

NEWS SNAPS



PHOTO: STAR Despite Parbattya Chattagram Jano Sanghota Samity's (PCJSS) movement to resist and boycott the just concluded election, a large number of hill people took part spontaneously in the poll. Voters are seen standing in queue on the election day for their turn to exercise franchise.

Baby killed on an imaginary charge!

UNB, Natore A baby has been killed brutally on an imaginary charge of attempting to kill a pregnant goat by means of occult power at Deborpara village in Lalpur. Family sources said Saidur Rahman of the village went to the wife of his co-villager Jamal Uddin with his pregnant goat Wednesday and charged her for attempting to kill his goat by occult power. He threatened her that he would kill her five-year son in retaliation. The kid, Rashed, 5, was missing from Thursday and his decomposed body was exhumed from under the ground of a sugarcane field Sunday. A case was filed with the local police and the alleged killer Saidur remained absconding since the incident.

One killed, 10 hurt in post-poll clash

UNB, Gazipur A man was killed and 10 others were injured in a post-election clash between the supporters of Awami League and BNP at Nishchintapur village of Kaliakair upazila on Saturday. The deceased was identified as Awami League supporter Moslem Uddin, 22. Villagers said the clash ensued between the two rival political parties at about 11 am over establishing supremacy in the factory area of the village. A case was filed with the police.

Businessman strangled

UNB, Faridpur A businessman was strangled allegedly by armed robbers in his own oil mill at Bhanga Bazar here on Friday night. The deceased identified as Atul Chandra Saha, 60, went to sleep at his oil mill at night, but he was found dead in the following morning. His iron safe was also found missing. Police suspect that the robbers after strangulating him to death took away Tk 25,000 and valuable documents. A case was filed.

One killed, 3 injured in road mishap

UNB, Comilla A man was killed and three others sustained injuries in a road accident in Laksam upazila of the district on Wednesday. Police and witnesses said the accident occurred on Dhaka-Ramgati Road when a speeding bus hit a baby taxi from behind killing baby taxi driver Sah Alam, 30, on the spot. The injured baby taxi passengers were rushed to Comilla Medical College Hospital. A case was filed.

Tornado victims living under open sky

UNB, Gaibandha Hundreds of tornado victims are passing their hard days under the sky in four villages of the district. The tornado that lashed the northern region on Thursday left a number of people killed and several hundreds injured. No government and non-government relief activities were visible in the district and people of at least 100 families who lost their houses were living under the sky. The affected people appealed to the authorities concerned to send dry food and arrange temporary shelter for them without further delay.

Bail petitions of Pichchi Kamal rejected

UNB, Comilla Bail petitions of top terror Kamal Uddin Chairman alias Pichchi Kamal of Muradnagar upazila in two separate cases were rejected Sunday by the district and sessions judge court. District and Sessions Judge M Kamal Uddin Mia rejected bail petitions in the murder case of Principal Hafiz Uddin of Companyganj Badiul Alam Degree College and in another arms case.

Two injured by terrorists

UNB, Laxmipur Two people including a septuagenarian were seriously injured by the terrorists in separate incidents here on Friday and Saturday. Witnesses said some terrorists beat up Ali Akbar, 70, of Fata Dharmaur village in Sadar upazila mercilessly when they failed to catch his son who was an AL activist. Akbar was rushed to the Sadar Hospital. In another incident Abdul Gani, 35, of Char Lawrence village in Ramgati upazila was beaten up by some activists of JCD following an altercation over conducting Milad on Friday night. The injured was admitted to the hospital.

Licences of 52 arms cancelled

UNB, Pabna District Administration has cancelled the licences of 52 arms for not depositing the same in the specified time fixed by the government ahead of the October 1 national election. Deputy Commissioner M Ashraf M Moqbul said they have already started issuing letter to the persons concerned regarding cancellation of their arms and also asking them to deposit those to the respective police stations. A total of 143 firearms out of licensed 195 arms were deposited till September 25, the time fixed by the government to hold the election violence-free. Action would also be taken against the persons who failed to deposit their firearms, the DC said.

Three with firearms arrested

UNB, Pabna Three people, one of them a wanted criminal, were arrested along with firearms from Shalapur village in Sadar upazila early Sunday. The arrested were identified as Mansur Ali, 30, Uzzal and Solaiman Mridha of the village. Acting on a tip-off, police raided the house of Solaiman Mridha at about 2 am and caught them along with the arms. Of them, Mansur was wanted in a number of cases, including murder and robbery.

Three held for possessing firearms

UNB, Barisal Three youths were arrested along with arms from the town on Sunday. Police arrested Quamruzzaman along with a pistol from Port Road area and Shahjada and Shaheen along with seven bottles of phensidyl and a sharp weapon from Battergali area. Another report says that a truck carrying about 12 metric tons of rice fell into the Shandhya river from a ferry at Doanika ferry-ghat on Dhaka-Barisal highway injuring three people on the same day. The Barisal-bound truck from Dhaka met the accident as the driver lost its control while entering into the ferry.

Man arrested with statue of Krishno

UNB, Rajbari A man was arrested with a statue of lord Krishno from Daulatdia launch ghat on Saturday. Police said Nasiruddin, 38, is suspected to be an active member of touchstone statue smuggling gang. A case was filed with the police.

BNP captures 11 new seats, AL loses 9 seats in N dists

JP loses 7 seats, Jamaat gains 5 seats

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Bangladesh Nationalist Party BNP has captured 11 new seats and Jamaat-e-Islami has gained five more seats in the 8th parliamentary election. Awami League (AL) secured nine seats and Jatiya Party (Ershad) (JP) own seven seats in the northern region. BNP captured 43 seats out of 72 seats in the 8th parliamentary election from 16 northern districts as against 32 seats in the 7th parliamentary election. Jamaat got six seats this time while it had only one seat in the last parliament. AL had 18 seats in the 7th parliament while in the just concluded election the party managed to get nine seats only in the new parliament. JP got 14 seats as against 21 in the last parliamentary election. BNP bagged 13 fresh seats which had been occupied by other parties in 7th parliamentary election. AL got six fresh seats, Jamaat got five seats and JP got one new seat in the 8th parliamentary election. Keeping much similarity with the 1996 parliamentary polls, this time also BNP bagged 26, out of 27 seats in the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) from Natore, Rajshahi, Naogaon Chapainawabganj, Bogra and Joypurhat, leaving the rest one seat for AL. AL regime's technocrat minister for commerce and industries Md Abdul Zaili snatched the Naogaon-5 (Sadar) seat from BNP leader Alhaj Sams Uddin Ahmed in the October 1 election while AL regime's state minister Professor Abdul Kuddus lost the Natore-4 (Gurudaspur-Borigram) seat to BNP candidate Mozammel Haque. Out of 12 parliamentary seats of Pabna and Sirajganj, nine seats were won by AL and three seats were of BNP in the 7th parliament. But this time, BNP and its ally Jamaat captured 10 seats leaving only two for AL.

Home minister of Sheikh Hasina's cabinet Mohammad Nasim faced a crushing defeat in Shirajganj-2 (sadar) and Shirajganj-3 (Royganj-Tarash) constituencies to BNP candidates Iqbal Hassan Mahmud Tuku and Abdul Mannan Talukdar respectively. Nasim, however, won the Sirajganj-1 (Kazipur) seat. Another AL stalwart Professor Abu Syed was defeated by Jamaat leader Matiur Rahman Nizami in Pabna-1 constituency. Like the 7th parliamentary election, none could destroy the JP strongholds in Rangpur and Kurigram districts this time also. Even, AL president and immediate past Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was also defeated by JP candidate Nur Muhammad Mondol at Rangpur-6 (Peerganj) constituency. However, position of JP in Gaibandha, Lalmonirhat and Nilphamari in not the same as that of the 1996 elections. In 1996, JP bagged 10, out of 11 JS seats from the districts, leaving one for Jamaat candidate Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury. Mizanur Rahman recaptured the Nilphamari-3 seat in the 8th parliamentary polls while the rest 10 seats were shared by AL, BNP and JP candidates. AL bagged four seats of Nilphamari-1 and 2, Lalmonirhat-1 and Gaibandha-2. BNP got new seats of Nilphamari-4, Lalmonirhat-3 and Gaibandha-4. JP retains the other three seats. BNP candidates Barrister Jamir Uddin Sirkar and Mojahar Hossain recaptured all the two seats of Panchagarh district. The three seats of Thakurgaon which were of AL in the last parliamentary poll, have now been shared by BNP, AL and JP candidates each. Five seats, out of six seats in Dinajpur district, were captured by AL in the last parliamentary election and one captured by BNP. This time BNP captured three seats Jamaat got two seats and AL got only one seat in Dinajpur.

Enchanting beauty of Bandarban



PHOTO: STAR Bandarban hill district is famous for its natural beauty. It may be turned into an attractive tourist spot and Bangladesh may fetch good revenue if stability prevails there. (Top left) A tribal woman is seen beside her beautiful cottage in a valley at Ruma Sadar upazila while (top right) a hilly fountain falls on the Sango river from the height of 150 feet. This fountain is popularly known as Rijik or Riju Jshiri, four-kilometre from Ruma sadar upazila. (Bottom left) Attractive Kyamalong lake, constructed by CHT Development Board. It is four-kilometre long and situated at Kuhlalong union of Bandarban Sadar upazila. (bottom right) a spring locally known as Koakhyong Jhiri in Thanchi upazila of Bandarban hill district charms everyone.

323 candidates of Rajshahi divn lose security money

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

A total of 323, out of 415 candidates in 72 constituencies of 16 districts in Rajshahi division have lost their security deposit money in the October 1 elections. Of them, six 4-party alliance candidates lost their security money. Five contested with 'shear of paddy' symbol, another with 'scale' symbol, one with 'boat' symbol, four with 'plough' symbol, 37 from 11-party alliance, 37 from 11-party candidates, 23 from JSD, 20 from

Prodhan who contested from Panchagarh-2 constituency with 'plough' symbol and Jamaat leader A T M Ajharul Islam who contested from Rangpur-2 constituency, Habibunnabi Sohel of BNP who contested from Rangpur-3 constituency, Fazole Hossain Badsha of Workers' Party who contested from Rajshahi-2 constituency and Abdus Samad, Gano Azadi League leader who contested from Chapainawabganj 3 constituency in the just concluded national elections.

Three times unlucky!

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Khulna city Awami League (AL) president advocate Manjurul Imam, 64, has been defeated thrice in the national elections. In the Parliamentary election held in 1991, Manjurul Imam was defeated by BNP candidate Sheikh Razzak Ali by a margin of 13,324 votes. In the parliamentary election held on June 12, 1996 he was again defeated by BNP candidate Sheikh Razzak Ali by a margin of 1,528 votes. In the October 1 election this year, the unfortunate city AL president has been defeated by BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia by a margin of 29,787 votes. Meanwhile, the four-party alliance has captured five, out of six seats of Parliament in Khulna district. The six seats include two in the metropolitan city. In Khulna-2 Begum Khaleda Zia has secured 91,762 votes. Her nearest rival Manjurul Imam of Awami League has bagged 61,975 votes. BNP joint secretary general and former whip Ashraf Hossain won in Khulna-3 getting 70,430 votes against his nearest rival of AL Kazi Sikander Ali Dalim who bagged 54,016 votes. Dalim was elected from here in 1996 while Ashraf Hossain was elected in the 1991 general elections. Khulna City BNP president M Nurul Islam has been elected from Khulna-4 polling 1,02,955 votes. His nearest rival former whip of Awami League Mostafa Rashidi Shuja got 80,300 votes. The Khulna-5 seat of Parliament has been won by Jamaat leader and four-party candidate Mian Golam Parwar. Principal Shah Ruhul Quddus of Jamaat has been elected from Khulna-6 as a candidate of the four-party alliance. He bagged 1,27,220 votes defeating his nearest rival of AL Sheikh Nurul Huq. Nurul Huq got 89,728 votes. Nurul Huq was elected MP in 1996, while Ruhul Quddus in the 1991 general election. Awami League won in Khulna-1 constituency. Babu Panchanon Biswas of AL bagged 78,511 votes defeating his nearest rival Amir Ejaj Khan of BNP. Amir Ejaj polled 47,522 votes. Awami League won this seat also in 1991 and 1996 national elections.

Dist correspondent of The Daily Star assaulted by BNP activists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Satkhira correspondent of The Daily Star Abu Ahmed was assaulted by BNP activists on Saturday morning. Witnesses said BNP activists numbering five halted Abu Ahmed when he was on way to Satkhira City College at about 10 am on the fateful day by a rickshaw. They abused him and assaulted physically for 'reporting against them'. They also warned him not to file news stories against them any more. Satkhira Press Club president Anisur Rahim and general secretary Bappi strongly condemned and protested the incident. District Awami League (AL) and Satkhira Muktijoddha Sangsad also condemned the assault on The Daily Star newsmen. Abu Ahmed filed a case with Satkhira Sadar thana in this connection. It is worth mentioning that the activists of Awami League and members of the minority community in Satkhira remained indoors as the BNP and Jamaat activists were threatening them. Jamaat activists have allegedly asked members of the minority community to leave the country for India for voting the AL candidates in the October 1 parliamentary election.

Rigging in 11 centres of Laxmipur-4 alleged

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Laxmipur

The district BNP president and convenor of four-party alliance Advocate Syed Shamsul Alam has alleged vote rigging in 11 centres of Laxmipur-4 constituency. Addressing a press conference he said the Awami League candidate Abdur Rob Chowdhury and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal JSD president A S M Abdur Rob adopted unfair means at those centres during election. The polling agents of BNP candidate were forced out of those centres and false votes were cast in favour of 'Boat' and 'Masha', he said. He said, if votes were not rigged at those centres, the BNP candidate would have been elected by a big margin. Polling was suspended in one centre out of 80 in the constituency. In 79 centres, BNP candidate Ashraf Uddin Nizam bagged 2,384 more votes than his nearest candidate A S M Rob. The number of vote in the suspended centre is 3,255. Shamsul Alam demanded appointment of a minister from four parliament members who were elected from the district. A minister is a common demand of the people in this neglected area, he told the journalists.