Government Working to Build a Women-Friendly and Environment-Friendly Nation –Syeda Rizwana Hasan

Syeda Rizwana Hasan, Advisor to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Ministry of Water Resources, has said that the government is working to build a women-friendly and environment-friendly nation. She noted that the present government views men and women as equals and is taking necessary steps to ensure equal rights for women.
“Sports are not just a source of recreation; they are a powerful tool for women’s empowerment, confidence building, and leadership development,” the Advisor said, stressing that women’s participation must be expanded in order to achieve sustainable development in society and the state. She also urged everyone to stop using polythene shopping bags to protect the environment.

She made these remarks on Monday while addressing the closing and prize-giving ceremony of the 36th National Women’s Handball Competition 2025 at Shaheed (Captain) M. Mansur Ali National Handball Stadium in Paltan, Dhaka, where she attended as the Chief Guest.

The Advisor said, “Bangladeshi women are making their mark in every field. Their participation and success in international sports make us proud.” She further emphasized the importance of social bonding, noting that the lack of playgrounds in Dhaka is weakening such bonds. “Women’s handball is more than just a game—it is a symbol of courage, capability, and self-expression. Sports are essential for strengthening women’s position in society, ensuring physical well-being, developing productive citizens, and raising our national flag proudly on

the global stage," she added.

The event was attended by Md. Salauddin Ahmed, General Secretary of Bangladesh Handball Federation; Dr. Abu Nasar Mohammad Abdullah, Vice-President and Convener of the National Competition "Organizing and Development Management" Committee; Rashida Afjalun Nesa, Member Secretary; sports organizers; federation officials; players; coaches; and invited guests.

This year, 19 teams participated in the tournament. Bangladesh Ansar & VDP emerged as champions, Bangladesh Police became runners-up, and Panchagarh District secured third place. Prizes were distributed among the winning teams, players, referees by Advisor Syeda Rizwana Hasan