

Law to stop domestic violence against women okayed

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the next generation has to suffer if domestic violence against women is not stopped.

Hasina said this after her cabinet endorsed a draft law to check domestic violence against women.

The cabinet in its weekly meeting also approved two other draft laws governing the newly instituted Climate Change Trust Fund and animal slaughtering and maintaining standard of meat.

The three laws are 'The Domestic Violence (Resistance and Protection

Act 2010', 'The 'Animal Slaughtering and Control of Standard of the Meat Act 2010' and 'The Climate Change Trust Act 2010'.

"Domestic violence against women has adverse impact on the children that ultimately harms the future generations of the country. This should be stopped," the prime minister said while presiding over the meeting at the cabinet division.

She noted with concern that women are the main victims of domestic violence. This is a social problem of the country.

In this context, she described the

new law as time-befitting and important for stopping the domestic violence against women.

She told the meeting that 89 countries around the world have enacted such violence control law to stop repression on the womenfolk.

The law in the making for the control of indiscriminate slaughtering of animals is aimed at ensuring the standard of meat for export as well as local consumption.

The PM said she came to know that the slaughtering of animals does not take place at hygienic places. "This should be done at a clean and

hygienic place for averting health hazards."

In this connection, she mentioned that recently Bangladesh started exporting meat to Malaysia.

"This act is important for the betterment of the meat export," she said.

The cabinet meeting yesterday, however, didn't discuss 'The Right to Information (Amendment) Act 2010, which was on the discussion list, Press Secretary to the Prime Minister Abul Kalam Azad said briefing reporters in the PID conference room after the meeting of the council of ministers.

CASE AGAINST MOEEN Hearing on Tuku's petition on March 15

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The hearing on the petition filed by Iqbal Hassan Mahmood Tuku seeking attachment of former army chief General Moeen U Ahmed's properties before judgment was not held yesterday as the conducting judge was on leave.

Judge (in-charge) Ash Shams Joglul Hossain of the Third Joint District Judge's Court fixed March 15 for the next hearing.

Earlier on January 10, the same court rejected Moeen's petition seeking dismissal of Tuku's Tk 100 crore defamation case.

Former state minister for energy Tuku filed the defamation suit on July 12 last year accusing the former army chief of making derogatory remarks that damaged Tuku's reputation.

After the hearing, the court issued a notice asking Moeen to explain within three weeks why his properties would not be attached.

BNP threatens continuous movement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP leaders at a rally yesterday threatened continuous movement against the government for its 'wrongdoings'.

They said Hasina should resign without further delay since the people and the opposition don't want to see her anymore in power as prime minister due to her 'failure' to run the country.

The leaders were addressing a rally in front of the BNP central office at Nayapalton organised in protest against changing the name of Zia International Airport and hatching conspiracy to kill party chairperson.

Dr Khandaker Mosharrif Hossain, member of the standing committee, blamed the prime minister for violating the oath, saying that Hasina admitted that she had changed name of the airport out of vindictiveness as she wanted to teach BNP a

lesson.

"She has (Hasina) lost right to stay in power as prime minister as she has violated her oath," he said. Awami League should take lesson from the past, he added.

He said they are preparing for movement and urging the party leaders and workers to get ready for the upcoming agitation.

Mirza Abbas said prime minister should take lesson from the history otherwise she will have to face the consequence like the past.

Abdullah Al Noman said they will announce programmes for continuous protest if the government fails to stop torture and repression on the opposition.

Goyeshwar Chandra Roy, Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan, Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, Amanullah Aman also spoke at the rally with party vice president Abdullah Al Noman in the chair.

Govt to restore spirit of '72 constitution Says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday said the government would take steps to restore the spirit of the 1972 constitution after receiving the copy of the Supreme Court (SC) order regarding the fifth amendment to the constitution.

"After receiving the copy of the SC order, we will send a reference to the Law Commission for recommendations. The government will act as per the law commission's recommenda-

tions," he said.

The law minister said this while talking to newsmen at his secretariat office after receiving a handwritten constitution of 1972 from Director General of Bangladesh Foundation for Development Research (BFDR) Munayem Sarker.

Shafique Ahmed said the spirit of the liberation war and the four principles of the state -- 'democracy', 'socialism', 'secularism' and 'nationalism' -- as per the 1972 constitution have been restored following the SC order regard-

ing fifth amendment to the constitution.

The apex court of the country has upheld a High Court verdict that declared illegal and unconstitutional the fifth amendment to the constitution, he said.

The fifth amendment had legitimised all the governments that had been in power following the coup of August 15, 1975 till April 9, 1979, including late president Ziaur Rahman's ascension to the presidency.

The law minister said the spirit of the 1972 constitution was to establish Bangladesh as a non-communal and welfare state.

When asked whether the religion-based political parties would be banned following the apex court verdict, he declined to make any comments before receiving the copy of the SC order.

The minister also said that the government will hold the trial of war criminals and there is no doubt about it.



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Two workers die after falling from building

UNB, Savar

Two construction workers died after falling from an under-construction building of Enam Medical College Hospital at Thana road in Savar on the outskirts of the city yesterday afternoon.

The dead were identified as

Abdus Samad, 35, of Rajbari district and Farooq Patwary, 33, of Chandpur.

Police said the two workers fell on to the ground from the sixth floor while the rope of a bamboo ladder snapped.

Samad died on the spot while Farooq succumbed to his injuries on the way to hospital.

BERGER-STAR CAMPUS Final round of business case-solving contest today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

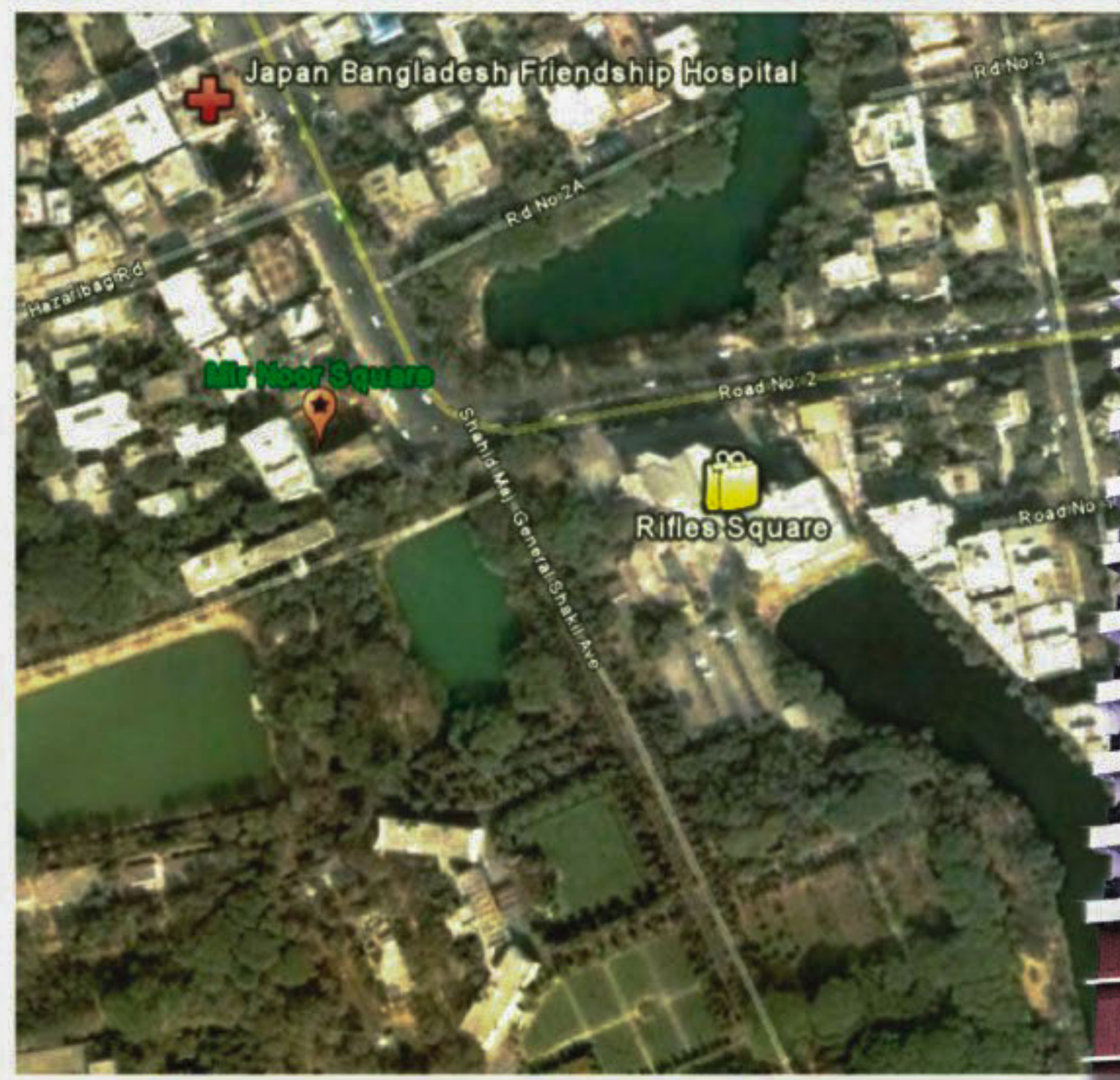
The final round of the 'Berger-Star Campus Brainstorming Business Case-Solving Competition 2010' will be held at Hotel Saint Martin at 4.00pm today.

Drishy, an educational and cultural organisation of the port city, organised the competition in association with Star Campus, a supplement of The Daily Star, with a view to enhancing skills of school and university level students in different issues of marketing and business.

A total of 34 groups from 12 schools and nine universities took part in the competitions.

Of them, William Carry Academy, Cider International School, Bangladesh Women Association School and Silver Bells Girls High School will compete for the crown at the school level while Chittagong University, Premier University, International Islamic University, Chittagong and East Delta University will vie for the title at the university level.

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