

Set up local govt commission to ensure good governance

Speakers tell roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An independent local government commission should be formed to make the local government bodies effective and ensure good governance at the grassroots level, experts at a roundtable said yesterday.

The commission, which would monitor the action plan, budget and other development activities of the local government bodies, should be accountable to parliament or parliamentary standing committee, they said.

The speakers also suggested that members of the commission should be appointed through a search committee comprising political leaders, professors, economists and civil society members.

The Governance Coalition along with 27 local NGOs organised the roundtable on 'Local Government Commission: Responsibility and Scope of Activities' at the Cirdap auditorium in the capital.

Dr Akbar Ali Khan, former adviser to the caretaker government, said the existing local government institutions are the branches of the central government and such a system does not exist in any other country.

"I support the concept of an independent local government commission for strengthening the local government. The local government will have to be independent and all the bodies, including zila, upazila and union parishes should be formed through elections," he said while addressing the chief guest.

He also said it is high time to set up an independent local government.

Observer staffs to observe hunger strike Nov 5

Journalists, workers and employees of The Bangladesh Observer and the Weekly Chitrali will observe a token hunger strike on November 5 at the Observer House in the city to press home their demand for immediate payment of salary arrears and other dues, says a press release.

They decided this at a general meeting at the newspaper's office on Sunday.

Presided over by Md Ashraf Ali, Bangladesh Observer unit chief of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DU), the meeting was addressed by Editor Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, Belayet Hossain, Salimuddin Selim, Pranay Khan, Nazrul Islam, Zahurul Huq, ATM Salaiman and Shahjahan Mozumder.

They urged the government to compel the owners to pay the legal dues and wages of journalists, workers and employees of the newspaper who are now passing their days in distress.

They also formed a 27-member Action Committee with Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury as its convener and Ashraf Ali, Belayet Hossain and Salimuddin Selim as joint conveners.

Hasina refuses to answer queries

FROM PAGE 1

Taposh told The Daily Star the ACC did not notice the AL chief about the quizzing according to her.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

The investigators including ACC Deputy Director Morshed Alam and taskforce official Major Humayun however stayed for about one and a half hours at the jail where the AL chief has been detained since July 16.

The ACC filed the case against her with Tejgaon Police Station on September 2. It said Hasina and six others had taken Tk 3 crore as "donation" for the Bangabandhu Memorial Trust to approve three barge-mounted power plants depriving the lowest bidder.

Hasina yesterday filed a writ petition with the High Court challenging the validity of the case under the emergency powers rules.

On the petition, Newaz said the hearing of the case is on and Hasina is waiting to get "positive news like order of stay and bail".

Before the investigators' arrival, Hasina's lawyers Khandakar Moniruzzaman and Barrister Fazle Noor Taposh met her and informed her about developments of different cases.

Taposh told The Daily Star the

ACC did not notice the AL chief about the quizzing according to her.

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any

means. She also observed that she has been accused in different cases as part of evil designs against her, the lawyer said.

He said they informed the ACC in the morning that they did not get any prior notice. "We have also asked them [ACC] to comply with rules and laws. Otherwise, it will be violation of laws."

He said the AL chief has again expressed her doubts that she would be "made" convicted by any