

KHALEDA'S CANTT RESIDENCE Cabinet has no right to cancel lease Says Moudud

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP standing committee member Moudud Ahmed yesterday said the cabinet's decision to cancel the lease of Khaleda Zia's cantonment residence is quite illegal and violation of basic rights of an individual.

He also asked the government to have a court order to cancel the allotment as the cabinet has no authority to cancel the lease without having any order from the court.

"The cabinet's decision to cancel the lease is completely illegal and violation of basic rights of an individual as it has no authority to cancel the deed signed between an individual and the state that awarded the right to the land to Khaleda," said Moudud at a press briefing at his office.

"The government will have to have order from the court of justice if it wants to cancel the deed," the BNP senior leader said, adding, "The cabinet's decision was not enough to cancel the deed."

Moudud said the deed was signed between the president of the country and Khaleda Zia on July 8, 1981 and the military estates officer of Dhaka cantonment had signed it on behalf of the president.

"There were six mandatory conditions to continue the lease and none of them were violated till date," he observed.

Moudud also said there were no restrictions on political activity, business or any other points that could lead to termination of the deed.

Besides, rents and other taxes for the house have been paid up-to-date and no other conditions have been violated," he added.

Moudud claimed that the government cancels the allotment to take personal revenge and to divert public attention from BDR carnage and BCL violence across the country.

"This sensitive issue would only trigger unrest and conflicts in the political arena. No one in the country, even many senior AL leaders have told me that they do not agree with the decision," he claimed.

Replying a query the BNP lawmaker said the house was given to Khaleda under a unanimous decision of the then parliament which said the house was given to the family of Ziaur Rahman "in recognition of the invaluable services rendered by the late president" who left no property for his family.

The then cabinet also approved it, he added.



A policeman baton-charges students of Bangladesh College of Leather Technology as they blocked the Sat Masjid Road in the city and went berserk yesterday to press their six-point demand. (Story on Page 1)

Unified primary edn a must to ensure quality

Speakers tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a seminar yesterday stressed the need for introducing an integrated primary education system in the country under a unified core curriculum to ensure a solid foundation for quality higher education.

They also called on the government to make primary education compulsory for the students up to class eight under a single core curriculum to ensure education for all.

The speakers said this at the seminar on 'The education policy: Some proposals' organised by The Education Watch, a specialised magazine, at Sufia Kamal Auditorium of the National Museum in the city.

Dhaka University Vice Chancellor (VC) Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique as the chief guest said, "A state stands on its education system and the whole education system stands on primary education. So, the authorities concerned should have to concentrate on improving primary education first."

Laying emphasis on primary education, the VC said education from class one to eight should be made scientific, unitary and integrated so that all the children could be made equally competent and good citizens through untrack education system.

"All schools and madrasas should be run under a single core curriculum," he said, adding that there is no alternative but to make education compulsory for the children up to class eight.

About the government's new education commission, Prof Arefin said the commission would submit the report reviewing all previous reports and the education policy would be formed based on the recommendations.

Dr Habibur Rahman, deputy registrar of Asian University of Bangladesh, in his keynote paper made some recommendations, including non-approval to a single private university in the next 30 years, formation of higher education monitoring and accreditation council to ensure quality higher education.

'Formulate policy to curb dust pollution'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Experts and environmental activists at a roundtable yesterday called for formulating a policy to curb dust pollution in the city, which is causing asthmatic problems to the city dwellers.

Many people, especially children and elderly people, have been suffering from asthma, bronchitis and other diseases because of alarming rise in dust pollution, said Dr Ziaul Karim, assistant professor of National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD).

Save the Environment Movement organised the roundtable on causes and impacts of dust pollution at the National Press Club in the city.

To raise awareness among the people and create pressure on policymakers to address the dust pollution issue, the organisers also formed a 'Committee to check dust pollution' with Prof Shamsul Wares as its head.

At present, the committee comprises nine members. More experts would be inducted in the committee, said Abu Naser Khan, chairman of Save the Environment Movement.

Speakers at the roundtable also blamed Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (Rajuk), Dhaka City Corporation and Wasa for not performing their duties properly, resulting in the pollution of the environment.

Plying of unfit vehicles on

the city roads, construction work without following building codes and mindless filling of land with sands are contributing to dust pollution in the city, they said.

Convener of the National

Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Port and Electricity Sheikh Muhammad Shahidullah, Latifa Akand, Rustam Ali Khan and Syed Nazrul Biddut took part in the roundtable.

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PHOTO: STAR

National Garments Workers Federation brings out a procession at Muktangan in the city yesterday marking the 4th anniversary of Spectrum Garments tragedy in Savar.

SPECTRUM GARMENTS TRAGEDY Call to ensure safety of workers at workplace

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 4th anniversary of Spectrum Garments Tragedy was observed yesterday. Some 64 workers were killed and 85 others injured when the building of Spectrum Garments Factory at Savar collapsed on the night of this day in 2005.

To mark the occasion, National Garment Workers Federation brought out a mourning procession from Muktangan in the city.

Several hundred garment workers with black flags in their hand took part in the rally that paraded different city streets.

Earlier, addressing a rally the labour leaders demanded more safety for workers in their workplace.

They urged the factory owners, foreign buyers and government to ensure other

basic rights of the workers. Federation leader Amirul Haque Amin said most of the injured workers are still physically challenged.

He requested the owners to come forward to stand beside those physically challenged workers.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh National Council of Textile Garments and Lather Workers, and Bangladesh Labour Welfare Foundation held a discussion meeting recalling the memories of those killed and injured in the accident.

Speakers at the meeting appreciated the initiatives taken by the government and factory owners for helping the victims.

ZM Kamrul Anam, Roy Romesh Chandra, Abul Bashar and other labour leaders addressed the meeting.

JS to be centre of all activities: Speaker

CU CORRESPONDENT

Speaker of the parliament Advocate Abdul Hamid said that he is trying to run the House in an impartial manner to make it vibrant.

He was speaking at the annual conference of Golden Life Insurance Limited as the chief guest at King of Chittagong Community Centre in the port city yesterday.

The speaker said he wants to make the parliament as the centre of all activities of the country.

He called upon the insurance companies not to harass their clients and run business with transparency.

The insurance companies have been playing a significant role in country's economy and it is a good sign that the talented students are entering the sector, he added.

LAB executives

UNB, Dhaka

Prof Dr Nasir Uddin Munsir and Syed Ali Akbar have been elected president and secretary general of Library Association of Bangladesh (LAB) for 2009-11.

Some 780 voters exercised their franchise in the election held on Friday. Prof Dr Muhammad Samad was the chief election commissioner.

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আপনি কি শিক্ষিত, আত্মবিশ্বাসী, কৃতজ্ঞ লক্ষ্যে হির একজন নারী? সেই সাথে সাংবাদিকতায় এরই মধ্যে বিচরণ শুরু করেছেন? তবে আপনিই উপযুক্ত ফেয়ার অ্যান্ড লভলী ফাউন্ডেশন টিভি সাংবাদিকতা কোর্স ২০০৯-এ অংশ নেয়ার জন্য। ৬ সপ্তাহব্যাপী ইন্টেনসিভ এই কোর্সে দেশী ও বিদেশী অভিজ্ঞ প্রশিক্ষকদের তত্ত্বাবধানে থাকবে রিপোর্টিং, এডিটিং, ব্রডকাস্টিংসহ টিভি সাংবাদিকতার নানা বিষয়ে হাতে-কলমে শেখার সুযোগ। তো আর দেরি কেন, আজই আবেদন করুন, এগিয়ে যান সাফল্যের দিকে।

ফেয়ার অ্যান্ড লভলী ফাউন্ডেশন স্কলারশিপ প্রোগ্রামের আওতাধীন এই কোর্সে কোনো কোর্স ফি লাগবে না।

টিভি সাংবাদিকতা কোর্সে আবেদনের উপায়:

আবেদনপত্রটি পূরণ করে ১৫ এপ্রিল ২০০৯-এর মধ্যে নিচের ঠিকানায় পৌঁছে দিন। যাচাই-বাছাইয়ের পর প্রাথমিকভাবে নির্বাচিতদের মধ্য থেকে বিচারকমণ্ডলী ইন্টারভিউ-এর মাধ্যমেই চূড়ান্ত নির্বাচন করবেন।

আবেদনকারীর নাম: _____

ঠিকানা: _____

ফোন/মোবাইল: _____

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যে প্রতিষ্ঠানে কাজ করার অভিজ্ঞতা আছে তার নাম ও সময়কাল: _____

আবেদন ফর্মের সাথে ফেলস গ্রন্থাগারীয় ডকুমেন্টস পাঠাতে হবে:

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বিশেষ নোট:

আবেদনকারীর প্রিন্ট মিডিয়ায় সাংবাদিকতায় কমপক্ষে ১ বছরের বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। তবে অনিয়মিত/কন্ট্রিবিউটর হিসেবে কাজের অভিজ্ঞতাও গ্রহণযোগ্য। শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা সর্বনিম্ন এইচ.এস.সি/এ লেভেল। আবেদনকারীর বাংলা ও ইংরেজি ভাষায় দক্ষতা থাকতে হবে। বয়স সর্বোচ্চ ৩০ বছর। সকল আবেদনপত্র ১৫ এপ্রিল ২০০৯-এর মধ্যে পৌঁছাতে হবে। অসমাপ্ত ও নির্ধারিত সময়ের পরে আসা আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়। বিচারকমণ্ডলীর রায়ই চূড়ান্ত। এ ব্যাপারে কোনো সুপারিশ আবেদনকারীর অযোগ্যতা বলে বিবেচিত হবে। ফর্মের ফটোকপিও গ্রহণযোগ্য।

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