64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh, Telephone: 9144330 (Hunting), 8124944 Fax: 880-2-8125155, 8126154, 9144332 www.thedailystar.net, E-mail: editor@thedailystar.net, reporting@thedailystar.net

Date: July 23, 2023

Mr. Ajmalul Hossaim KC Senior Advocate A Hossain & Associates Law Offices 3B Outer Circular Road, Maghbazar, Dhaka 1217

Dear Sir,

We write with reference to your letter dated 13 July 2023.

It is stated that we provided your client with an opportunity to respond to our queries on a number of issues which are based on our findings.

The findings contained in our report are all from authentic sources which are available/accessible publicly from their respective sources. Hence, there is no question or scope of publishing false information, lies or innuendos as you have incorrectly alleged.

We, in fact, have demonstrated the highest norm of ethical journalism by offering your client, in writing, an opportunity to exercise his right to respond to our queries that we intended to incorporate in our report elaborately. The questions that we sent you highlighted the most vital findings of our report, and a clarification from your client could serve his interest better.

Regrettably though, it is clear from your letter that your client has refused the opportunity to respond to our offer for providing his responses to our queries. The Daily Star is under no legal obligation to disclose the story/report with your client before its publication.

The Daily Star is committed to maintaining its high standards of journalism and accordingly does not resort to reporting any false information or lies. The publications of our newspaper are based on the fundamental principle of people's right to know.

As a matter of good journalistic gesture, we request your client once more to respond by July 28 to the questions we sent earlier.

Yours sincerely,

Syed Ashfaquil Haque

Executive Editor
The Paily Star

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Copy to: Mohammed Saiful Alam, Group Chairman, S Alam Group

Syed Ashfaqui Haque Executive Editor The Daily Ster