

For immediate release

Dhaka, 18 August 2026

Cautious optimism at 180 days: 66.3% rate the Prime Minister well and 48.6% say the country is going the right way

The first Doppler Approval Rating Survey finds strong approval for the Prime Minister, but approval is lower for the government and for the direction of the country. People have high hopes about the future but say economic conditions have worsened. Food and fuel prices and the electricity supply come out as the major problems that need to be fixed. The Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) was done on the panel of 10,413 samples from INNOVISION's People's Election Pulse Survey (PEPS) Round 2 in September 2025.

Doppler Opinion Research today published the Approval Rating Survey 2026, a national survey of public opinion on the performance of the Government of Bangladesh at 180 days. 10413 samples were called and the success rate was 33.1%. In total, 3,443 samples completed the survey and they represent 489 wards and villages in all 64 districts. The results were weighted to represent the census data from 2022. The picture the survey returns is one of cautious optimism. The people approves the Prime Minister and the government but are divided in their opinion on the country's direction while they hold back on whether daily life has yet improved.

Approval of the Prime Minister runs higher than approval of the government

66.3% of adults say the Prime Minister is doing his job well and 21.6% say badly. A further 12.1% hold no opinion or have refused to answer. The rating is flat: it stands between 61.7% and 70.3% in every age, sex, schooling and income group, and at 62.3% or above in all eight divisions.

Approval of the Prime Minister is higher than approval of the government, and his approval spans supporters of other parties. 65.5% of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami supporters, 65.8% of Jatiya Nagorik Party supporters and 52.5% of Awami League supporters say the Prime Minister is doing his job well. The government itself is rated well by 54.5% and badly by 32.9%. In every party group the same order appears: the Prime Minister is rated above the government, and the government is rated above the direction of the country.

Just under half say the country is going the right way

48.6% say the country is going in the right direction and 35.6% say the wrong direction. A further 15.8% did not answer — the highest such share on any question about the national mood.

This reading divides more than any other question in the survey. 65.5% of BNP supporters say the country is going in the right direction; among Awami League supporters the share is the lowest, at 34.4%. By division it runs from 61.7% in Mymensingh to 38.7% in Khulna. It also falls as schooling rises, from 54.6% among adults with no schooling to 41.1% among those who finished HSC.

Citizens are concerned about food and fuel prices and the electricity supply

Asked to name the biggest problems facing the country, with no list read out, 59.5% named electricity and fuel and 59.1% named the price of essentials. Law and order came third at 32.6% and employment fourth at 30.8%.

The government is rated worst on those same two that were listed as the biggest problems facing the country: 89.4% say electricity is handled badly, 79.6% say fuel and gas, and 69.1% say the price of essentials. These judgements barely move by division, by income or by schooling. Of the seven issues tested, only education returns a favourable verdict, at 70.6% responding it is handled well.

Households report a hard year and expect a better one

46.5% say their family is worse off than a year ago and 17.5% say better off. Looking ahead, 38.1% expect to be better off in twelve months and 24.3% expect to be worse off. On the country, 48.4% are more hopeful than a year ago and 39.0% less hopeful, with only 6.2% saying nothing has changed.

(This is where the caution for readers sits. No question in the survey is evidence of an improvement that has already happened. What it records is what people expect.)

High approval for the Family Card, the tax policy and implementing the referendum result

78.6% support the Family Card, 70.7% support the tax policy, and 70.0% say the government should implement the referendum result.

The opposition leaders have good approval but a large share of respondents are not informed about their activities

47.7% rate the Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami Amir well; 39.8% rate the Jatiya Nagorik Party (NCP) Founding Convener well. 20.2% and 23.0% respectively say they are not doing well. But 32.1% and 37.2% say they do not know enough about the two leaders to answer.

Women and minorities feel less safe than their counterparts

64.3% of women against 70.9% of men feel safe walking alone in their area after dark. 95.2% feel safe practising their religion openly, but that figure is 97.1% among Muslim respondents and 82.0% among Hindu respondents.

What the survey does not say

The survey reports what people said. It cannot say whether those perceptions match the lived reality of the respondents.

Quote for attribution

“A government needs to get an evaluation of its performance at regular intervals as between election, public opinion plays the most important role in reshaping government priorities. This opinion poll is extremely important from this perspective. It shows that the government’s honeymoon period is almost over and with this approval rate, the government has limited political capital to spend which it needs to spend wisely. The Prime Minister’s high approval rate came as a relief for the government but this also

means that good performance by the PM is not necessarily being matched by the cabinet members. People are getting extremely concerned with their lives and livelihoods and issues like extortion, declining law and order are raising questions about overall ‘governance’. The government needs to address these challenges in an effective and efficient way.”

Asif Shahan, Professor of Development Studies, University of Dhaka

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Notes for editors

- The fieldwork was carried out in August 2026 among a panel of adults first interviewed face to face in September 2025. 10,413 calls were made. 3,443 adults completed the interview.
- The sample covers 489 primary sampling units, each one ward or village, in all 64 districts and all 8 divisions. Results are weighted to the census on age, sex, schooling, division and town or village.
- The margin of error is about 2.6 percentage points on a national figure. Figures for a single division or a single party group rest on fewer interviews and carry a wider margin.
- No question named a party or a minister. Respondents were asked about “the government elected in February”.
- The survey was funded and supported by INNOVISION Consulting
- The questionnaire, the sample, the weighting and the funding are published in full. Doppler answers methodology questions from anyone, whether or not they are a client.

About Doppler Opinion Research

Doppler Research Bangladesh Ltd is an independent opinion research company in Dhaka. Doppler is created out of the works of INNOVISION Consulting on People’s Election Pulse Survey (PEPS) between 2024-2026. PEPS is largely credited to have fostered the culture of independent opinion research on public policies and political status quo in Bangladesh. DOPPLER builds on the resources and assets that were developed by INNOVISION on the process of design, deployment and dissemination of findings from PEPS. This survey was designed, funded and released independently of any party, ministry or campaign.

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