

11 years of Sagar-Runi murder, 'No more words of hope, we want justice'- Dhaka Reporters Unity

February 11, 2023

Online Desk: Eleven years have passed since the murder of journalist couple Sagar Sarwar and Meherun Runi, but their killers have yet not been identified. Even though, many months and years have passed, limitations of the investigation agencies and the concerned authorities are still to 'investigation going on' and 'judgment to be held'.

Colleagues of journalist-couple Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi today expressed their frustration and anger over the Rab's failure to submit the investigation report. They also vowed to keep up the demonstration until they get justice. Journalist leaders, during a protest rally held at the premises of Dhaka Reporters Unity this morning, said the government lacks goodwill to solve the case. Speakers said they want immediate justice, no more words of hope as the deadline for submitting the probe report has been deferred 95 times.

DRU President Mursalin Nomani said they already met the home ministry on Wednesday and expressed anger for this delay. "We saw that many sensational murder cases are being solved, but we don't see any single case to be solved when it's related to journalists," he said. "We hope Rab would finally submit the investigation report in March," Mursalin said. Moinul Ahasan, joint secretary of DRU, said, "We will not stop protesting, we will not stop demanding justice for any such incident." "If Rab can't do it, then PBI should take charge of the investigation, as the victim's family wanted," he added.

Former DRU president Rafiqul Islam Azad urged journalists to stand together and fight for justice. Attending the rally, Sohel Haider Chowdhury, president of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ), said, "We will not accept any made up stories in the name of a probe report. If the investigation authorities do so, we will protest it." "We want to know the reasons behind the killing. We also want to know the reason behind the delay in probe."

He later declared that DUJ members will go for a token hunger strike on February 15 before Jatiya Press Club. They will also hold a protest rally at the Secretariat premises and submit a memorandum to the home ministry. Mentionable, after the journalist couple was killed on this day in 2012, then home minister Sahara Khatun vowed to arrest the killers in 48 hours. But over the decade, the investigation officer was changed six times, and the Rab and other agencies have taken 95 dates from court to complete the probe. But they have not been able to submit the probe report.