

Global Spiral Hinders Efforts: PM

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"After the global economic meltdown, there has been an unprecedented price spiral," Sheikh Hasina told Awami League's executive council on Saturday at her official residence Ganabhaban.

"There might be conspiracies as well. There is also a conspiracy to raise prices by hoarding. We're closely monitoring the situation," she said.

Hasina alleged that an ill-motivated effort was on to knock up prices by creating an 'artificial crisis' although there was a huge stock of food grains in the country.

FIND OUT HOARDERS

Hasina told the council that there are 850,000 tonnes of rice in government silos. The rice mill owners also have huge rice in their storages.

"We're surveying who is storing how much of rice," she added.

The prime minister outlined her government's efforts to keep the inflation under control, saying that the inflation was 11 percent when she took office, and now it came down to 7 percent.

OBSTRUCTION OF TRIAL

The prime minister has urged all to stay alert of the conspiracies being hatched by various quarters to impede the trial of war criminals.

"BNP cannot stand beside the war criminals publicly for fear of losing public support. But they won't allow the trial to be held so easily."

RIVALRIES COST ELECTIONS

Sheikh Hasina said the municipal elections were free and fair, and that was Awami League's 'real victory'.

She dismissed the allegations that municipal polls reflected the Awami League's waning popularity. "Election fight by multiple pro-Awami League candidates in each municipality has cost many mayoral posts."

Making a pointed reference, she said eight Awami League-backed candidates in Kishoreganj got a total of 36,000 votes, while the opposition candidate won it bagging only 12,000 votes.

"Overall, there has been no fall in Awami League votes," she claimed.

Source: bdnews24.com