In addition, five Advisors with the rank of Minister, five Advisors with the rank of Minister of State, and five Special Assistants to the Prime Minister were appointed

Observations

- Despite the initial pledge for a small cabinet, a conventional large cabinet was formed. Due to the presence of a Minister, Minister of State, and Advisor in the same ministry, in some cases, a lack of coordination among them is visible.
- Controversy emerged regarding the allocation of portfolios during the formation of the government -
 - Assigning responsibilities of ministries to several ministers that are inconsistent with their experience or expectations.
 - Simultaneous appointment of a Minister, Minister of State, and Advisor in relatively less important ministries.
 - Appointment of several controversial and criticized individuals as ministers, with allegations of loan default or criminal offences.
- The cabinet reflects low representation of women and minority communities, consisting of only three women, one from religious minorities, and one indigenous person (recently resigned).

Public Administration

Government Commitments

- Reconstitution of all state, constitutional, and statutory institutions to ensure transparency
- Formation of an Administrative Reform Commission
- Building a Meritocratic Bangladesh: Considering merit, honesty, creativity, skill, experience, and training as the sole criteria for recruitment, transfer, and promotion in the administration
- Increasing professionalism in state institutions and preventing politicization
- Identifying officials involved in state terrorism and oppression during the July uprising, as well as those accused of vote-rigging and corruption, and taking appropriate action against them

- Recruitment of five hundred thousand government employees with transparency and speed
- Implementation of the Pay Scale

Initiatives/Steps

- A massive administrative reshuffle was carried out following the formation of the government.
- Government offices have expanded e-filing services and smart office management, while supervision has increased across various administrative levels.
- The 180-day action plan emphasizes merit-based evaluation instead of political identity, alongside a decision to recruit five hundred thousand new government employees.
- A plan was adopted to fill 3,110 vacant positions across various terms in the Ministry of Public Administration and its subordinate offices and agencies.
- The government decided to implement the 9th National Pay Scale in three phases starting from 1 July 2026, with plans to raise salaries and pensions, enhance benefits for lower and mid-level staff, and reduce grade discrimination.
 - There is a plan to allocate BDT 370,000 million for the implementation of the new pay scale.

Observations

- No progress has been observed regarding the formation of the Administrative Reform Commission.
- Despite commitments to establish a meritocratic administration, the practice of appointing party-loyal retired bureaucrats to senior positions on a contractual basis persists. The persistent use of political considerations in recruitment, postings, and promotions—combined with a rise in contractual appointments—has caused significant frustration and resentment across the civil service.
- Appointments to various important state institutions continue to be made based on political considerations, including instances where individuals active in party politics have been selected.
- Procedural flaws, a lack of information, and haste in issuing gazette notifications for recruitment, transfers, and postings have resulted in chaos and controversy, and disobedience of transfer orders by many.
- At least 15 officers of various levels were withdrawn following the issuance of controversial gazette notifications regarding their transfer, posting, or recruitment.

Law & Order and Human Rights

Government Commitments on Law and Order

- Establishing the rule of law at all levels
- Forming a service-oriented police force
- Strengthening digital and online service delivery
- Re-examining the Police Commission Act

Initiatives/Steps

- The government declared maintaining law and order as the highest priority and is conducting operations to combat juvenile gangs, online gambling, organized crime, narcotics, terrorism, and cybercrime.
- Despite increased police activity in crime control and improvement of security arrangements, there has been a failure to prevent and control the overall law and order situation. Incidents of snatching, theft, robbery, and kidnapping are alarming.

- Teenage gang activities persist – about 40 percent of those engaged in criminal acts in Dhaka is teenagers.
- There are allegations of political and administrative patronage in various criminal activities.
- The gradual withdrawal of the army from active duty has begun. A declaration has been made that full responsibility for maintaining law and order will be assigned to the police.
- The government has taken a strict stance against mob violence and has instructed law enforcement agencies to play a stronger role in controlling such situations.
- The process of recruiting 10,000 constables has been initiated.
- To protect the image of the police, major reshuffles have been made at the top levels of the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) and the Bangladesh Police.
- Security has been strengthened at important state installations, economic infrastructure, public transport systems, and crowded public places.
- Initiatives have been taken to ensure discipline in traffic management on the streets of Dhaka using artificial intelligence (AI) technology.

Observations

- The government stated that the “Police Commission Ordinance-2025” will be amended and passed in the National Parliament, without clearly specifying what types of amendments will be made.
- Despite earlier demands from the BNP to abolish the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), the government is now taking steps to strengthen RAB. It has taken an initiative to enact a law for keeping RAB.
- An initiative has been taken to enact a law for retaining RAB.
- There are allegations that police officers accused of human rights violations during the authoritarian regime are still receiving promotions and being assigned to favorable positions through lobbying, irregularities, and corruption.

Government Commitments on Human Rights

- Safeguarding human rights in line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Appointing Human Rights Commission members using specific criteria

Initiatives/Steps

- The National Human Rights Commission Ordinance, 2025, issued during the interim government period, has not been passed as a law in the Parliament due to further review. Subsequently, a draft of The National Human Rights Commission Act, 2026, has been developed.
- A draft law has been formulated amending the Enforced Disappearance Prevention and Remedy (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026.

Observations

- As a protest against the repeal of the National Human Rights Commission Ordinance, 2025, the Chairman and all members of the Commission resigned simultaneously.
- Concerns have been raised regarding various provisions of the draft Human Rights Commission Act, including the composition, role, powers, and functions of the Commission, which are inconsistent with public expectations for establishing a truly independent human rights institution free from government control, as well as with the Paris Principles and international standards.

- The draft law limits the independence of the Human Rights Commission and reduces its authority to investigate human rights violations by law enforcement agencies, creating opportunities for increased government control over the Commission.
 - The draft reinstates the provisions of the 2009 law enacted by the authoritarian government.
- Risk of loss of data regarding enforced disappearances and human rights violations has been created.
 - Despite instructions to implement strict measures, incidents of mob violence and human rights violations were not effectively controlled.
 - Ongoing attacks on shrines and religious minorities in various locations – attacks, arson and vandalism on shrines and the *Baul* community in Dhaka, Kushtia, Sylhet and beating to death of a religious leader.
 - Deaths in prison custody have continued.
 - A person was beaten to death after posting critically about a leader of the ruling party on Facebook.

Table: Law and Order and Human Rights Situation (March-May,2026)

Crime and Human Rights Violations	No. of incidents and victims			
	March	April	May *	Total
Dacoity	39	51	42	132
Robbery	142	152	167	461
Murder	317	288	310	915
Riot	0	3	4	7
Kidnapping	102	94	90	286
Police assault	63	66	55	184
Theft	1,151	1,073	1,064	3,277
Women and child repression	1,485	2,011	1,952	5,448
Victims of Rape	43-48	35-54	59-83	137-185
Victims of Gang Rape	16-19	14-17	12-17	42-53
Child and adolescent rape victims	29-41	20-30	33-57	82-128
Victims of Mob Violence and Lynching	25–36	44	66	135-146
Killed in Mob Violence	13–20	18–22	28-32	59-74
Injured in Mob Violence	31–38	39–49	68-71	138-158
Deaths in Custody	9–12	5–6	7-10	21-28
Injured Due to Torture by Law Enforcement Agencies	0	5	0	5
Extrajudicial Killing	1	0	1	2
Arrested on Allegations of Hurting and Insulting Religious Sentiments	2	5	2	9

Sources: Bangladesh Police; Human Rights Support Society (HRSS); Manabdhikar Shongskriti Foundation (MSF); Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK). * Although the study period was set to end on 27 May 2026, separate data were not available up to that date; therefore, data for the entire month of May were used.

Local Government

Government Commitments

- Making local government institutions self-governing and empowered for decentralization
- Increasing accountability of local government institutions and freeing them from the interference of any other elected representative
- Ensuring adequate financing

Initiatives/Steps

- Administrators were appointed in all city corporations and 42 district councils.
- Initiatives were taken by the Election Commission to amend the electoral code of conduct to ensure free, fair, and violence-free local government elections – these include assurance to increase the security deposit to discourage dummy candidates, introduce online submission of nomination papers, and abolish or amend requirements such as submitting supporters’ signatures for candidacy.
- There is a plan to prepare for local government elections from October 2026.
- The Dhaka City Hawker Management Policy 2026 has been formulated to restore order in hawker management – making digital registration and identity cards mandatory for hawkers and initiating the distribution of smart cards among hawkers through registration.

Observations

- Passing local government-related bills that retain the government’s authority to remove elected representatives and appoint administrators in “special circumstances” or in the “public interest” thereby poses an obstacle to ensuring the autonomy and political neutrality of local government institutions.
- Appointment of administrators to all city corporations and 42 district councils based on partisan considerations could unfairly benefit those likely to contest the next local government elections.
- Allowing MPs to influence local government affairs by providing “inspection rooms” in each Upazila Parishad creates a risk of undue influence over local government elections.
- Despite the commitment to free roads and footpaths from occupation, space on roads and footpaths to hawkers has been allocated by the city corporation. Allegations have been made regarding the distribution of hawker cards in exchange for illicit payments.
- There has been a transition of control over the ‘waste trade’ within Dhaka City Corporation after a political power shift.

Good Governance and Anti-Corruption

Government Commitments

- Procedural and legal reforms to combat corruption
- Taking visible and effective measures to prevent corruption and appointing an Ombudsman
- Legal and procedural reforms to ensure the transparency and accountability of the ACC and the enactment of a new law for the appointment of Commissioners
- Making Bangladesh a member of the ‘Open Government Partnership’ at the state level, subject to the approval of the National Parliament

Initiatives/Steps

- The Prime Minister gave his commitment to adopt an anti-corruption strategy and reform the ACC in response to TIB’s proposal. He also agreed in principle to host the 2028 International Anti-Corruption Conference in Bangladesh.
- An initiative to amend the ACC Act has been reported in the media, including a proposal from the Ministry of Law for the ACC to prepare a draft. However, significant ambiguity remains regarding the actual status of these developments.

Observations

- Although the Chairman and Commissioners of the Commission resigned on 3 March 2026 after the government had taken power, there is no progress in forming the Search Committee for the appointment of Commissioners or in the appointment of Commissioners. The activities of the Commission are stagnant.
- By repealing the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Amendment Ordinance, 2025, the government has returned to the previous law (of 2004). Although all parties, including BNP, agreed to the recommendations of the ACC Reform Commission, this indicates a retreat by the government regarding legal and institutional reforms to prevent corruption.
- Decision-making is stagnant in areas such as inquiries, filing of cases and charge sheets, and imposing bans on the foreign travel of the accused due to the vacancy of the Commissioners and legal and political complexities.
 - A backlog of complaints and files has been created as inquiries into new complaints submitted daily to the ACC, filing of cases, and approval of investigations are not being carried out. Increasing delays in the disposal of corruption-related cases and complaints are apprehended.
 - Ongoing activities, such as the 15,000 complaints submitted after the fall of the authoritarian government—including the filing of 3,500 cases against VIPs and the attachment of assets belonging to 300 individuals and institutions—are stagnant.
- No visible implementation plan has been provided to integrate good governance and corruption prevention into the mainstream priority agenda of the government.
- There is a lack of directives or initiatives regarding the income and asset disclosure of MPs and government officials, and no progress has been made on real-time auditing.
- No directives or initiatives have been introduced concerning the ‘Open Government Partnership.’
- Active syndicates remain present in various departments and sectors – for instance,
 - A group of allegedly corrupt officials in the Public Works Department has remained in various offices in Dhaka in the same positions for an extended period. Despite the issuance of transfer

orders following corruption allegations, these directives have not been enforced, and several accused officials were subsequently promoted.

- Oil theft continues at the Padma, Meghna, and Jamuna oil depots through collusion among certain dishonest officials, local syndicates, and ship crews.

Prevention of Money Laundering

Government Commitments

- Recovering money laundered during the tenure of the authoritarian government; publishing a white paper on corruption and taking legal action against those identified as responsible

Initiatives/Steps

- The government continued the initiatives taken by the interim government. Ongoing activities initiated during the tenure of the interim government include —
 - Continued legal efforts by the government to repatriate seized assets laundered by Bangladeshis in the United Kingdom.
 - 141 cases to recover laundered money; filing of charge sheets in 15 cases and delivery of verdicts in 6 cases (until March 25, 2026).
 - Ongoing legal process to recover laundered money in 11 cases identified and prioritized by the inter-agency task force, involving the involvement of the Sheikh Hasina family.
- Under the direction of Bangladesh Bank, 10 Bangladeshi banks signed 36 Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) with multiple multinational legal and business consultancy firms to investigate and recover laundered money and foreign assets belonging to six major industrial groups.
 - A directive has been issued requiring that the Bangladesh Bank be notified of any attempts at political interference during the asset recovery process.
- The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of the police successfully repatriated approximately BDT 440 million worth of cryptocurrency laundered abroad.
- Priority investigations are being conducted in 10 major destination countries for money laundering. Malaysia, Hong Kong, and the United Arab Emirates have consented to sign Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLATs), while the process continues with the remaining seven countries.
- Mutual Legal Assistance Requests (MLARs) have been dispatched to 23 countries to facilitate the return of laundered funds, with the process currently ongoing in 21 of these countries.
- The Cyprus government's order to seize properties owned by S. Alam and his wife at the request of the Bangladesh government marks significant progress in international cooperation for the recovery of laundered money.
- The Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU) summoned the bank accounts of five former Advisors and Special Assistants to investigate suspicious transactions.
- The BFIU had directed senior bank officials to provide written commitments to prevent corruption, bribery, money laundering, and fraud, with a mandate to display these commitments in visible locations.

Observations

- Controversial measures were taken, allowing loan defaulters to reschedule their debts and reinstating the ownership rights of accused shareholders in weak banks.

Freedom of the Media and Freedom of Expression

Government Commitments

- Formation of a Media Commission and ensuring freedom of information and expression
- Establishment of an independent regulatory framework to ensure freedom of expression and ethical and professional standards in the media
- Preventing rumors, misinformation, hate speech, and disinformation through coordination with fact-checking organizations

Initiatives/Steps

- The amendment process to modernize the Press Council Act, 1974, and transform the Press Council into a stronger, more effective, and media-friendly institution is ongoing.
- Forming an advisory committee in the first phase, by June 2026, for the establishment of a Media Commission was announced.
- Commitment to take necessary steps for the formation of the Tenth Wage Board has been made.
- Bangladesh Press Council has adopted a plan to determine the educational qualifications of journalists and to create a comprehensive online database of “genuine journalists” to improve journalistic standards and prevent fake journalism.
- Developing a roadmap to ensure the professional dignity, salary structure, and overall security of journalists was announced.
- Initiatives to identify legal constraints, including those under the *Rules of Business*, in implementing the Wage Board or ensuring the security of journalists have been taken.
- Providing support through the Journalists’ Welfare Trust for journalists who are unable or incapable of continuing professional work, physically or mentally ill, or unable to bear treatment costs is ongoing, as well as benefits in recognition of outstanding contributions to journalism.
- A decision has been taken to allow an opportunity to appeal regarding the renewal of cancelled accreditation cards used for journalists’ access to the Secretariat.

Observations

- There is a lack of clarity regarding the criteria for defining “genuine journalists” in the database, including what standards will be used and who will determine them.
- There is a lack of disclosure of information on how many journalists have applied for accreditation to ensure access to the Secretariat and how many have been granted accreditation.
- Under the Cyber Security Act, 2026, “religious or communal hate speech or ethnically discriminatory expression” is considered an offence, raising concerns about potential misuse to violate freedom of expression.
 - Arrests, harassment, and legal actions related to expressing opinions on social media; for example, multiple individuals were arrested for posting criticism of the Prime Minister on Facebook.
 - Continued arrests on allegations of hurting or insulting religious sentiments.
- Although there were steps during the interim government period to abolish the controversial NTMC, which was used for surveillance of citizens, the current government has continued its operations; approval has been given for a proposal to procure equipment worth BDT 950 million to enhance NTMC’s capacity.

- Harassment of journalists continued – within the first 100 days of the BNP government, a total of 188 journalists were harassed or affected in 130 incidents, with cases filed against 12 journalists and 7 journalists arrested.
- In many cases, despite the involvement of party leaders and activists in the harassment of journalists, no action has been taken against them.
- Internal conflict among journalists over control of a media outlet occurred; demonstrations by leaders and activists of a political party at media offices to establish control.
- There were allegations that many journalists arrested in “harassment-inducing false cases” following the July mass uprising have not been granted bail.

Right to Information and Disclosure of Information

Government Commitments

- Ensuring the right to information

Initiatives/Steps

- Adoption of a new strategic “New Media” project to prevent misinformation and to increase public engagement through the proper use of digital platforms was announced.
- Developing policies and a legal framework to prevent the spread of confusion through the misuse of media logos, alongside three-tier measures: identification of false information, debunking, and dissemination of accurate information to the public, was announced.
- Enacting an effective right to information law based on the opinions of relevant experts and stakeholders was declared.

Observations

- There has been no progress in the establishment of the Information Commission and in the amendment of the Right to Information Act.
- During the transition of the website from the Office of the Chief Adviser to the Prime Minister’s Office, important government documents and data from the interim government period were removed from online access and were archived.
 - Direct accessibility to this information through the website has been discontinued, creating barriers to proactive disclosure of information.
 - However, authorities have assured that such information will be available upon request through appropriate procedures.

Education Sector

Government Commitments

- Enhancing professionalism in state institutions and preventing politicization
- Strengthening the authority of the University Grants Commission
- Making educational institutions free from violence and drugs
- Reforming the education sector to develop a skilled human resource
- Providing training to teachers on issues related to children with disabilities
- formulating a transfer policy for MPO-enlisted teachers

Initiatives/Steps

- The search committees for the appointment of Vice-Chancellors (VC) in universities were reconstituted.
- The annual re-admission fees in schools were cancelled.
- Admission to schools through examinations instead of lottery was introduced.

Observations

- VCs of 19 public universities were removed before completion of their tenure, without stating any reasons.
- Although search committees exist for the appointment of VCs, appointments have been made based on political considerations without following due process. In one case, an individual holding a significant position in a political party has been appointed as a VC of a university.
- Changes in the positions of Pro-VC, Treasurer, Dean, and Provost were made based on political considerations.
- Protests, clashes, and violence in various universities continued following the formation of the government. These include -
 - There are movements at several universities concerning issues such as the appointments of the VC and delays in promotions.
 - Clashes and violence between two student organizations have erupted in various universities and educational institutions over establishing influence

Health Sector

Government Commitments

- Ensuring free and quality primary healthcare services
- Ensuring corruption-free healthcare services
- Ensuring the safety of healthcare providers
- Providing e-health cards to every citizen
- Improving the supply network of medicines and vaccines
- Establishment of a National Accreditation Council

Initiatives/Steps

- Vaccination of 18.3 million children against measles was completed. Provision of pediatric ventilators to ten district hospitals was accomplished.
- Announcement was made to deploy Ansar members with arms in the upazila and other major hospitals to ensure the safety of doctors.

Observations

- Although there have been some sudden inspections in certain hospitals, no visible progress has been observed in preventing corruption in the health sector.
- The measles crisis continues, with approximately 67,000 infections and 472 deaths reported as of May 27, 2026. There has been a failure to consider the recommendations of public health

experts, a lack of coordination among relevant institutions, the provision of inaccurate, strategic, and misleading information regarding measles cases, deaths, and vaccination, and visible deficiencies in diagnosis and treatment services.

Banking and Financial Sector

Government Commitments

- Strengthening the autonomy, authority, and supervisory capacity of the central bank
- Increasing effective oversight of banks and financial institutions by the Bangladesh Bank
- Abolishing the Banking and Financial Institutions Division
- Ending political interference in banking operations and eliminating family influence
- Reviewing the problem of high non-performing loans (NPL), bringing those responsible under the law, and taking swift measures to resolve institutional challenges

Observations

- A businessperson was appointed as the Governor of the central bank who was previously identified as a loan defaulter, associated with influential business groups, and a member of the ruling party's election management committee in the 13th National Parliamentary Election.
- Provisions in the Bank Resolution Act, 2026, were included, allowing former shareholders of merged weak banks to regain ownership without any form of accountability, indicating an initiative to rehabilitate identified perpetrators of financial misconduct.
- Lack of strict measures to prevent political interference in the banking sector is found. Attempts by politically affiliated individuals to enter the management of various banks were observed.
- Prior practices allowing loan defaulters to reschedule loans with a 1 percent cash down payment continued.
- The single borrower exposure limit was relaxed, allowing a borrower to receive loans amounting to 25 percent of a bank's total capital (previously 15 percent).

Social Protection

Government Commitments

- Provision of family cards to poor households
- Provision of farmer cards and overall protection for farmers
- Increase in allowances such as old-age and widow allowances
- Expansion of social protection coverage
- Ensuring transparency and good governance

Initiatives/Steps

- Financial assistance of BDT 2,500 was provided to approximately 53,000 families through family cards by mid-May.
- The initial distribution of farmer cards was completed for 22,000 landless and marginal farmers

Observations

- There is an allegation by the Deputy Speaker that government employees have deprived genuinely poor individuals in the distribution of family cards.

- There are no bank accounts for 504 individuals listed among farmers during the distribution of farmer cards.
- There is uncertainty regarding the availability of a sufficient budget required for the implementation of social protection programs.

Environment and Climate

Government Commitments

- Taking effective measures to address climate change impacts and natural disasters
- Undertaking canal excavation initiatives
- Taking measures to protect rivers
- Establishment of e-waste processing plants in every district
- Ensuring safe management of medical waste
- Revitalization of forest areas across the country

Initiatives/Steps

- Investigation by the ACC into allegations of corruption amounting to approximately BDT 21,100 million in BCCT, as mentioned in a TIB report (4 November 2025), is ongoing.
- Canal excavation and re-excavation activities (March 16, 2026) have been initiated – 818.60 kilometers have been completed (as of 15 May 2026).
- 15 million saplings have been produced to support afforestation and green employment.
- A target has been declared to generate 10,000 megawatts of solar power using renewable energy by 2030.

Observations

- There is a lack of visible action plans for climate financing, environmental conservation, waste management, and addressing urban waterlogging.
- There is no clear roadmap for meeting commitments to increase renewable energy generation capacity.

Other Sectors

Electricity and Energy

- Artificial shortage of fuel was created due to illegal stockpiling and black-market trading of fuel by some dishonest businesses, exploiting the global energy crisis. This resulted in the deaths of three individuals and casualties related to fuel acquisition.
- Prices of oil, gas, and electricity were increased. The sale of LPG at prices higher than government-set rates was observed due to a lack of monitoring.
- Although the government set time restrictions for commercial establishments to manage the energy crisis, these were not effectively enforced due to monitoring gaps.

Road Transport

- The shift in control of bus companies and leadership of transport associations was observed – Awami League-affiliated individuals were replaced with BNP-affiliated leadership and control.

- Extortion in the transport sector continued. Controversy was raised as the Road Transport and Bridges Minister referred to extortion as a “compromise”. A failure to take a clear position on this issue at the highest levels of government.

Revenue Management and Development Projects

- There has been an absence of strategic policy direction for revenue sector reform.
- Although the BNP stated during its election campaign that no mega projects would be undertaken, plans have been made, and, in some cases, approvals granted for mega projects such as the Padma Barrage, the second Padma and Jamuna bridges, and large-scale river and canal excavation with domestic financing. Meanwhile, the initiative to seek foreign financing for the comparatively lower-cost Teesta Barrage Project has become controversial.
- Approximately BDT 410,000 million has been borrowed by the government from the banking sector within one and a half months of assuming power.

Equity and Social Justice

- Attacks and evictions in indigenous land rights movements continued. For instance,
 - Eviction of an indigenous family in Madhupur through armed intimidation by a rubber plantation authority.
 - Attack on protesting Santal community members in Gaibandha, resulting in injuries to five individuals, including a female leader.
 - The marginalized and indigenous communities were not included in the pilot planning of the e-health card initiative.
- There were gaps in communication and outreach regarding measles vaccination in marginalized areas. A significant proportion of children from indigenous and marginalized communities is deprived of vaccination and treatment services.

Overall Observations

- The fundamental objective of the July uprising and the public mandate in the 13th National Parliamentary Election was to establish a welfare-oriented Bangladesh that would be well-governed, accountable to its citizens, and free from corruption.
- With an overwhelming public mandate, the BNP-led government has made numerous commitments to the people through its 31-point state reform agenda, election manifesto, and campaign, encompassing political, economic, and socio-cultural dimensions. The essential requirement for the effective and meaningful implementation of these commitments is the establishment of good governance and the prevention of corruption across all sectors. Since assuming power, the Head of the BNP-led government has reiterated the commitment to ensuring good governance and combating corruption multiple times.
- The new government began its journey facing multiple challenges, including economic instability, inflation, pressure from public debt, a weak banking sector, law and order concerns, electricity and energy shortages, and public health crises. Despite these challenges, the government has undertaken different initiatives in line with the commitments outlined in its election manifesto.
- Measures and declarations such as “not availing duty-free vehicles and government plot privileges,” “not accepting state protocol,” “announcing the evaluation of each minister’s performance,” and “undertaking strict monitoring activities within ministries” represent examples of goodwill and efforts at the highest level of the government to establish good governance, and at the same time serve as

examples of the potential for governing the state in alignment with the non-discrimination spirit of the July mass uprising.

- Within the first 100 days of forming the government, on the one hand, several effective initiatives taken by the government to control corruption and ensure transparency and accountability have created expectations among the public regarding the newly formed government. On the other hand, several government measures, as well as certain statements and actions by high-level government officials, are inconsistent with the BNP's 31-point state reform agenda and commitments made in its election manifesto. These have created hesitation and concern regarding the government's sincerity in establishing good governance, preventing corruption, and ensuring accountability in state management.
- The repeal or suspension of important laws, particularly those upholding the rule of law, justice, and human rights, as well as the strengthening of institutional mechanisms to prevent corruption, indicates a significant regression by the BNP-led government. This regression is evident in key areas such as judicial independence, the protection of human rights, efforts to combat corruption, and the prevention of enforced disappearances.
- In the process of converting the ordinances issued during the interim government into law, laws related to judicial independence, protection of human rights, and anti-corruption, which could have been passed with minor amendments, have been repealed or suspended by the government. On the other hand, several laws that would strengthen the government's authority have been passed.
- The lack of visible actions within the first 100 days of forming the government to establish essential commissions—such as the ACC, the NHRC, and the Information Commission—poses a long-term risk to efforts aimed at controlling corruption, safeguarding human rights, and ensuring the free flow of information. Concerns arise from the lack of integration of good governance and anti-corruption strategies into all government programs, which is crucial for fulfilling declared commitments.
- Although declarations on establishing good governance and controlling corruption have been made from the highest levels of the government, a visible practice of a “now it is our turn” culture has been observed among many leaders, activists, and supporters of the ruling party, as well as within the bureaucracy and among businesspersons and professionals. Political and group-based considerations continued to influence recruitment and appointments in the police, administration, and various public institutions, including Bangladesh Bank, commercial banks, local government bodies, and educational institutions, which is contrary to the BNP's electoral commitments.
- After forming the government, despite declarations to control the law-and-order situation, a zero-tolerance stance against “mob culture,” and strong warnings against extortion, significant levels of control remained in various markets, transport sectors, bus terminals, truck terminals, and other areas. Incidents of extortion, drug trade, theft, and robbery remained noticeably present. There are allegations of political and administrative patronage in these areas. Furthermore, an attempt by a minister to legitimize extortion has been widely criticized.
- In the post-authoritarian context following the July movement, the rise of various religious fundamentalist forces during the interim government period and the continuation of violent and conspiratorial activities against pluralism, multi-religious coexistence, and cultural diversity across the country have persisted during the tenure of the elected government. The most recent examples include attacks on the historic Shah Ali's Mazar in Dhaka and on a *Pir* in Kushtia. This represents a warning signal for bearers of free thought, social and cultural coexistence, and tolerance, and for all citizens of the country.
- The government has implemented plans based on specific sectors and ministries, in line with the commitments outlined in its election manifesto. However, there are significant issues hindering

progress, which include deficiencies in good governance across sectors and ministries, a lack of a clear and strong stance against irregularities and corruption, ongoing mismanagement, political influence, and the absence of strategies based on risk analysis. These pose a risk to fulfilling the commitments stated in the BNP's election manifesto.

- On the other hand, a significant concern is the lack of capacity to address bureaucratic risks in the pursuit of state reform and the goal of establishing an accountable system of governance, which represents a major institutional, legal, policy, and procedural constraint.
- The government's first 100 days have been a mix of hope and concern. On one hand, there are promising signs; on the other, there is worry due to the absence of a clear roadmap and concrete initiatives aimed at meeting expectations related to good governance, anti-corruption efforts, and, especially, the establishment of an accountable government.
