

## FENI MADRASA PRINCIPAL He enjoyed impunity

Had close links with influential locals, AL leaders; 'sexually assaulted' other girls in past

SHARIFUL ISLAM, from Feni

Despite some serious allegations against him in the past, the now arrested Feni madrasa Principal Siraj Uddoula managed to hold his post with protection from about a dozen influential locals, including some Awami League leaders.

Before he was sued by Nusrat Jahan Rafi over sexual assault last month, Siraj sexually harassed several other students in his office room, according to a victim and a staffer.

Aware of his intent, female students stopped going to his office alone. Instead, they used to go in groups to protect themselves, they said.

But afraid of his political and financial clout, no teachers of the Sonagazi Islamia Madrasa dared to raise their voice against him, locals and teachers have told The Daily Star.

Once a Jamaat member, Siraj used to maintain close links with some powerful people, who in return got a share of the rent from 15 shops and two private banks housed in one of the madrasa buildings. The monthly rent from these shops and banks are about Tk 1.5 lakh, they added.

Five of these people are accused in the case filed by Nusrat's brother after she was set afire on April 6, allegedly by four burka-clad people. The case was later turned into a murder case after Nusrat died on Wednesday night.

They are Maksud Alam, Afsar Uddin, Abdul Kader, Nuruddin and Shahadat Hossain Shamim. Maksud and Afsar have been arrested, while the rest are on the run.

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina welcomes her Bhutanese counterpart Lotay Tshering as a child presents him with a bouquet on his arrival at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport yesterday.

## Engage with New Delhi for importing hydropower

Bhutan PM tells Dhaka  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Visiting Bhutanese Prime Minister Lotay Tshering yesterday suggested that Bangladesh should engage in talks with India to import hydropower from Bhutan as it would need to use Indian territory to make it happen.

"Yes, we have India in between Bangladesh and Bhutan. But I am saying that the hydropower sector is a bonding factor between Bhutan and India. There has been a typical relationship about how a large country helps a small one," Tshering said.

He was addressing a group of businesspeople of the two countries at InterContinental Hotel Dhaka. The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) organised the meeting.

Tshering, now on a four-day visit to Bangladesh, said India had been very generous to his country in terms of hydropower. It invested heavily and helped Bhutan

PHOTO: PID

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## Culprits won't be spared

Says PM on Nusrat killing; 2 more suspects held; NHRC terms it planned murder

STAR REPORT

The criminals who set Feni madrasa student Nusrat Jahan Rafi on fire would not be spared, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said yesterday.

Addressing an advisory council meeting of the Awami League at the Gono Bhaban, the premiere said, "Some of the perpetrators have already been arrested and others will also be arrested soon."

"I personally believe they will face exemplary punishment so that no one can dare to commit such a heinous crime in future."

Meanwhile, law enforcers held two accused in Nusrat murder case from Dhaka and Mymensingh in last two days.

Nusrat's brother Mahmudul Hasan filed a case with Sonagazi Police Station accusing at least 12 people.

According to a Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) source, they conducted a raid in Mymensingh's Bhaluka upazila around 11:00am yesterday and detained Nuruddin, a close aide to principal Siraj Ud Doula.

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## Poultry feed laced with antibiotics

Govt study on 14 brands find antibiotics in nearly 50 percent of the samples

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

A government study has found various types of antibiotics in almost 50 percent poultry feed samples of 14 brands collected from four districts.

The use of antibiotics in poultry feed is banned in Bangladesh, yet some unscrupulous traders indulge in the practice to ensure low mortality and good growth of chickens, posing serious public health hazards.

The study titled "Value Addition and Standardisation of Nutritional Level in Selected Food items from Animal and Poultry Origin" was conducted jointly by Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) and Patuakhali Science and Technology University.

Collected from Dhamrai of Dhaka, Barisal, Manikganj and Dinajpur, the samples were examined last month at SGS Chennai, an accredited lab in India.

The study found antibiotics including Lincomycin, Chlortetracycline,

Oxytetracycline, Epichlortetracycline and Epioxytetracycline above the levels acceptable for human health.

For example, the permissible levels of Chlortetracycline and Oxytetracycline in poultry feed are 0.2 to 1.6 parts per million (ppm) respectively.

But the study found the level of Chlortetracycline to be 5,066.85ppm in one sample while that of Oxytetracycline 3860.59ppm in another.

"The presence of antibiotics in the poultry feed poses risks to public health because it creates antibiotic resistance in human bodies," Monirul Islam, director of Nutrition Unit of BARC, told The Daily Star.

If chickens are sold in the market less than seven days after being fed antibiotics, they would not be safe for human consumption, he added.

Moshiur Rahman, president of Bangladesh Poultry Industries Central Council, said the use of antibiotics in the

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## Brightening the image of RMG sector top priority

Says new BGMEA chief

REFAYET ULLAH MIRDHA

Newly elected BGMEA President Rubana Huq's top priority is to brighten the apparel sector's image.

Although the readymade garment sector has a lot of achievements, the positive stories of achievements are not told to the world often enough, she said while talking to The Daily Star last night.

"We need to tell the positive stories to the people," said the first female

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## Reveal identities of anonymous donors

Indian SC asks political parties amid alleged irregularities; EC moves against Modi TV

AFP, New Delhi

India's Supreme Court yesterday ordered parties to name anonymous donors behind tens of millions of dollars in funding as hostilities intensified in the country's mega-election.

The order came ahead of the second round of voting and after the election watchdog called for a clampdown on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's personal television channel, saying it breached campaign rules.

While Modi and his opposition rival Rahul Gandhi returned to the campaign trail, the country's top court gave parties seven weeks to name people who have bought "electoral bonds" in recent months.

Rival parties are said to be spending up to \$7 billion on the election, which started Thursday and runs through to May 19, and funding sources have come under the spotlight.

The bonds -- bought for between \$15 and \$140,000 and then given to a designated party -- are controversial because they are anonymous.

India's election commission and watchdog groups which took the case to the Supreme Court said the bonds should be ended because of the risk of businesses making secret contributions to influence decisions.

Modi's government, which introduced the bonds in 2017, opposed naming donors. The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is the biggest beneficiary of the bonds, according to the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), one of the groups behind the case.

More than \$150 million in bonds were bought in 2018, according to the Factly Indian data journalism portal.

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