



RIFAT MURDER

## Minni among 24 charged

Hearing on charge sheet tomorrow

STAR REPORT

Police yesterday pressed charges against Ayesha Siddika Minni and 23 others for alleged involvement in the daylight murder of her husband Rifat Sharif in Barguna, an incident that triggered a huge public outcry across the country.

The charge sheet was submitted to Barguna Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court under sections 302, 34, 212, 109, 114 and 120-B(1) of the penal code, Md Maruf Hossain, superintendent of police in Barguna, said in a statement to the media.

The sections deal with charges including murder, causing grievous injury, harbouring an offender, abetment to any offence and criminal conspiracy to commit an offence. If found guilty, the accused could face punishment ranging from seven years in jail to death sentence.

The SP didn't mention the names of the other accused.

On June 26, Rifat, 25, who used to provide internet services, was hacked to death in broad daylight in front of Minni on June 26. A video clip of the incident went viral on social media. In the footage, Minni was seen trying to save her husband from the attackers.

Talking to this newspaper yesterday, Abir Mohammed Hossain, officer-in-charge of Barguna Sadar Police Station, said, "We had to divide the charge sheet into two segments -- one for 14 juvenile accused, and the other for 10 adults. Minni's name figured seventh on the list of adult accused."

"The court will decide on the charge sheet at a hearing on September 3 [tomorrow]," he added.

Police officials involved in the probe said the charge sheet didn't contain the name of

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Rifat Sharif



Minni



Iron rods for construction work occupy the pavement in front of a building in the capital's Karwan Bazar forcing pedestrians to use the street and put their lives at risk. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

## শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী জননেত্রী শেখ হাসিনার নিকট থেকে রপ্তানীর মাধ্যমে বৈদেশিক মুদ্রা অর্জনে উল্লেখযোগ্য অবদানের স্বীকৃতি স্বরূপ ২০১৬-২০১৭ অর্থ বছরের জাতীয় রপ্তানী ট্রফি (স্বর্ণ) গ্রহণ করছেন ফারদিন এক্সপোর্টস লিমিটেড, উত্তরা ইপিজেড, নীলফামারী এর পরিচালক জনাব মোঃ ওমর ফারুক।

ফারদিন এক্সপোর্টস লিমিটেড, উত্তরা ইপিজেড, নীলফামারী এর জাতীয় ট্রফি লাভের এই গৌরবান্বিত স্বীকৃতির জন্য ফারদিন এক্সপোর্টস লিমিটেড এর সকল কর্মকর্তা কর্মচারী পক্ষ থেকে শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন।

ফারদিন এক্সপোর্টস লিমিটেড, উত্তরা ইপিজেড, নীলফামারী

## Possibly a test case before big attacks

Quader on bomb attack on police; IS claims credit

STAR REPORT

Saturday night's bomb attack on police near the capital's Science Lab intersection was possibly a test case before a big attack, a senior minister said yesterday.

"... now police are the targets, it cannot be said that ministers and lawmakers will not be targeted in the future," Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, while replying to reporters' queries at his secretariat office.

He said there was no reason to believe that militants had become inactive.

"They [militants] might not be that strong, but they are not inactive. They are secretly taking preparations possibly to carry out a big attack," added Quader, also the ruling Awami League general secretary.

Talking to journalists yesterday, Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia said the bomb, used in Saturday's attack, was an improvised

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## Final Assam NRC a fiasco

Mamata hits out at Centre; local BJP leaders unhappy, say many with 'forged certificates' got included

AGENCIES

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has dubbed the updated final NRC as a "fiasco" and said it has exposed all those who are trying to gain "political mileage" from the exercise.

Mamata has also expressed concern over a large number of Bengalis being "excluded" from the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) list, which was released on Saturday.

"The NRC fiasco has exposed all those who tried to take political mileage out of it. They have a lot to answer to the nation," she wrote on Twitter late Saturday.

Over 19 lakh applicants failed to make it to the final NRC list, staring at an uncertain future.

"My heart goes out to all those, especially the large number of Bengali speaking brothers and sisters, who are made to suffer because of this botched-up process," Mamata said.

Yesterday, the Indian External Affairs Ministry asserted that updating of the NRC in Assam was a statutory,

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## Steps taken to lower lending rates: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the government was taking steps to lower interest rates on lending to single digits, noting that the higher rates lead to loan defaults.

Some banks are already lending at single digits as per the government's directive, she said.

"We are in discussions about the matter and are providing the facilities the banks need."

Investing with high-interest loans naturally creates loan defaulters, she said at the national export trophy award ceremony at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka.

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Heartiest Felicitations to Mr. A K Azad

Refat Garments Ltd. of Ha-Meem Group achieved the National Export Trophy (Gold Category) for the year 2016-2017 for outstanding contribution in Export Business of Bangladesh. The Managing Director of Ha-Meem Group, Former President of FBCCI and Former Chairman of Shahjalal Islami Bank Ltd. Mr. A K Azad received the National Export Trophy from the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Bangabandhu International Conference Center on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019. As a recognition for the outstanding contribution in the field of export on garments sector, Ha-Meem Group achieved 14 times National Export Trophy in various category, of which 8 times in Gold, 2 times in Silver and 4 times in Bronze category from the time of its inception.



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We express heartiest congratulations to Mr. Nasir Uddin, Chairman and Syed Mohammed Tanvir, Director of Pacific Jeans group for their visionary leadership, integrity and dedication for the achievement and we vow to work towards a new height of success.

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