



People burning an effigy of Jamaat MP Abdul Aziz (L) at Shovaganj and the empty building from where Janata Bank has been shifted to Mirganj.



PHOTO: STAR

JUBO LEAGUE LEADER MURDER

Hartal today in Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Awami league has called a half-day hartal for today in Sirajganj protesting the murder of Belkuch upazila Jubo League leader Jewel Hasan Monday night.

The programme was announced at an AL protest rally held in front of Belkuchi upazila party office yesterday.

Awami League and its front organisations also brought out processions and held rallies in the district town and at Belkuchi upazila headquarters yesterday protesting the murder.

According to police and locals, Jewel Hasan, 35, son of Johurul Islam of Kandapara village, was shot to death by a gang of extremists at Kandapara school ground.

After the murder, killers left the spot chanting slogans in favour of Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP), police said quoting local people.

Belkuchi police arrested Bablu of Kallyanpur village in connection the murder.

Activities by several outlawed parties have increased in Sirajganj and its adjacent districts in recent days allegedly due to lax vigilance by law enforcers.

ALLEGATION OF SHIFTING BANK AT DEAD OF NIGHT

Jamaat MP declared 'unwanted', effigy burnt in Sundarganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

People of Shovaganj in Sundarganj upazila yesterday burnt an effigy of Jamaat lawmaker Abdul Aziz from Gaibandha-1 constituency and declared him 'unwanted' in the area, protesting shifting of a Janata Bank branch from there, done allegedly at his behest.

The bank branch was shifted to the lawmaker's area in Mirganj in the early hours of August 17, violating all norms and rules, the protesters told a press conference yesterday.

The press conference virtually turned into a rally as people spontaneously gathered here to listen to the speakers.

The press conference, held at the local college ground, was addressed by leaders of Shovaganj Development Sangram Parishad, a newly formed civic body to press the

demand for restoration of the bank branch to its original site at Shovaganj Bazaar.

The Sangram Parishad leaders gave the lawmaker a seven-day deadline to meet the demand and threatened of tougher agitation for non-compliance.

It was addressed by its president Harun-ur-Rashid, Baijid Hossain Bablu, Mowlana Ashraf Ali, Easin Ali Sarker, Sunil Kumar Barua and Delwer Hossain Nuri.

They said Shaovaganj is the second largest market in Sundarganj upazila, where the Janata Bank branch was opened 29 years ago. The bank was running profitably with over 11,000 savings accounts, mostly by businessmen.

Local Jamaat MP shifted the branch to Mirganj without any alternative arrangement or prior notice, they alleged.

Shifting of the bank sparked

protests by local people on the following day. They held rallies and submitted a memorandum to the Gaibandha Deputy Commissioner, which contained signature of about 10,000 people, the speakers said.

Earlier, the people also held rallies, brought out processions and barricaded the Gaibandha-Rangpur highway.

In the face of protests, the district administration and bank authorities pledged to restore the bank to its original place, but it is yet to be fulfilled, they said.

The speakers also said people of Shovaganj will stop paying all kinds of tolls and taxes and go for tougher agitation if the bank branch is not restored within seven days.

People of seven unions would boycott Abdul Aziz if their demand is not met immediately, they said.

Sanskritik Jote at RU protests Shibir 'vandalism'

RU CORRESPONDENT

The Rajshahi University unit of Sammilito Sanskritik Jote yesterday protested vandalism by Islamic Chhatra Shibir (ICS) activists and foiling of Anushilon Drama Group's cultural programme on the campus Tuesday evening.

The drama group arranged a drama at the TSC on RU campus Tuesday evening after taking permission from the authorities.

All of a sudden, Shibir activists swooped on the venue, captured the stage, drove away cultural activists and then held their political programme, the protesters alleged.

Yesterday morning, the Sanskritik Jote took out a procession on the campus and paraded different streets protesting the Shibir vandalism.

At the rally held in front of the Central Library, speakers urged the RU authorities to prevent 'Shibir terrorism' on the campus.

They said Shibir wants to ban all progressive cultural activities on the campus and demanded arrest of its activists responsible for Tuesday's incident.

Otherwise, students and other progressive organisations on the campus will launch agitation against such unlawful activities by Shibir, they said.

Progressive Teachers Society, Bangladesh Chhatra League, Samajrantrik Chhatra Front, RU Drama Group, Udichi, Gonoshilpi Sangstha and other cultural organisation also condemned Tuesday's incident and demanded punishment of persons responsible.

Bombs go off at JP leader Ratna Amin's house

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Five bombs exploded at the house of Ratna Amin, chairman of Bakerganj municipality and central vice-chairman of Jatiya Party in Bakerganj town at about 4 am yesterday.

Ratna Amin is the wife of JP (Ershad) secretary general Ruhul Amin Howladar.

None was injured in that blasts, police said.

Howladar claimed that the attack was made by supporters of BNP lawmaker Abul Hossain Khan to kill his wife because he will not get alliance nomination if she seeks ticket for the coming election.

Denying the allegation, local BNP leaders said it as a 'managed incident' to create sensation and win people's support.

Haniful Islam, officer-in-charge of Bakerganj police station said police heard the explosions and saw smoke but found no splinter or other evidences of bomb at the spot.

Barisal Police Superintendent Abdur Rahim said someone might have blasted 'crackers' to create panic.

Ratna Amin said three bombs exploded on the roof of the one storied building while two others went off on the roof of a tin-shed on the same compound.

Splinters damaged the tin roof and inmates ran for shelter. Locals also rushed to the spot, she claimed.

Police said they recorded a general diary as per the statement of Ratna Amin.

2 BNP leaders held for firing at Rab

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Two BNP leaders who were arrested at Dhopar in Debhata upazila on September 2 for firing gunshots at the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) members were sued on Tuesday.

They are Debhata upazila BNP president Nazibur Rahman and publicity secretary Rezaul Islam, also chairman of Noapara Union Parishad (UP).

Two cases were filed against them with Debhata Police Station for creating obstruction to Rab in discharging government duty and possessing two illegal guns.

They were produced before a magistrate's court here.

According to the FIR, Rab arrested one Mohammad Ali of Kajla village in Kaliganj upazila at night.

While the Rab members were returning with the arrested person they found a private car at Dhopar intersection from which Nazibur, Rezaul and another person Rabiul Karim of Jagannathpur in Debhata upazila opened fire at them to snatch the arrestee.

Nazibur and Rezaul were arrested on the spot. But Rabiul and Mohammad Ali fled away. The two were also sued by Rab.

KUSHTIA-1 CONSTITUENCY

BNP MP calls party ticket seeker seasonal bird

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Reza Ahmed Bachhu Mollah, BNP lawmaker from Kushtia-1 (Daulatpur) constituency yesterday said his men will resist any 'seasonal bird' who are trying to 'create feud' in the party in Daulatpur and 'mislead' activists in the name of politics.

Bachhu Mollah, also president of Daulatpur upazila BNP, claimed that his family is deeply involved with the weal and woe of the people of Daulatpur and no one can create a rift in the bond.

He was visiting different areas of his constituency, meeting people and holding small rallies. Bachhu Mla told his party men to resist any 'unwanted person' trying to 'damage' the party image in the district.

Though the BNP MP did not mention any name, party men said his tirade is aimed at another BNP leader, industrialist Nasir Biswas, also an aspirant for nomination from Kushtia-1 in the coming election.

Nasir is also in the field, mobilising party men and meeting people through various programmes.

At a recent party programme in Kushtia, Nasir said he is the 'fittest' candidate from Kushtia-1 constituency and will seek nomination.

Several incidents of clash took place between supporters of Bachhu Mollah and Nasir Biswas in different areas in last few months.

At several press conferences, Nasir called Bachhu Mollah 'godfather of criminals' and blamed him for 'defaming BNP in Kushtia'.

Bachchu Molla called Nasir a 'seasonal bird' who comes to the area when election comes. 'He (Nasir) is an outsider', the lawmaker said.

He said his father Ahsan-ul-Haq Mollh Bachchu implemented a large number of development projects and sacrificed his life for the people of Daulatpur.

Bachchu became a lawmaker in a by-election after the death of his father in 2004. No political party took part in the by-election, leaving Bachchu Molla and some independent candidates to vie for the parliamentary seat.

When contacted over cell phone, Bachchu Molla said people would avoid 'non-political person' in the constituency and vote him in the coming election.

6X3

9X3

10X4