

RELEASE IN PART B1,1.4(D)

From: Verveer, Melanne S <VerveerMS@state.gov>
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1.4(D)
B1

[redacted] the GOB is moving to take control of Grameen Bank succession by reasserting control over the search for a new Managing Director to replace Yunus. The Cabinet approved a proposal to revise the Grameen Bank Ordinance to do this. This would also have the effect of reducing the role of the Bank board members who largely represent the owner-borrowers. The GOB seems to be stepping up its pressure. Yesterday, the PM was interviewed on a BBC broadcast in which she was asked by she is going after Yunus, who is a celebrated Nobel laureate who has done much good for Bangladesh and the world's poor. She attacked him for charging high interest rates and made other [redacted] accusations. Our embassy and SCA are engaged [redacted]

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