RELEASE IN PART
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Professor Muhammad Yunus
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Nobel Peace Prize Winner Professor Muhammad Yunus' Appeal To The Nation

Today the hearing for our writ petition was held in the High Court for the 3rd consecutive day. We hope that the Court would examine thoroughly Bangladesh Bank's claim that my position as Managing Director is invalid. Despite holding yearly audits by Bangladesh Bank, question of legality of Managing Director's position is being raised after 12 years. (During these annual audits only once in 1999, Bangladesh Bank raised questions, which Grameen Bank responded satisfactorily. After that there were no questions raised ever again.)

Through grassroot election, 9 borrowers are serving as Directors of Grameen Bank efficiently. Through them the voices of almost 8 million shareholders are reflected. These 9 borrowers came all the way from their villages to file their own petition on Thursday, placing the hopes and trust of the families of Grameen Bank (of almost 4 Crore people) in this honorable court.

With the permission of Bangladesh Bank, the board of Grameen Bank appointed me as the Managing Director, and subsequently unanimously decided that there should be no age limit for the Managing Director.

I have dedicated my entire life in overcoming poverty for the people of Bangladesh. My thoughts are for the welfare of the borrowers and employees of Grameen Bank. I have always dreamed of changing the lives of the people of Bangladesh, especially of the youth. Grameen Bank will run this legacy for the country and its people. I firmly believe that Grameen Bank will continue to work for the empowerment of women- as it has been doing for the last 34 years. To ensure this, there should be a smooth transition of management leadership from me to the next Managing Director in a congenial environment. I am continuing my effort. And I will continue to advocate for it until I am