



Environment and Social Development Organization

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Press Release for stopping the use of plastic laminated posters in national polls for election promotion

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Press Release

ESDO calls for a stop to plastic-laminated posters in election campaigns

Dhaka 27 December 2023: The Chief Election Commissioner is being asked by the ESDO to not use plastic laminated posters for election campaigns. The high court ordered to ban it in 2020 in response to environmental and social development organizations' concerns.

The petition, supported by the concerned citizens, addresses the adverse environmental impact of single-use plastic waste and advocates for alternative, eco-friendly campaign materials.

The use of plastic and polythene for leaflets or banners during national poll campaigns is now banned by the Election Commission (EC). Returning officers were instructed by the commission, in a notice issued on Monday (25 December), to implement the ban.

“In January 2019, ESDO started a campaign to stop the use of plastic lamination in posters and leaflets used for election campaigns in the Dhaka City Corporation elections. This study shows that about 340 million tons of plastic laminated posters are printed and displayed by candidates in Dhaka City Corporation elections”.

The excessive use of plastic-laminated posters in national polls has a detrimental impact on our environment. By submitting this petition, we are raising awareness about the issue and urging political candidates and authorities to adopt more sustainable alternatives. It is time for us to lead by example and ensure that our democratic processes align with responsible environmental practices.

ESDO is strongly dedicated to promoting environmental responsibility and acknowledges the pressing necessity to decrease single-use plastic across all sectors of society. The petition is seeking the cooperation of political candidates, election authorities, and city officials to promote sustainable and eco-friendly campaign practices.

ESDO's petition addresses the environmental worries linked to plastic-laminated posters and suggests eco-friendly alternatives. Candidates and authorities have a responsibility to start sustainable practices in the democratic process.

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