

# eWaves

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## Research

### Governance Challenges in Climate Finance in Bangladesh and Way Forward

TIB evaluated 942 projects across 12 climate funds to expose systemic corruption and political collusion in Bangladesh. This study aimed to highlight the embezzlement of over 54 percent of the national climate fund totaling Tk 2,110.6 crore between 2010 and 2024. The impact is a direct push for professional restructuring of the Climate Change Trust and a call for the Anti-Corruption Commission to investigate solar streetlight projects where costs were inflated by up to 57.1 percent.

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## Law Review

### NHRC Ordinance 2025: TIB's Review and Recommendations

TIB reviewed the draft National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Ordinance 2025 and called for amendments to ensure its independence. While acknowledging adopted recommendations, TIB criticized the use of part-time members as a discriminatory practice that hinders effectiveness. To strengthen the NHRC, TIB urged mandating full-time status for all commissioners, establishing a transparent selection process with published candidate names, and explicitly empowering the commission to inspect all detention sites. Additionally, TIB proposed a "supremacy clause" to prioritize this ordinance over conflicting laws and requested the mandatory publication of annual audited financial reports for full accountability.



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### RPO Ordinance 2025: TIB's Review and Recommendations

TIB reviewed the draft RPO (Amendment) Ordinance 2025 and proposed changes to ensure fair elections. While noting progress, TIB criticized the relaxed debt repayment rules that allow loan and bill defaulters to clear arrears just one day before nominations. TIB recommended restoring the seven day repayment deadline and mandating the Election Commission to publish all polling station lists online. To boost transparency, TIB also urged that Returning Officers immediately report any polling officer suspensions to the Commission. These reforms aim to cut the influence of unearned money and protect electoral integrity.

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## Position paper

### COP30: TIB Demands Transparency and Fossil Fuel Phase-Out

Ahead of COP30 in Brazil, TIB called for an end to the unethical influence of fossil fuel lobbyists in climate negotiations to ensure a just energy transition. With global temperatures already up by 1.2°C, TIB urged world leaders to establish a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) providing at least \$300 billion annually in grants for developing nations. For Bangladesh, TIB demanded the immediate cancellation of the fossil fuel-heavy IEPMP 2025, replacing it with a roadmap for 100% renewable energy by 2050. The organization also recommended forming an independent oversight authority to prevent policy capture and repurposing land from expired fossil fuel projects for solar energy initiatives.



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## Press Statement

### TIB Urges Overhaul of Draft Ordinance for a Truly Independent Police Commission

TIB has urged the interim government to overhaul the draft "Police Commission Ordinance 2025" to prevent executive dominance and stop the commission from becoming a post-retirement hub for former officials. The organization recommended replacing retired bureaucrats and police officers with neutral experts, legal professionals, and human rights researchers while granting the commission full administrative and financial independence. TIB also emphasized the need for the commission to have the authority to recruit all staff through open competition and to propose a modern "Police Act" that replaces colonial-era laws to ensure true accountability.



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### TIB Urges Expert Inclusion in Women's Cricket Sexual Harassment Probe

TIB has urged the BCB to include at least two independent experts in the committee investigating sexual harassment allegations against a former manager and selector. The organization expressed deep concern over BCB's failure to implement High Court directives and ICC safeguarding guidelines, noting that a lack of institutional frameworks encourages a culture of impunity. TIB demanded the immediate adoption of a gender-sensitive safeguarding policy and the appointment of trained officers to ensure a safe environment for women cricketers.



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### TIB Condemns Late Night Interrogations as a Violation of Human Rights

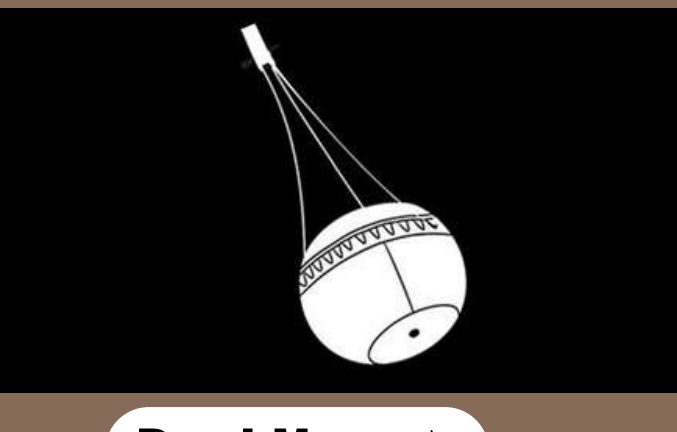
TIB has expressed deep concern over the late-night detention of a journalist and a business leader by the Detective Branch following their dissent against the NEIR. The organization described the incident as a continuation of authoritarian surveillance that violates human rights and contradicts the interim government's reform commitments. Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman emphasized that treating critics as enemies is self-destructive and urged for fundamental reforms of intelligence agencies. TIB reminded the government that peaceful dissent is a constitutional right and must not be suppressed through intimidation.



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### TIB Questions Government Silence Over Attacks on Bauls and Rising Intolerance

TIB has expressed deep concern over the arrest of Baul singer Abul Sarkar and the mob violence against his supporters in Manikganj. The organization criticized the government's silence and police inaction, stating that such passivity encourages religious intolerance and violates constitutional rights. Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman warned that failing to prosecute violent groups while swiftly arresting artists risks institutionalizing extremism. TIB urged the interim government to take firm action against mob violence to protect cultural diversity and prevent a return to authoritarianism.



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### TIB Demands Transparency in Chattogram Port Terminal Agreements

TIB is demanding full transparency and public disclosure of all contract conditions for foreign investment in Chattogram Port to ensure national accountability. The government approved the Laldia Terminal deal in just two weeks, bypassing ten critical steps and the 62 day timeline projected by the IFC. This unusually rapid approval without competitive bidding for APM Terminals and Medlog SA has fueled public doubt regarding the protection of national interests. Consequently, the lack of disclosed cost benefit analyses and risk mitigation clauses puts local employment and long-term economic stability at risk.



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### TIB Condemns Exclusion of Strategic Reforms from ACC Ordinance 2025

TIB has expressed deep indignation over the approval of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Ordinance 2025, which excluded critical recommendations for institutional independence and accountability. The government removed the provision for a "Selection and Review Committee" despite its inclusion in the July Charter and consensus from political parties. This exclusion prevents public hearings and performance reviews intended to stop the ACC from being used as a tool for political harassment. By ignoring these strategic reforms, the government risks making "state reform" mere rhetoric and stalling efforts to effectively curb corruption.



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## Event

### TIB Trains Young Watchdogs at 2025 Anti-Corruption Debate Competition

TIB hosted the Inter-University Anti-Corruption Debate Competition for the third consecutive year, transforming 96 students from 14 districts into a proactive force for transparency. The competition at the CCDB Hope Center emphasized inclusive leadership by ensuring female representation on nearly every team and featuring a strong presence of women among the 50 expert judges. In a high-stakes final, the Dhaka University Debating Society (DUDS) clinched the championship, while the Rajshahi University Debating Forum (RUDF) earned the runner-up title. By honing analytical rigor and ethical reasoning, these young participants are now prepared to challenge systemic corruption and advocate for institutional accountability across Bangladesh.



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### TIB Bridges Policy and Field Realities to Reform Land Services

TIB partnered with the Ministry of Land to host 44 Assistant Commissioners (Land) for a workshop aimed at transforming national policy into field-level action. Participants identified critical barriers to transparency, such as political pressure and manpower shortages, to develop practical solutions for land governance. By bridging the gap between administrators and policymakers, the event focused on leveraging digitalization and professional integrity to meet rising public expectations. Following these discussions, TIB will produce a policy brief to advocate for systemic reforms and enhanced legal protections, ensuring a more accountable land service for all citizens.



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### TIB and ACC Collaborated to Combat Digital Corruption

TIB and ACC partnered to train 40 investigation officers in digital forensics, empowering them to dismantle complex cryptocurrency money laundering and capital market fraud. By mastering advanced tools like open-source intelligence and digital fraud detection, these officers are now better equipped to recover illicit assets and prosecute high-tech financial crimes. This collaboration modernizes ACC's investigative capacity, directly advancing institutional accountability and the fight against systemic corruption in Bangladesh.

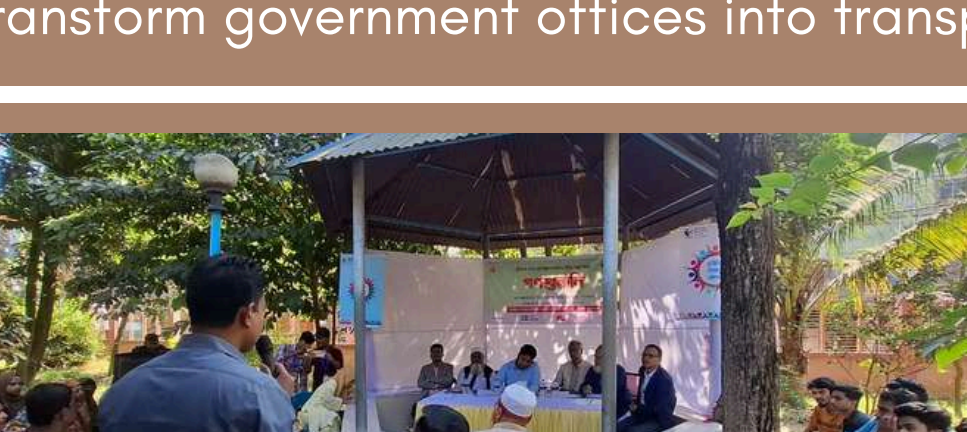


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## CCC News

### CCCs and District Stakeholders Collaborate to Promote Institutional Integrity and SDGs

CCC Rajshahi and CCC Sylhet collaborated with their respective District Administrations to host workshops on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and institutional integrity. By engaging officials from Bangladesh Bank, WASA, and the Departments of Fisheries and Women Affairs, these sessions focused on integrating moral education and shifting the bureaucratic mindset toward public service. These actions resulted in phased action plans to dismantle systemic corruption and transform government offices into transparent, accountable entities.



### CCC Savar Organizes Public Hearing to Drive Land Service Transparency

CCC Savar and the Upazila Land Office held a public hearing to address grievances regarding registration delays, woman-friendly corrections, and undue charges. By resolving issues on the spot and committing to women-friendly facilities and streamlined online access, the initiative bridged the gap between providers and the community. This collaboration aims to dismantle irregularities and ensure a transparent, people-centric land office.

### CCC Madaripur Arranges Public Hearing to Enhance Education Quality

CCC Madaripur and the District Education Offices held a public hearing on 25 November 2025 to improve educational standards. Addressing over 300 participants, the event focused on tackling teacher shortages, inconsistent attendance, and infrastructure gaps. Officials committed to stricter oversight of schedules and better resource allocation. By fostering transparency and accountability, this initiative aims to create a more inclusive and effective learning environment for students across the district.



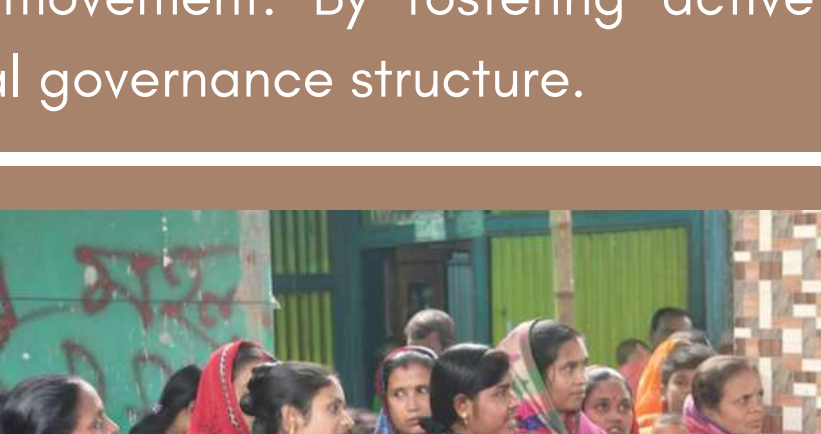
### Driving the Anti-Corruption Movement in Khagrachari

CCC Khagrachari, YES, and ACG members reaffirmed their commitment to a corruption-free Bangladesh at the Khagrachari Mountain Research Center. Over 120 participants discussed local challenges and proposed solutions to enhance transparency. The event featured an anti-corruption oath and group sessions focused on strengthening the social movement. By fostering active engagement, these volunteers aim to build a more accountable local governance structure.



### ACG Brahmanbaria Leads Dialogue to Enhance Healthcare Quality

ACG Brahmanbaria organized a meeting with service recipients to demand improved healthcare at the Brahmanbaria 250-bed General Hospital. Participants addressed overcrowding and mismanagement, suggesting that strengthening local clinics would reduce the burden on the main facility. Leaders urged patients to bypass brokers and report irregularities to ensure transparency and accountability. This dialogue aims to transform the hospital into a more patient-centric institution.



### YES Group DU Empowers Students to Build Corruption-Free Bangladesh

YES Group Dhaka University organized a day-long anti-corruption awareness program at Hazaribagh Girls School & College on 12 November 2025. Approximately 500 students and teachers participated in activities including an anti-corruption oath, a cartoon exhibition, and a signature campaign. During an extempore speech competition, students pledged to uphold honesty and patriotism to build a corruption-free Bangladesh. This initiative successfully sensitized the youth to lead the anti-corruption social movement and promote ethical values in their communities.



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