

Search for the missing examiner

By A Staff Reporter

The Dacca Secondary Education Board has requested four police stations in Dacca district to find out the examiner from whom allegedly 152 SSC answer scripts found way to the waste paper market.

The Board, however, made only general diary entries with those police stations since it was not yet in a position to make any complaint of a specific nature of a cognizable offence.

The Board needs to determine the place and the time of the incident, the person involved and produce witnesses of the incident to start any specific case.

The police stations requested by the Board for finding out the examiner are Narsingdi, Palash and Shibpur under Narsingdi sub-division and Kotwali police station in Dacca Sadar.

The Board had to make general diary entries with the four police stations because the missing answer scripts were detected under Kotwali PS, the Sekondari A M High School where the examiner Mr Shamsul Islam Khan had been a teacher is under Palash PS, the examiner himself is an inhabitant of Baluarchar village in Narsingdi PS and the lodging house where he used to reside is at village Syeder Khola which falls under Shibpur PS.

When contacted the Sub-divisional Police Officer of Narsingdi told the Times last night that police was yet to secure the arrest of Mr Shamsul Islam Khan. He said that the three police stations, Narsingdi, Palash and Shibpur had been jointly trying to haul him up.

Meanwhile, an official of the Board who, accompanied by another official, visited Narsingdi on Friday in connection with the scripts told this reporter on Sunday that they had heard two versions from some secondary school teachers at Narsingdi as to how the answer scripts found way to the market.

He said that according to one version, the examiner Mr Shamsul Islam Khan had stayed back in Dacca on May 6 after requesting a Narsingdi-bound friend of his to

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carry and deposit those scripts with a cloth store at Narsingdi. From there the scripts somehow found way to Dacca.

The board officials, however, could not locate the cloth store from where the scripts had allegedly disappeared.

According to another version, the said examiner had by mistake left the answer scripts in the bus, aboard which he travelled to Narsingdi from Dacca; the Board official said.

He said that the examiner was reported to have enquired for the scripts in some shops at Narsingdi on May 7.

According to yet another version, the examiner had possibly lost the scripts somewhere in between Dacca and Narsingdi during his return journey with the scripts. But none of these versions could be confirmed by the board.

The Dacca Board on Sunday submitted two statements concerning the answer script scandal to Mr Manzurul Karim Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs and the Deputy Inspector General of Police (Criminal Investigation Department).

The Controller of Examinations of the Board told the Times that theft or loss of answer scripts had taken place on rare occasions in the past. But in such cases the practice is to register a case with the respective police station and to contact the Board immediately.

The Controller said that Mr Shamsul Islam Khan neither register any case with any police station nor did he inform the board if he had lost the scripts.