

# HASINA'S MEET WITH GRASSROOTS AL BCL, performance of MPs top agenda

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Chhatra League and performance of the ruling Awami League lawmakers may come up for discussion at tomorrow's meeting between Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her party's grassroots-level leaders.

The opposition's anti-government movement, law and order situation and price hike of essentials may also be discussed, said AL insiders.

Several presidents and general secretaries of AL district units yesterday said they will urge the prime minister to take steps to bridge the yawning gap between party lawmakers and field-level leaders including upazila chairmen.

Talking to The Daily Star, they said they will also ask the party chief for more sincere measures to make good on electoral pledges including the trial of war criminals.

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## BCL, performance

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Members of AL central working committee and advisory council and presidents and general secretaries of all district units have been invited to attend the meeting scheduled to begin at 7:30pm at Gono Bhaban.

The grassroots leaders said if they are allowed to speak their mind, they would talk about unabated violence and crimes by BCL activists.

Azgar Ali, general secretary of Kushtia district AL, said the unruly Chhatra Leaguers are damaging the government's image badly and should be expelled from the student body.

He however thinks infiltrators are causing the troubles under the BCL banner.

"I will request the prime minister to ensure party lawmakers work not for personal gains, but for the organisation," he added.

Sardar Mohammad Shah Alam, Jhalakathi district AL president, said the government must not let the unruly BCL men get away with their misdeeds.

Narail AL president Subhas Chandra Bose said Chhatra League is detracting from the government's achievements in last 18 months.

He also underlined the need for more coordination between lawmakers and local leaders to ensure development.

Fazlur Rahman Faruk, general secretary of the party's Tangail unit, said he will urge the prime minister to contain unruly BCL men and resolve the electricity crisis without delay.

"I will also ask her to take measures to control prices of essentials and better treat the party's dedicated leaders," he said.

Ana! Kumar Dey, Shariatpur AL general secretary, said now that the government is preparing to hold the war crimes trial, AL has to be strengthened more.

A number of leaders who preferred not to be named said they would request the premier to make the non-performing ministers deliver.

"We can even suggest that she consider a cabinet reshuffle to enhance the government's overall performance," said a district unit president.

At tomorrow's meeting, funds and lands of the Awami Foundation will be handed over to Bangabandhu Memorial Trust, said Mrinal Kanti Das, AL deputy office secretary.

The trust will set up a nursing college and hospital on the foundation's land in Savar, he added.