

HIMU'S DEATH Social, rights orgs demand justice

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Several social and human rights organisations in Chittagong city yesterday demanded immediate arrest of and exemplary punishment to those responsible for Himu's death.

Under the banner of Shikor, an anti-drug organisation with which Himu was involved, Human Rights Student's Council, Manobadhikar Kalyan Sangstha, Theatre and Arts for Less Fortunate, Leo Club of Chittagong Central Jubilee, Matribhumi Foundation, Dingi, Aroyanno and Onirban jointly formed a human chain in front of Chittagong Press Club to press home the demand.

Shikor General Secretary Jawed Ali Chowdhury said nearly a month has passed into Himu's death while only one of the accused in his murder case was arrested so far.

The main accused are still at large, raising questions about the administration's work in this regard, whether their work is under the influence of any powerful quarters, he said.

Following the human chain programme, the leaders of the organisations met with the commissioner of Chittagong Metropolitan Police with their demand.

On April 27, Himadri Majumdar Himu, 18, was taken to Farhad Mansion in Panchlail Residential Area by his friends where they allegedly assaulted him, unleashed dogs onto him and pushed him down from the fourth floor of the building.

Himu succumbed to his injuries at Square Hospital in Dhaka on May 23.



Different social and human rights organisations form a human chain in front of Chittagong Press Club yesterday demanding arrest and trial of the murderers of Himadri Majumdar Himu, 18, who died on May 23, 26 days after his friends allegedly beat and set three dogs upon him before pushing him off the rooftop of a four-storied building in the port city.

PHOTO: STAR



Dr MA Matin passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former deputy prime minister and BJP chairman Prof Dr M A Matin passed away due to old age complications at his Rajarbagh residence in the capital yesterday. He was 80.

He left behind his wife, two sons, and a host of friends and well-wishers to mourn his death.

His first namaz-e-janaza was held at the South Plaza of Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

His second namaz-e-janaza will be held today at the playground of Sirajganj Government College. Afterwards Matin will be buried at Rahmatganj graveyard in Sirajganj following Asr prayers, reported our Sirajganj correspondent.

Matin was the founder of a number of organisations including Sirajganj Shishu Hospital and North Bengal Medical College of Sirajganj.

Meanwhile, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia expressed shock at the demise of the veteran politician. In a statement, she also expressed sympathy for the grief-stricken relatives of the deceased.

In a separate statement, Bangladesh Jatiya Party (BJP) acting Chairman Engineer Md Farid Uddin and acting Secretary General Advocate Aminul Islam expressed deep shock at Matin's death.

MONEY LAUNDERING

ACC charges former BNP lawmaker, his wife

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday pressed money laundering charges against former BNP lawmaker Hafiz Ibrahim and his wife Mafruza Sultana.

ACC Assistant Director Md Ibrahim, also the investigation officer of the case, submitted the charge sheet to the Metropolitan Magistrate's Court in Dhaka showing eight people as prosecution witnesses.

On August 16 last year, the ACC filed a case against Hafiz and his wife for laundering \$1.75 lakh to Singapore.

Later on, the couple got bail from the High Court till submission of police report on the case.

According to the First Information Report (FIR) of the case, the money was

allegedly paid to a joint account of the duo to help Siemens Bangladesh Ltd win a deal of supplying core telecommunication equipment to Bangladesh Telecommunications Company Ltd (BTCL).

The couple accepted the amount in their joint account opened at a branch of Standard Chartered Bank in Singapore between 2005 and 2006.

Although the ACC has traced a transaction of more than \$ 8 lakh in the account in the period 2005 to 2008, its primary inquiry found that \$ 1.75 lakh was deposited as bribe to abet Siemens in getting the BTCL job to establish the state-owned Teletalk mobile phone company.

In his wealth statement submitted to the ACC, Hafiz, who was a member of two parliamentary standing committees in between 2001 and 2006, did not mention anything about the account.

Sayedee's son dies of cardiac arrest in court

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detained Jamaat-e-Islami leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee's elder son Rafique Bin Sayedee died of a cardiac arrest after he fell sick in courtroom while witnessing his father's trial in the capital yesterday.

The 43-year-old was declared dead at Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital.

Family sources said Rafique felt chest pain during cross-examination of a prosecution witness at International Crimes Tribunal-1.

"He died on the way to the hospital," said Masud Bin Sayedee, his younger brother.

Tanvir Ahmed Al Amin, a lawyer of the Jamaat leader, said they were preparing to submit a prayer to release Sayedee on parole so that he could attend his son's namaz-e-janaza.

Two JCD leaders re-arrested at jail gate

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday re-arrested two leaders of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), BNP-backed student organisation, at the gate of Kashimpur Central Jail in Gazipur in connection with killing a bus driver.

Amirul Islam Khan Alim, general secretary of JCD, and Kamal Anwar Ahmed, general secretary of JCD Dhaka city (north), were released from the prison on bail in an arson case.

After their re-arrest, Moksedur Rahman, a sub-inspector of Khilgaon Police Station, also investigation officer of the bus driver killing case, produced them before Metropolitan Magistrate Muhammad Rezaul Karim with a 10-day remand prayer.

The court, however, placed them on a five-day remand each.

The two Chhatra Dal leaders had been in jail since May 16 in the arson case,

which was filed against them for torching a vehicle in front of the Prime Minister's Office on April 29.

They were later sued over their involvement in killing the bus driver, Badar Ali Beg, 48, who was burnt to death after picketers set the vehicle on fire in the capital's Khilgaon during the April 21 hartal. Badar Ali was asleep inside the bus.

In yesterday's remand prayer, the investigator said Alim and Kamal were indirectly involved in the killing of the bus driver.

He said people who were arrested earlier in the case divulged the names of the two leaders. So they were remanded to find out vital clues about the killing, he added.

Police have so far arrested nine people, including BNP leader Khairul Kabir Khokon and three Jamaat-e-Islami leaders, for their alleged involvement in the killing.

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