

September 5, 2025



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The UN fully supports the February election: Lewis

By Newsman, Dhaka

UN Resident Coordinator Gwyn Lewis met with Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus on September 4 to discuss Bangladesh's development priorities and the upcoming February elections, reaffirming support for free and fair elections.

"The UN fully supports the February general election as it is crucial for the country's democratic transition," Lewis stated, as reported by BSS.

They discussed how the UN could help ensure a transparent and fair electoral process and explored ways to expand support for the government's reform initiatives.

Resident Coordinator Lewis affirmed the UN's support for Bangladesh's reform process and commitment to sustainable development and long-term prosperity.



The Election Commission (EC) has sent a draft of 46 amendments to the Representation of the People Order to the law ministry on September 2. Key changes include disqualifying fugitives from running in national elections, reinstating a "No Vote" option for uncontested seats, and allowing the military to act as law enforcement during polls. Additionally, the proposals aim to bar individuals facing serious international crime charges from candidacy, tightening eligibility rules.

The Bangladesh Police have launched a training program for over 150,000 personnel, including 1,292 master trainers, ahead of the elections, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Quazi Zia Uddin told BSS on September 5.

"The UN fully supports the February general election as it is crucial for the country's democratic transition,"

EC finalises 300 constituency boundaries

By Newsman, Dhaka

The Election Commission (EC) has finalised the boundaries for 300 constituencies ahead of the 13th national election next year. A circular issued on September 4 details the redrawing of boundaries for 46 constituencies in 16 districts. Senior Secretary Akhtar Ahmed confirmed that a notification was released following a four-day hearing on claims and objections.



How the election countdown to February 2026 starts

By Newsman, Dhaka

Discussions about Bangladesh's upcoming national election have intensified since early August, with the interim government proposing a tentative schedule for early 2026. On August 5, Muhammad Yunus, the first Nobel Peace Prize winner to lead Bangladesh, set the public clock.

“I will send a letter to the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC), so that the Election Commission (EC) organizes the national elections before the next Ramadan, in February 2026,” Yunus said in a televised remark. This announcement set the timeline that much of the subsequent debate has tracked. The next day, CA’s Press Secretary, Shafiqul Alam, reaffirmed that “no force” could obstruct a February vote.

The media reported that the Chief Adviser’s Office (CAO) had formally transmitted a letter requesting EC preparations for a February 2026 poll. “Despite several challenges surrounding the February election, our preparations are moving forward,” CEC AMM Nasir Uddin said.

The Election Commission (EC) is training over one million polling and supervisory officials for the upcoming nationwide vote, as reported by BSS. SM Asaduzzaman, Director General of the EC’s Electoral Training Institute (ETI), said that the training will focus on 23 roles, primarily targeting presiding officers, assistant presiding officers, and polling officers, over the next four months.



“Despite several challenges surrounding the February election, our preparations are moving forward,” CEC said.



Concerns voiced by Prof Yunus on the vote

By Newsman, Dhaka

Bangladesh's Chief Adviser (CA), Professor Muhammad Yunus, warned on September 2 that certain groups are attempting to destabilize the country to prevent the interim government (IG) from conducting a credible national election.

"Those who do not want the IG to manage the election through to its final stage will obstruct the process in every possible way," he was quoted as saying. Yunus spoke at a meeting with representatives from seven political parties and one organization, said CA Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam.

"This election aims to build the future of Bangladesh. It is a chance for the nation to stand on its own feet and govern independently. There must be no opportunity for any foreign hand to intervene. We seek your full support in ensuring the success of this election," Shafiqul said, quoting the CA.

Earlier, Tracey Ann Jacobson, US Acting Ambassador (Chargé d'Affaires) in Dhaka, publicly stated that Washington does not support any particular party or individual in Bangladesh.

On the same day, Chief of Army Staff General Waker-Uz-Zaman paid a courtesy call on CA Muhammad Yunus. The discussions focused on the law-and-order situation and the military's role in supporting civil administration for next year's national elections, according to media reports.

The CA requested the army to ensure coordination among security forces for election safety. The army chief advised people to ignore rumors, and the CA expressed gratitude to the military for its contribution to maintaining order.



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