



BNP will not accept a referendum outside election day: Mirza Fakhrul



Collected picture

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir has commented that the decision to hold a referendum at any time other than the election day is unacceptable and anti-democratic. He clearly stated that organizing a referendum before the elections would be unrealistic, illogical, and reckless in terms of time, financial, and administrative preparation.

Speaking at a press briefing in the capital on Thursday (October 30), Fakhrul said that although a referendum has been announced based on the proposed phases by the Election Commission, the opinions, objections, and differing views of the participating political parties have been completely ignored. This indicates an attempt to impose the Commission's proposals and recommendations unilaterally on the nation. In his words, "The drama that has been going on for over a year under the pretext of discussions with political parties has now been proven—it was a farce and a betrayal of the nation."

The BNP Secretary General further stated that the current government does not have the authority to grant legal validity to the July ordinance. The Commission has made a proposal that ignores the democratic rights of political parties, which is contrary to the fundamental principles of democracy.

Regarding constitutional amendments, Fakhrul said that the proposed clause states that if reforms are not completed within 270 days of the start of the first session, the constitutionally approved amendment bill will automatically be incorporated into the Constitution. He described this process as "illogical, ridiculous, and deliberately motivated." He emphasized, "No constitutional amendment bill can become law without the President's signature after being approved by Parliament. Therefore, the proposal for automatic inclusion in the Constitution is not only illegal, it is a severe violation of parliamentary sovereignty and democratic principles."