

# Niko graft case: HC to hear Khaleda's petition over indictment on May 30

May 23, 2023

**Online Desk:** The High Court today fixed May 30 for hearing of a petition filed by BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, challenging a lower court order that framed charges against her and seven others in the Niko corruption case. The bench of Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam and Justice Md Aminul Islam set the date after Anti-Corruption Commission's (ACC's) lawyer Titus Hillol Rema sought time from the court.

He told the court that ACC's principal counsel Khurshid Alam Khan, who is now in the USA, will place arguments on this petition.

On May 17, the BNP chief filed the revision petition with the HC through her lawyer Kayser Kamal to scrap the trial court order, saying that the charges have been framed in the case illegally.

Today, a Dhaka court began the trial of the Niko graft case with the deposition of the complainant. On March 19 this year, Khaleda and seven others were indicted in the case.

The ACC filed the case on December 9, 2007, accusing Khaleda and several others of abusing power to award a gas exploration and extraction deal to Canadian company Niko when she was prime minister between 2001 and 2006.