

AL candidate for Moulvibazar-3 violating poll code of conduct, allege BNP leaders

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

The leaders of Moulvibazar BNP have alleged that the Awami League (AL) candidate for Moulvibazar-3 (Sadar-Rajnagar) constituency Md Azizur Rahman and his supporters had been violating the election code of conduct indulging in terrorist activities.

They alleged that apprehending defeat in election the AL candidates including its leaders and workers have resorted to attacking the BNP supporters throughout different areas of this constituency. They are also lodging false cases against the BNP workers, BNP leaders informed.

The BNP leaders have brought these allegations at a press conference at Moulvibazar Press Club on Thursday. General Secretary of Moulvibazar BNP Advocate Juned Ahmed, former district president of the party and former member of parliament (MP) Begum Khaleda Rabbani and several upazila BNP General Secretary Moazzem Hussain Matuk were present there and replied to the questions of journalists.

12,000 enclaves voters unlikely to cast votes

UNB, Lalmonirhat

About 12,000 voters of 12 enclaves of Lalmonirhat and Kurigram districts are unlikely to cast their votes in the upcoming general elections like last two elections.

Officials sources said Election Commission has failed to secure permission from the Indian authority for preparing the voter lists of these enclaves like that of 1990 and 1995.

Though a small number of voters cast their votes by coming into the Bangladesh territory escaping the eyes of the Indian security forces in 1991 election on the basis of the prepared list of 1983. But none was able to cast vote in 1996 election as

the authority cancelled the voter list of 1983.

The Bangladesh authority has repeatedly been denied to go to these enclaves through the Indian land for giving them scope to prepare new voter list.

As per the 1983 voter list, 5,517 including 2,469 females were eligible in four enclaves of Lalmonirhat and eight enclaves of Kurigram district.

The number has increased to at least 7,000 by this year, but the Indian authority repeatedly denied giving permission to pass the Indian land.



(Left) Awami League activists at Louhajang upazila in Munshiganj campaigning with plastic made 'boat', poll symbol of the party while (right) supporters of BNP candidate at Masadgaon in the same upazila of the district are seen campaigning with their election symbol 'sheaf of paddy' on board a country boat. Electioneering has reached its peak all over the country as the election day knocks at the door.

NEWS SNAPS

15 hurt by BNP supporters in Munshiganj

UNB, Munshiganj

Some 15 villagers were injured in an attack by the activists of a political party at Charshilmandi village in Sadar upazila on Saturday.

Police said some 200 BNP supporters swooped on the village following a clash with Awami League supporters over bringing out a procession there. They fired several gunshots, ransacked 2-3 houses and two shops and torched another shop during the attack. Two of the injured identified as class X student Shahid, 15, and Idrish, 25, of the village were sent to Dhaka for treatment. Later police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

AL-Alliance clash leaves 16 injured

UNB, Bagerhat

Activists of Awami League (AL) and four-party alliance locked in a clash at Madrasah road in Mongla Saturday night leaving 16 people including a police official injured.

Police said the clash ensued following an attack on the women procession of AL by the alliance activists at Kumarkhal in the evening. Fifteen supporters of both the groups and the CC of the local thana sustained injuries in the clash. Ten of them were admitted to different clinics.

New technique to win voters' heart

UNB, Rajbari

With the October-1 election coming closer, candidates of different parties are busy adopting new techniques to win the hearts of voters who include sex-workers of the red light area.

The candidates of Rajbari-1 constituency have already started communicating the members of retarded families and the sex workers of brothels to get their support in the election. A sex worker preferring anonymity said the candidates always come to them seeking votes but they would cast their votes on assurance of their better living. About 1,000 disabled people and 910 sex workers of Daulatdia are voters in the district. While visiting the brothels situated on the bank of the river Padma it was found that the two main political parties have set up separate election camps in the area.

BNP-AL consensus to restore peace

UNB, Faridpur

BNP and Awami League (AL) have reached a consensus to restore peace in the troubled Nagarkanda upazila at a fruitful meeting.

Presided over Deputy Commissioner AKM Abdul Awal of Faridpur, the meeting held on Sunday was attended by AL candidate for Faridpur-2 constituency Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, agent of BNP candidate AKM Obaidur Rahman, Brigadier General John Gomej and Police Super Shah Alam Shikdar. During the meeting, the two main political parties agreed to strictly obey the election code of conduct, refrain from attacking and showing intolerance to each other. BNP also withdrew its demand for withdrawal of Police Super at the meeting.

19 running for JS from Jhenidah

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

A total of 19 candidates are running for the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) from four constituencies of Jhenidah.

Of them four are contesting from Jhenidah-1 constituency and five each from Jhenidah-2, Jhenidah-3 and Jhenidah-4 constituencies, according to the district election office sources.

Alamgir Hossain is contesting from Jhenidah-1 (Sailkupa) constituency with the symbol of Sickle. He was nominated by the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) under the alliance of eleven party.

M Abdul Wahab is vying from Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) with the symbol 'Sheaf of Paddy'.

M Atiar Rahman Khan of Jatiya Party (JP) Ershad is contesting with the symbol 'Plough'.

M Abdul Hai of Awami League (AL) is contesting with the party symbol 'Boat'.

From Jhenidah-2 seat Jhenidah and Harinakundu Tahera Begum Joli of Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD), is contesting with the symbol 'Lock'. Nur-e- Alam Siddique of AL is also fighting with party symbol 'Boat'. Jalal Uddin Ahmed of JP (Ershad) is fighting from the seat with 'Plough' symbol.

Voters in 3 CHT UZs fear PCJSS attacks

UNB, Bandarban

Scared by possible attacks by anti-election elements, candidates of the October 1 general election could not yet gear up their electioneering in three upazilas (UZs) of the district.

Voters in the three upazilas Thanchi, Ruma and Roangchhari are reluctant to join election campaign apprehending attacks by PCJSS members boycotting the election.

Meanwhile, Parbatiya Chittagong Jano Sanghat Samity (PCJSS) circulated posters throughout the district urging the people to make their September 21 anti-election rally a success.

The candidates of the trouble-torn upazilas have urged the Divisional Commissioner for giving them police protection.

The Divisional Commissioner was learnt to have assured them of giving police protection only when all political parties will hold meetings in one upazila at a time.

Polls motivation campaign in Khagrachhari

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

The district information office has taken massive campaign for maximum turnout of voters in the coming October 1 general election.

The district information office is learnt to have been using loud speakers, playing audio cassettes, displaying information placards and videotapes, songs and open discussions to encourage people to come and vote.

In Khagrachhari there are 3,25,327 enlisted voters which is 39,202 more than the last voter list in the district. The election office here also said that the voter list includes 1,69,684 male voters and the rest 1,55,643 are female voters. Most of the newly enlisted voters are refugees returning from India. About 60,000 refugees returned home until now.

The total number of voting centres in the district is 157. Out of those 14 have been identified as highly vulnerable and 33 vulnerable. Six of the centres are most inaccessible. They are: Koyiachhari in Ramgarh, Manarathara in Dighinala and Barmachhari, Kuturchhari and Kutchhari in Luxmichhari.

For these centres the election commission would use helicopters for transporting officials and election related goods on the election day.

Rangamati blast: Another succumbs to injuries

UNB, Ctg

Another man, injured in an explosion in Rangamati district town last week, died at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) recently, raising the death toll to three.

Nasirullah alias Arif, 35, was among the four injured in the explosion that occurred while they were making bombs at Dreamland Hotel in the town.