

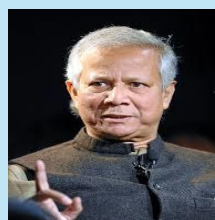
## Have patience for election

Yunus urges people in address marking 100 days of interim government

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus yesterday said the government would issue a roadmap to the election as soon as decisions on electoral reforms are made. In a televised address to the nation, marking 100 days of the interim government, Yunus said that the reforms May delay the election by a few months. Several reform commissions Are working, and they will Hope full submit their reports between December and January. The government will then discuss the recommendations with political party.

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‘The train to the election has started rolling. It will not stop.’

PROF MUHAMMAD YUNUS

- Election may be delayed by a few months for reform
- Govt to demand repatriation of Hasina from India
- Ensure justice for misdeeds committed in last 15 years



CA’S SPEECH  
‘No mention of election roadmap unacceptable’

Says BNP’s Khasru; Jamaat for giving govt time for reforms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three political parties gave mixed reactions to Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus’ speech urging people to have patience and promising a polls roadmap as soon as electoral reforms are carried out.

“It’s unclear to me what he meant by ‘additional time’. It is not a roadmap, rather an open-ended statement, which is unacceptable when it comes to state affairs,” Amir Mahmud Chowdhury, BNP standing committee member, told The Daily Star.

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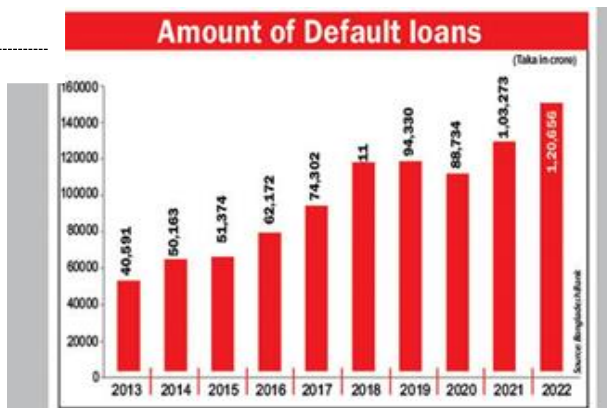
## Bad loans hit alarming record

AL-linked groups’ loans turn sour after Hasina’s fall

MD MEHEDI HASAN and AM JAHID

Awami League-affiliated businesses had Already put the country’s banking sector in trouble with huge bad debts, but the loans disbursed through irregularities to these companies turned sour even at a more alarming pace after the party’s

Ouster. The result: bad debts in Bangladesh’s banks hit a record Tk 284,977 crore at the end of September less than two months after the fall of the Hasina-led government on August 5. The figure includes a staggering Tk 73,586 crore defaulted in just three months. Between July and September, bad debts soared by 34.8 percent, according to data from the Bangladesh Bank.



spoke on the condition of anonymity. Hasina’s close collaborator Salman F Rahman, who advised the prime minister on industry and investment, is the vice-chairman of Beximco Group.

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## London to help Dhaka retrieve laundered money

UK minister tells Yunus

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

interim govt. national reconciliation, said UK Minister for the Indo-Pacific Catherine West.



Catherine West

“We expect Prof Yunus to lay out his Vision for how all that will unfold. The UK will seek to support the people of Bangladesh as they move forward in then next phase,” she told reporters after a meeting with Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain at the foreign ministry. West, who arrived in Dhaka on Saturday for a two-day visit, is the first UK minister to visit Bangladesh since the formation of the interim government following the ouster of the Awami League regime.

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Star **BUSINESS**

**Graft biggest obstacle to doing business**

More than 16 percent of businesses identified corruption as the biggest obstacle to their operations, found a survey conducted by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) between April and July of this year. Foreign currency instability, inefficient bureaucracy, high inflation and limited access to finance are other top hindrances it said.

STORY ON B1

Despite ambiguity in international law, Palestinians are winning the ‘legitimacy war’



Students of Dhaka Residential Model School and College yesterday blocked the Mirpur Road institution to demand the admissions from classes three to 11 be done. The protests went on for around 45minutes.



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