



Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee formed a human chain in the city yesterday calling on all voters to reject religious fanatics and anti-liberation forces in October 1 polls.

Caretaker admin fails to ensure neutral polls atmosphere: AL

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League leaders have ridiculed the caretaker administration and election commission for its failure in taking steps against activists of the BNP-Jamaat clique who have attacked and killed one Awami League activist after another.

Briefing newsmen at its election conducting office at Dhammudi yesterday afternoon, they alleged that no step was taken to ensure a peaceful election atmosphere despite repeated reminders to the caretaker government and election commission.

Strongly protesting and condemning the killing of six AL men in Faticchhari by BDR jawans, the AL leaders alleged that instead of taking steps to restore normalcy, BDR personnel had indiscriminately fired gunshots on protest AL men, killing six of them.

They also alleged the situation had further deteriorated when BDR jawans arrested and confined candidate Rafiqul Anwar in their camps and also threatened to kill him.

AL leaders demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of those involved in the killings.

Addressing the briefing, secretary of the AL Election Coordination Committee Mozaffar Hossain Palu said that the anti-liberation

forces led by BNP were killing his party men because they had sensed their sure defeat in the election.

Raising question about the neutrality of some election observation organisations including FEMA, he demanded the list and identity of 70,000 observers to whom Asian Foundation had provided accreditation cards.

He asked the caretaker administration to inquire as to why former minister and AL candidate Kalparanjan Chakma had opted to stay away from the election. He said Kalparanjan had failed to play a neutral role.

AL leader Abdul Mannan strongly condemned the killing of Munshiganj town AL president Jalal Ahmed. He alleged that armed cadres of the four-party nominee Abdul Hai shot him dead inside his house.

He also alleged that BTV was giving more coverage to anti-liberation forces than those belonging to various pro-liberation organisations. "BTV broadcast news on Pakistani collaborators and anti-independence Muslim League, but did not telecast news of Mukti Joddha Sangsad and Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee.

Among others Syed Ahmad, Munem Sarkar and Ataur Rahman Kaiser were present at the briefing.

314 arrested, 22 firearms seized

BSS, Dhaka

Police seized 22 firearms, 36 others types of arms and 37 bullets on the 74th day of their countrywide combing operation, official sources said yesterday.

Police also arrested 814 persons including 10 listed terrorists from across the country during the last 24 hours ended at 6 am.

Of the arrested, 358 are already wanted by the police and the other 422 are accused in cases

under investigation.

The identified terrorists arrested by the combined force are - Mohammed Wasim of Patuakhali, Mizanur Rahman alias Major of Maherpur, Mohabat Hossain alias Kupan of Rajbari, Mohammed Jasimuddin of Bholia, Hafez Mohammad Sakur and Fazlul Kabir of Chittagong, Imman of Cox's Bazar, Sohel of Brahmanbaria and Abdul Aziz alias Aizza and Alhaj Abdul Nabi Ladu of Chittagong city.

A gang of muggers stopped him as he reached Baghbani at Uttar Jatrabari. They asked to hand over his valuables to the gang. They stabbed him in the eye and took away Tk. 10,000 from him.

Babul was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital in a critical state.

The law enforcing agencies also seized 25 explosives from across the country of which DMP police recovered four Barisal police recovered other 20 explosives in abandoned state during the time.

Of the seized arms, each three by DMP and Munshiganj police, four by Cox's Bazar police, five by Comilla police and rest seven by other districts of the country during the time.

ReadyCash Raffle Draw Winners

The latest ReadyCash Raffle draw was held at Keyeva Fast Food, American Fresh Chicken and Sea-Shell Restaurant in Tongi, Uttara on Thursday, says a press release.

Mahbub Alam, respective proprietor of the shop, SK Tawhid and Jewel, respective managers of the shops, chose the winners in a lucky draw.

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Half of CU voters may not be able to cast votes

CU CORRESPONDENT

Nearly half of the voters in Chittagong University -- 1,426 voters out of total 3,376 -- may not be able to cast their votes in the October 1 general election for the closure of the university.

The university has been closed since the August 13 following a gunfight between the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) which left 20 injured.

And the resident students left their respective halls as the authorities asked them to vacate all the nine dormitories following the incident.

The BCL leaders alleged that the Shibir activists may take the advantage of the situation -- they may cast fake votes for their party nominee in Shibir-dominated Chittagong University school & college centres.

Blast at Shulla Case transferred to CID

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The bomb blast case of Shulla upazila has been transferred to the CID, a police official said yesterday.

Meanwhile, the three-member probe committee headed by the Additional District Magistrate of Sunamganj Ruhul Amin will submit its report to the Deputy Commissioner today.

According to the report, posters of 'sheaf of paddy' were found in the room of the dormitory where the blast had taken place.

On the other hand, the man who was carrying the bombs was wearing a vest with the images of 'boat' printed on it.

The BCL leaders alleged that the Shibir activists may take the advantage of the situation -- they may cast fake votes for their party nominee in Shibir-dominated Chittagong University school & college centres.

EC to send own teams to monitor polls

UNB, Dhaka

The Election Commission will send out its own monitoring teams each comprising three deputy secretaries to observe tomorrow's elections in vulnerable areas.

Officials at the EC Secretariat said the Commission has already formed 10 such inspection teams and given them the outline of their mission of observation on EC's behalf.

The members of the monitoring teams who will be representatives in the fields have been given the power of first class magistrates to take necessary action, if re-

quired.

"The teams with senior officials were formed in a bid to monitor the election in the field levels on behalf of the Election Commission exclusively," said an official at the ECS.

He said the team members will be spread over the country, but their special attention will be at vulnerable areas, marked by the Home Ministry and different intelligence agencies.

The official said the special EC inspection teams will observe the overall situation in the areas during the polling as well as the procedures of voting.

Air chief visits Rajshahi, Sylhet

BSS, Dhaka

Chief of Air Staff Air Vice-Marshall M Rafiqul Islam yesterday visited Rajshahi and Sylhet for himself the activity of the BAF personnel deployed in aid of civil administration, an ISPR press release said here.

Two BAF contingents have been deployed at Rajshahi and Sylhet airports to assist the local civil administration for smooth holding of the coming general elections.

The Air Chief asked them to discharge the duties entrusted with them by the government with devotion and sincerity.

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