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Why is Sunam not an accused?

Some suspects in Rifat murder case ask inside and outside courtroom; next hearing Sept 18; Minni released on bail



MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN in Dhaka and M JAHIRUL ISLAM JEWEL in Barguna

A number of accused in the Rifat murder case yesterday vented their frustration inside and outside the courtroom, asking why local Awami League lawmaker's son Sunam Debnath was not named in the case. "Why is Sunam Debnath not an accused?"

Sunam Debnath gave the directive. So why is he not named? "a number of defendants were heard shouting while getting on a police van after the court proceeding ended.

A number of lawyers who were present in the courtroom told The Daily Star that some suspects asked the same question during the hearing on the charge sheet at the Senior Judicial

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6 SENT TO JUVENILE CORRECTION CENTRE -- PAGE 2

Stocks keep on tumbling

STAR REPORT

The index of Dhaka Stock Exchange has come down a step further breaching the 5,000-point psychological barrier after consecutive declines in the last five trading days.

Market analysts said if the downward trend continues, it may have a psychological impact on the investors, prompting them to go for sales in panic.

The DSEX, the benchmark index of the DSE, declined 26.48 points, or 0.52 percent, finishing the day at 5,007 yesterday. The index lost 172 points in the last five trading days.

Analysts said a crisis of confidence, claims of unpaid dues of heavyweight Grameenphone and banks' liquidity crunch have been pulling the market down.

MORE IN STAR BUSINESS

NATIONAL IDENTITY CARDS

At least 73 dubious applications in EC database

Finds government probe body

ARUN BIKASH DEY and MOHAMMAD SUMAN, Chattogram

At least 73 suspicious applications were uploaded to the Election Commission database for issuing national identity cards, a government committee has found while probing the forged NID card of a Rohingya woman in Chattogram.

However, the two-member body, led by Kotwali Thana Election Officer Kamrul Alam in the port city, could not determine from which EC office those were uploaded.

The committee submitted the probe report to Chattogram District Election Officer Munir Hussain Khan on Monday.

It recommended a thorough probe to know how the data was inserted into the EC server. It also suggested engaging a team of technical experts to trace the laptop and modem used to upload the information to the server. "It is a mystery how the information was uploaded to the EC server. Only the designated persons at the Election Commission know the code," said Munir.

A team of technical experts from the capital will arrive in the port city tomorrow to carry out further investigation, he added. Talking to this correspondent, Kamrul said the applicants are residents of different districts, and the application forms were issued from various places.

"But all of those were supposed to be issued from the same area or adjacent areas," he said. "Of those, some were issued from Chattogram, some from Cox's Bazar, some from Laxmipur and several others from Bandarban."

Fourteen of the application forms contain addresses in Kotwali thana area in the port city. "I can confirm that the data on none of the 14 forms was inserted into the server from my office. And there is no backup

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Collect tolls for using nat'l highways

PM instructs authorities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has instructed the authorities concerned to collect toll from long-haul vehicles plying the national highways, Planning Minister MA Mannan said yesterday.

Quoting the PM, he said the money would be deposited into a bank account and spent for the maintenance and repair of the roads. Mannan made the comments while briefing reporters after a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecnc) in the capital.

The PM gave the directive while presiding over the meeting. The minister said the PM talked about imposing tolls on vehicles using bridges and national highways, including Dhaka-Chattogram, Dhaka-Sylhet, Dhaka-Rangpur and Dhaka-Khulna. "The toll will be imposed on long-haul vehicles, not on those running short distances," he said, adding the ministry concerned would prepare a detailed guideline on it.

The minister said such tolls are collected in many countries across the world.

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The Honourable Managing Director Mr. Md. Badsha Mia & The Director Mr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed of the companies received the National Export Trophy from H.E Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

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We express our heartiest Congratulations to Mr. Md. Badsha Mia, Managing Director & Mr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Director of Badsha Group for their visionary leadership, intelligence, integrity and dedication for the above achievement and we vow to work towards a new height of success and want to serve the nation as a whole.

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Envoy Textiles Limited (ETL) achieved National Export Trophy (Gold) for the year 2016-2017 for export performance. Mr. Tanvir Ahmed, Director of ETL received the award on behalf of the Company from Sheikh Hasina, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

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