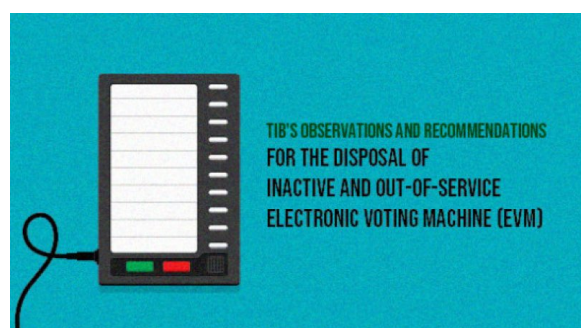


Overview

In May, TIB worked across cultural rights, institutional independence, environmental governance, and press freedom. When a draft Human Rights Commission law threatened to recreate a government-controlled institution and the Shah Ali Shrine came under attack, TIB responded without delay. A policy brief on EVM disposal and a Chattogram seminar connected environmental accountability to public institution failures. The Bangladesh Journalism Conference gave TIB a platform to make the case that a free press is a democratic necessity. On the ground, CCC, YES, and ACG members advanced citizen-led accountability through community meetings, workshops, and land service hearings.

Policy Brief



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Responsible EVM Disposal: TIB Calls on the Election Commission to Set a Standard

The Election Commission's decision to dispose of approximately 150,000 unused EVMs by burning them raised immediate environmental and governance concerns. EVMs contain circuit boards, displays, and metal casings that, when incinerated without proper protocols, cause air, water, and soil pollution with long-term health consequences. TIB published a policy brief calling on the Commission to follow legally compliant disposal protocols and set a model for responsible e-waste management.

Press Statement

TIB Condemns Attack on Shah Ali Shrine

TIB strongly condemned the attack on the historic Shah Ali Shrine in Dhaka, describing it as contrary to the spirit of Bangladesh's independence and the July Movement. Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman warned that the attack is part of a broader pattern of violence against folk heritage, pluralism, and cultural diversity, and cannot be treated as an isolated incident. TIB demanded a fair investigation, exemplary punishment for those responsible, and called on Jamaat-e-Islami and other religion-based parties to clearly state their position on Bangladesh's tradition of cultural and spiritual coexistence.



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TIB Warns Draft Human Rights Commission Law Recreates the Failures of the Past

TIB expressed deep concern over the draft National Human Rights Commission Act 2026, warning that its provisions would recreate a government-controlled institution similar to the one that failed Bangladesh during the authoritarian era. The draft requires the Commission to seek permission from law enforcement agencies before investigating their violations, removes the authority to independently inspect detention sites, and gives the ruling party overwhelming control over commissioner appointments. TIB called on the government to establish a genuinely independent Commission consistent with its own electoral commitments on human rights.

Event

World Press Freedom Day 2026: TIB Demands Reform Beyond Rhetoric

Bangladesh marked World Press Freedom Day 2026 with a TIB-UNESCO dialogue that moved quickly past rhetoric. Digital laws carrying forward the DSA's architecture, media ownership subordinated to business interests, and impunity for violence against journalists were named as the structural conditions undermining public trust in media. TIB called for legislative reform, enforceable editorial independence, and an end to the culture of impunity that makes journalist safety a daily negotiation.



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Bangladesh Journalism Conference 2026: TIB Connects Media Crisis to Governance Failure

As Knowledge and Strategic Partner at the Bangladesh Journalism Conference 2026, TIB made a case that ran across two days of sessions: Bangladesh's media crisis is structural, not incidental. Director Mohammad Tauhidul Islam described truth-seeking as one of journalism's most expensive activities today, while Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman grounded the discussion in data: 45 journalists killed on duty since 2009, over 1,300 injured, and ownership concentrated in interests that consistently subordinate editorial independence. TIB called for legal reform, enforceable editorial independence, and a political culture that treats press freedom as a democratic necessity.

TIB's Chattogram Seminar: E-Waste Crisis Rooted in Governance Failure

TIB's stakeholder seminar in Chattogram put Bangladesh's e-waste governance crisis in plain view: only 3% of electronic waste is formally processed, while 97% is handled by informal workers with no safety protection. Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman warned that awareness without accountability changes nothing, pointing to 150,000 unused EVMs as a symbol of the broader failure to plan for publicly procured equipment. TIB called for enforced implementation of the E-Waste Rules 2021, Extended Producer Responsibility guidelines, and a national coordination mechanism.



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CCC News



Learning, Sharing, Acting: TIB's CCC Network Strengthens the Movement

TIB's CCC network held Learning Sharing Meetings across five locations, bringing together CCC, YES Group, and ACG members to reflect on achievements and strengthen the grassroots anti-corruption movement. Running in parallel, YES Groups organized youth governance workshops in five additional locations, engaging 238 young representatives from 101 organizations on institutional governance, corruption prevention, and the RTI Act 2009. Every workshop closed with an anti-corruption oath and the same conviction: young people are not waiting to lead the accountability movement. They already are.

Public Hearings on Land Services: Citizens Speak, Officials Commit

CCC network held public hearings with local administrations in Nilphamari and Lakshampur, giving citizens a direct platform to challenge land service delays, irregularities, and broker dependency. Officials responded with key commitments: Nilphamari's Deputy Commissioner pledged corruption-free services, while Lakshampur's Upazila Nirbahi Officer proposed adding land administration to the national curriculum. Ultimately, these sessions demonstrate how organized, informed citizens compel public institutions to commit to meaningful reform.



CCC Rajbari Reconstituted for Local Accountability

CCC in Rajbari reconstituted its 17-member committee of local community leaders at a ceremony at the District Shilpakala Academy. The event featured the signing of an MoU between TIB and CCC Rajbari to formalize local anti-corruption efforts. Speaking as Chief Guest, TIB Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman emphasized that lasting anti-corruption success requires the combined force of political leadership, citizen participation, and institutional accountability.

Chattogram: Grassroots Action and Youth Leadership for Integrity

CCC Chattogram organized an experience-sharing meeting bringing together CCC, YES Group, and ACG members to strengthen the grassroots anti-corruption movement. Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman emphasized that integrity begins at the individual and family level before it can take root in institutions, and highlighted TIB's youth movement as an initiative that has inspired similar approaches in other countries. Members shared experiences, exchanged strategies, and reaffirmed their collective commitment to transparency and accountability through social action, with nine Active Citizens Groups represented in the room.



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