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Your Right to Know

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'Unwanted obstruction'

BRTC's move to launch inter-district routes hit hard as pvt transport owners continue resisting it citing 16-year-old deal, directives

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Private transport owners are obstructing the BRTC initiative to launch new buses, mostly double-deckers, on different routes in the country as they fear this will slash their income.

In their defence, they also cite a 16-year-old deal and some directives issued by the Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation though there is a huge public demand for BRTC buses on inter-district routes as its services are relatively cheaper.

As per the directives and the deal signed in 2003 between the government represented by the then communications minister Nazmul Huda and Bangladesh Road Transport Workers Federation, the BRTC would not run double-deckers on inter-district routes.

At the same time, the state-run corporation has the

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Law allows BRTC to operate vehicles for transporting passengers and goods on any routes in the country

Problem intensified last year when BRTC took steps to launch more inter-district routes with 600 new buses

BRTC owns 1,873 buses; 1,357 in service on 384 routes



Tigers in the driving seat

SPORTS REPORTER

Sensible and composed batting helped Bangladesh build a platform for a big first-innings lead as the hosts reached 240 for three and were trailing by just 25 runs at the end of the second day of the lone Test against Zimbabwe at the Sher-e-Bangla National

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Rejoinder, our reply

Deputy Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Md Sazzadur Rahman issued a rejoinder to a report headlined "Picked up, forced to sign cheques of Tk 1.25 crore" published in The Daily Star on February 18.

In the rejoinder, Ramna Division DC Sazzadur Rahman said, "The report was false and fabricated."

The DC said he had no dispute with Mehedy Sheikh. He said Mehedy had taken money from others and when, where it happened, was not known to Sazzadur.

"Personally, I didn't lend any money to Mehedy Sheikh and never took any benefits from him," he said, adding that there was no question of his involvement regarding the cheque dishonour and loss in the business.

He said he could not

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The lid blown off her crime basket

Rab details how Papia, aided by her husband, ran sex, arms, drugs trades; Jubo Mohila League expels her

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab yesterday raided two flats belonging to Jubo Mohila League leader Shamima Nur Papia and her husband Mofizur Rahman Sumon after arresting them from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport on Saturday.

Raiding the two flats on Indira Road in the city's Farmgate area and also a presidential suite at a five-star hotel, Rab recovered around Tk 58 lakh in cash.

Apart from the lavish flats in Dhaka, Papiya, 28, and Sumon, 38, a former Chhatra League leader,



possess two more flats and two plots worth around Tk two crore in Narsingdi and several luxurious cars, Rab said at a press briefing yesterday.

The two were arrested from HSIA when they were trying to flee the country. Rab seized counterfeit notes, foreign currencies and around Tk 2.5 lakh from their possessions.

Their accomplices, Sabbir Khandaker, 29, and Sheikh Taiyaba, 22, were also arrested from HSIA.

In addition to the fake notes and currencies,

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KHALEDA'S BAIL PRAYER HC asks for her treatment report

BNP optimistic about court ruling

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday sought information about the medical treatment of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, who is now in the prison cell of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University.

The court ordered the BSMMU vice-chancellor to submit a report by 5:00pm on Wednesday through the Supreme Court's registrar general and also set Thursday for hearing Khaleda's bail petition in the Zia Charitable Trust corruption case.

The bench of Justice Obaidul Hassan

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