

5 children kidnapped from Kurigram

UNB, Kurigram

Five children have been kidnapped from Dada crossing area in Kurigram town on Saturday.

Police said Riyad, 13, son of AGM Musa, Sohel, 12, son of Abdul Jalil, Rana, 13, son of Azizul Huq, Rowshan, 12, son of Syed Ali and Farhad, son of Abdul Jabbar of Beparipara did not return home from the playing ground in the afternoon.

Their guardians searched different possible areas overnight, but didn't find them. They later filed a case with local police station.

The guardians believe that Apple, 20, son of Nur Hossain of Velakopa village, with the help of other human traffickers abducted the kids and kept them at BNP slum in Dhaka to smuggle them out of the country.

Meanwhile, police arrested the father of Apple. Further details of the incident were not available.

Another BSS report says: Four alleged human traffickers were arrested in a week from three separate places in three northern districts recently.

Eyewitnesses and police sources said an alleged child trafficker, Hazera Khatun, 35, wife of Abdul Matin of Ghughumari village in Rowmari upazila was

held by villagers of Barua Tabakpur in Ulipur upazila. She was caught red-handed while she was abducting Abdur Razzaque, 3, son of Nurunnabi of the village.

Later, she was handed over to Ulipur Thana Police and a case was filed against her.

Rabiul Islam, 14, son of late Kabil Uddin of village Balighata of Joypurhat district was arrested by police in connection with a case of trafficking against him.

Laily Begum of Goroshanpara village in the same area filed a case against him for abducting and selling her 11-year-old son at Tk 4,500 to some organised human traffickers in Dhaka. After arrest, the accused boy admitted his involvement with trafficking.

Earlier, villagers held two alleged human traffickers, Abdur Rahim Molla, 35, and Zayed Ali, 25, of Sridhar Gurnoi village in Naogaon. They were caught red-handed while they were trafficking one little girl Ayesha, 9, daughter of Afsar Ali of the same village to send her abroad. They were handed over to Atrai thana police.

A case was filed against them and the arrested persons were sent to jail *haj*at by the court.

Part of Chandpur town devoured by Meghna, Dakatia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

The historic Chandpur river port is no more in existence.

The mighty rivers Meghna and Dakatia washed away the entire Chandpur BIWTA terminal and the nearby areas including railway station (Bara station), Chandpur rocket-steamer ghat and hilsa fish market.

About 300 shops, hotels, ice factories and other business establishments have been devoured by the two major rivers. The alarming erosion started on late Thursday night.

The erosion first started on Wednesday morning and damaged property worth several crores of taka.

The erosion which started with the fury of the Meghna and the Dakatia on Thursday is still continuing. The 200-year-old Chandpur railway station including railway overbridge, three railway tracks have been washed away. The magnificent BIWTA terminal building built in 1964 has been completely damaged.



PHOTO: STAR

(Left) The railway bridge and three railway tracks of 200-year-old Chandpur Railway Station have been devoured by the rivers Meghna and Dakatia while the BIWTA terminal has been collapsed due to devastating river erosion in Chandpur on Wednesday and Thursday.

37 to vie for JS seats from Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

A total of 37 candidates will contest for Jatiya Sangsad (JS) (parliament) seats in the ensuing general elections from seven constituencies of Sirajganj.

According to official sources, a total of 51 candidates including rebels of both the Awami League (AL) and the BNP submitted nomination papers. Of the total 10 candidates withdrew their candidature on the last date of withdrawal of nomination papers. Earlier, nomination papers of three candidates were cancelled.

The candidates of seven constituencies who are set to contest in the ensuing general elections are as follows.

In Sirajganj-1 (Kazipur) constituency Dr Mohammad Selim will contest independently while Alhaj Mohammad Nasim with AL ticket, Abdul Mojib Minu with BNP ticket, Abdul Barek Bakul with JP (E) ticket and Feroz Ahmed Chowdhury with 11-party ticket.

In Sirajganj-2 constituency Dr Mohammad Selim has been contesting as an independent candidate while Alhaj Mohammad Nasim with AL ticket, Iqbal Hasan Mahmood Tuku with 4-party (BNP), Lutfur Rahman JP (E), Abu Baker Bhuiya (BSD) with 11-party ticket.

In Sirajganj-3 (Raiganj-Tarash) seat Dr Mohammad Selim has been contesting as an independent candidate, Alhaj Mohammad Nasim with AL ticket, Abdul Mannan Talukder with (BNP) 4-party alliance ticket, Ismail Hossain with (CPB) 11-party ticket and Abdul Jalil with JP (E) ticket.

In Sirajganj-4 (Ullapara) constituency Abdul Quddus (Jatiya Tanti Dal) and Proloy Kumar Nondy with 11-party ticket, Mojammel Haque Montu with JSD ticket, Abdul Latif Mirza with AL ticket, MAkbor Ali with 4-party (BNP) ticket and Abdus Satter Sultan with JP (E) ticket.

In Sirajganj-5 (Belkuchi-Kamarkhand) constituency Gazi Atiqur Rahman Baki has been contesting with JSD ticket, Emdadul Haque with JP (E) ticket, Monjur-E-Khoda with CPB

ticket, Abdul Latif Biswas with AL ticket, Justice (ret'd) Mozammel Haque with 4-party (BNP) ticket and Saidur Rahman will contest as an independent candidate.

In Sirajganj-6 (Chowhali with 4 unions of Shahzadpur upazila) Motaleb Hossain Mintu Sarker will contest with JSD ticket, Aminur Rashid with 11-party ticket, Habibur Rahman Habib as an independent candidate, Hajee Abu Baker Siddique with AL ticket and Maj (ret'd) Monjur Kader with BNP ticket.

In Sirajganj-7 (Shahjadpur) constituency Prof M A Matin of JP (N-F) will contest with 4-party alliance ticket, Anowar Hossain with BSD ticket, Choyan Islam with AL ticket and Rezaul Rashid Khan with 11-party ticket.

However, a total of 18,26,189 voters will cast their votes in the coming general elections. Of them, 9,47,090 are males and 8,79,099 are females. The district election office sources said 700 centers including 3,600 polling booths will be set up for the ensuing general elections.

NEWS SNAPS

JP activist electrocuted

UNB, Jessore

A Jatiya Party (JP) activist was electrocuted in an election meeting at Chougacha last week.

According to a delayed report, Jasimuddin, son of Abdul Latif of Ichhapur village, was electrocuted while addressing a meeting at an election camp of JP candidate B M Selim Reza on the morning of September 13. As the mike was not working well due to a faulty battery, power connection was given to it from an illegal connection without testing the line. Jasim died instantly as he touched the electrified mike stand. The election camp has been closed.

2,178 apply for polls observation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A total of 2178 people have applied to the Returning Officer for becoming election observers in the six constituencies of Khulna district.

The applicants belong to 18 voluntary organisations. A list of the applicants has been sent to the intelligence wings of KMP for 'clearance'. Sources of different intelligence wings said most of these voluntary organisations are politically biased.

Pre-poll violence leaves 43 injured

UNB, Patuakhali

At least 43 people were injured in pre-election violence in the district in three days till Wednesday.

Police said a clash took place between Awami League and BNP supporters at Aila Bazar in Baulal Monday leaving 25 people injured. They also damaged each other's election camps. On Tuesday, 10 people were injured when BNP activists allegedly attacked the supporters of an independent candidate while they were campaigning in Kolapara area. Four of the injured Matiar Gazi, 47, Gazi Alauddin, 45, Mahbub, 25 and Ibrahim, 35, were admitted to Patuakhali and Kolaroa hospitals. At Nandaikana in Itbaria, eight Awami League activists were injured when their rivals attacked their procession Wednesday.

Five election camps of BNP damaged

UNB, Narayanganj

Five election camps of BNP were damaged allegedly by Awami League activists at Kashipur in Fatullah upazila Wednesday.

Awami League activists ransacked the camps and injured two BNP activists after being informed that one of their fellowmen Ratan, 30, of Madrasa area was stabbed by BNP workers. The injured BNP activists Selim, 35, and Jodge Miah, 50, were moved to Dhaka in critical condition. BNP leaders alleged that Awami League attacked and injured 10 BNP activists, two with bullets, after Ratan was stabbed by a gang of terrorists. Awami League denied the allegation.

Three election camps of AL damaged

UNB, Barisal

Three election camps of Awami League (AL) were damaged allegedly by BNP activists in Nalchiti upazila of Jhalakati district Wednesday.

Police said the BNP activists from a procession attacked the AL election camps at Manpasha. However, nobody was injured in the incident.

Show cause notices on 3 candidates

UNB, Pabna

Local Electoral Inquiry Committee has served show cause notices against three candidates and the chairman of Pabna Municipality for violating electoral codes of conduct.

The notices were served against municipality chairman Mosharraf Hossain, Awami League candidate from Pabna-1 constituency Prof Abu Sayeed, AL candidate Dr Miraz Abdul Jalil and alliance candidate Selim Reza Habib from Pabna-2, and AL candidate from Pabna-3 Mokbul Hossain. The committee, however, said the allegation brought against alliance candidate Moulana Abdus Subhan contesting from Pabna-5 was not proved.

78 centres in Rajshahi risky

UNB, Rajshahi

At least 78 polling centres, out of 481, in five constituencies of the district have been identified as risky to violence for the October 1 general election.

Official sources said of the sensitive centres 16 each are located in Rajshahi-1 (Tanore-Godagari), Rajshahi-2 (Poba-Boalia) and Rajshahi-4 (Puthia-Durgapur), 13 in Rajshahi-3 (Mohanpur-Bagmara) and 17 in Rajshahi-5 (Charghat-Bagmara). They said steps have been taken to keep law and order situation under control in the vulnerable areas and hold the election peacefully.

380 centres in Kurigram sensitive

UNB, Kurigram

Some 603 polling centres have been set up in nine upazilas of the district for the October 1 general election and of them 380 were said to be sensitive.

Of the sensitive centres, 81 are in Nageswari, 52 in Bhurungamari, 57 in Sadar, 19 in Fulbari, 43 in Rajarhat, 57 in Ulipur, 31 in Chilmar, 35 in Roumari and five in Rajibpur upazilas, officials said.

Voters up by 25 pc in Rangpur

UNB, Rangpur

The number of voters increased by about 25 per cent in the district to reach 15.49 lakh as against 12.36 lakh in the previous election.

Of the total, 7.9 lakh are males and the rest are female, District Election Office sources said. The number of polling centres stood at 666 including 140 new ones in eight upazilas of the district. Of the total, 190 centres were identified as vulnerable. Some 41 candidates including Awami League chief and former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina are contesting from six constituencies of the district.

Two killed in Gaibandha road mishap

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

At least two persons died and 30 injured in a road accident at Domarhat on Gaibandha-Sundarganj highway on Wednesday afternoon.

One dead was identified as Abdul Hannan, 30, who died on the spot. Another unidentified died on way to Sundarganj clinic. Witnesses said the accident occurred when a running truck carrying election campaigners hit a roadside tree as one of its wheels burst. The truck was being used for the election campaigns of Hafizur Rahman who is contesting with 'Cycle' symbol violating the election rule. The injured were admitted to Sundarganj clinic and condition of five of them were stated to be critical. The driver of the truck fled away immediately after the accident. A case was lodged with Sundarganj thana in this regard.