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Larma takes charge of RC today

By Special Correspondent
PCJSS Chairman Jyotirindriyo Larma will take charge of the interim Regional Council (RC) for Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) today. CHT Affairs Minister Kalparanjan Chakma has said.

"Yes, he is going to sign necessary papers in this connection at 10 a.m. tomorrow", an ebullient Kalparanjan Chakma, told The Daily Star last night.

The decision was taken at a meeting between Kalparanjan Chakma and JB Larma yesterday evening at state guest house Meghna here. The meeting lasted over an hour.

The papers will be carried to JB Larma from the ministry by his aide Rupayan Dewan, it was learnt.

The Chairman of the RC, who will be given the status of a state minister, will meet Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina shortly, sources said. This will be his second meeting with the PM. JB Larma earlier met the Prime Minister on February 6.

A grand ceremony at Rangamati on May 27 will mark the installation of the Regional Council.

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Police to probe Bijoynagar incident

By Staff Correspondent
A one-member departmental committee, led by DIG Abul Kashem Howlader of Special Branch, was formed to probe into the incidents at Bijoynagar and nearby areas where BNP MPs were assaulted by police, police sources said.

When asked whether the committee would look into the incidents of humiliating a woman BNP activist during police action at Bijoynagar at around 10:45 a.m., a senior police official said that it would also investigate some other untoward incidents in the area during that time.

The committee is likely to submit its report before the Inspector General of Police on May 19.

THIS THURSDAY IN Rising Stars



Meet The Three Young

ANIMATORS

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Prayer Timings

May 12

Azan Jamaat

Fajr 4:15 4:20

Zohr 12:45 1:30

Aer 4:45 4:55

Maghrib 6:30 6:33

Esha 7:55 8:10



Atrocious! Outrageous!

(Left) The lady is an opposition activist. A female cop first acted on her. The baton-wielding male constable repeats the performance. (Right) Around the same time and in the same area, at city's Bijoynagar yesterday during hartal hours, Motijheel thana Officer-in-Charge Rafiqul Islam repeats his own performance in previous hartals, this time on BNP MP Joynal Abedin Faruq. Former state minister Sadeq Hossain Khoka MP (on Faruq's left), the previous victim, and former minister Abdullah Al Noman look on, helplessly. Witnesses said the police action followed bombs hurled from a BNP procession they were leading towards Purana Paltan. The bombs were exploded after police had stopped the march somewhere on Bijoynagar road.

—Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Police spoil a peaceful hartal, beat up MPs

By Staff Correspondent

In an otherwise peaceful hartal in the country yesterday, baton-wielding police beat up several BNP MPs and almost stripped a female activist of the party in city's Bijoynagar area, triggering tension among opposition activists.

The 6am-2pm shutdown, normal life and business in most places but passed off without any major incidents of violence. In Chittagong, two people were injured with bullet when unidentified people fired gunshots on some pro-hartal activists.

Bullet-hit, Abdul Majid and Mohammad Kamal were admitted to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital. Police picked up two pickets in the port city during the hartal hours.

In the capital, the shutdown was marked by bomb explosions and damages of transports in the usual trouble spots - Shaheed Faruk Road, Narendra Bashak Lane, Farmgate, Mouchak, Postagola, Press Club, Purana Paltan, Roysahab Bazar and Sutrapur areas. At least five persons, injured in these incidents, were hospitalised. But at Bijoynagar and Naya Paltan, police atrocities marred

Home Minister regrets

Home Minister Mohammad Nasim yesterday regretted the incidents in which some journalists were injured during hartal, reports BSS.

Talking to newsmen at his office, Nasim said "I am really sorry for the incident. I also heard about the unexpected behaviour with a woman during hartal hours." The Home Minister directed the authorities concerned to probe the matter and assured that proper steps would be taken after verifying the incident.

Motijheel thana Officer-in-Charge

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the atmosphere. BNP MPs Sadeq Hossain Khoka, Joynal Abedin Faruq and Amanullah Aman were among some 20 people, who were injured during the police-BNP clashes at Bijoynagar in the capital at around 10:45am.

One activist of the BNP, Faruq, was almost stripped of her saree as she tried to escape the police action. A female constable first caught her by her saree and tried to get hold of her. Then a male policeman repeated the action, putting the BNP activist in an extremely humiliating situation in public.

Some other female workers of the party were also hurt in the baton charge.

A group of photojournalists, taking snaps of the scene, and some reporters covering the incident, also fell prey to police wrath. Police used batons on them after an altercation.

Motijheel thana Officer-in-Charge

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Tofail warns Khaleda about Ershad

By Nazmul Ashraf

Commerce and Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed says BNP chief Khaleda Zia should be careful about Jatiya Party leader HM Ershad because he is a vindictive person who does not forget anything.

Tofail is taking revenge on both Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Opposition leader Khaleda Zia as the two together spearheaded the campaign for his downfall. Ershad is a man who does not forget anything.

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