

AL lawmakers gather at Ctg from today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lawmakers of the main opposition Awami League (AL) start gathering in Chittagong City from today to launch campaign for ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury, mayoral candidate for the May 9 city corporation polls.

The lawmakers will also keep vigil on the Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) polling centres on May 9 "to prevent any attempt of rigging by the ruling alliance men".

"We will hold meetings with our local leaders and activists to gear up the campaign for Mohiuddin and closely monitor the situation at

CCC POLLS

Campaign fever grips port city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The port city is now under the grip of election fever with only five days left for May 9 Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) polls.

Rallies and gatherings with participation of party high-ups are being held every day for Awami League (AL) backed Chittagong

Nagorik Committee candidate ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury and ruling BNP-led four-party alliance candidate Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin.

Processions for electoral campaigns keep the city buzzing throughout the day while candidates remain busy in door-to-door mass contact and addressing rallies.

ised a huge gathering of CCC voters of greater Noakhali origin at the city's Muslim Institute hall yesterday to drum up support for Mohiuddin, who is also the incumbent mayor.

AL Joint Secretary General Obaidul Quader was the chief guest at the gathering where AL

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NBR asks for banking info on sixty-two taxpayers

11 film stars, 31 docs, 20 businessmen on the list

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has sought information from a number of banks about 62 of their clients including film stars, well-known doctors and entrepreneurs to detect and block any income tax evasion by them.

The move aims to verify whether the real incomes of the 11 film stars and producers, 31 physicians, 15

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Samir Uddin, left, father of garment worker Ratan Mia, and Ayesha Begum, mother of Milon, wait at the BGMEA office in the city yesterday to receive compensations for their sons' deaths in the Savar factory collapse.

Savar tragedy revisits as families get compensation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Yesterday proved another painful day in the unfolding tragedy of the Spectrum Sweater Industries Ltd. collapse, as relatives of the dead workers received compensation in return for the lost lives of their loved ones.

At an emotion-filled cheque-giving ceremony yesterday, BGMEA, on behalf of the building's owner, distributed 19 cheques of Tk 79,000 each to the relatives of 19 out of 24 workers at the BGMEA office in Karwan Bazar.

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CJ ducks SCBA sit-in for Faizee's removal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) yesterday staged a two-hour sit-in in the chief justice's entryway to the Supreme Court, demanding resignation of Additional High Court Judge Faisal Mahmud Faizee.

Chief Justice Syed JR Mudassar Husain however avoided any encounter with the demonstrators by entering his office an hour before the sit-in.

The protesting lawyers warned that if the chief justice continued to allow Faizee to conduct judicial work, the SCBA would organise a sit-in in front of the chief justice's courtroom, then go for hunger strike and even boycotting his court.

During the demonstration, the

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PHOTO: STAR

Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) takes out a procession following a two-hour sit-in at the chief justice's entryway to the court yesterday demanding removal of Additional High Court Judge Faisal Mahmud Faizee.

2 BNP, Jubo Dal leaders nabbed for extortion

2 other Karwan Bazar dons held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The police yesterday arrested a BNP leader, a central committee office bearer of Jaliyatabadi Jubo Dal and two other gangsters in the city's Tejgaon area for organised crimes, particularly violence, vandalism and extortion at Karwan Bazar.

Two of the arrestees, Lutfor Rahman alias L Rahman, unit president of BNP Dhaka Metropolitan Ward 39, and Nabi Solaiman, religious affairs secretary of BNP's youth wing, are infamous godfathers and successors to notorious criminal Pichchi Hannan,

sources said.

Tejgaon police arrested Solaiman from his house at 82/4, East Tejuri Bazar at about 1:30am and a team of Detective Branch (DB) of police nabbed Rahman from near his Nakhil Para house at around 8:30am.

Police sources and traders at Karwan Bazar, the city's largest kitchen market and a wholesale trading hub, said the two crooks have for long been abusing their political positions for racketeering.

Once close allies of Pichchi Hannan, they took over the mafia gang controlling the market after Hannan had been killed in a

'crossfire' during an operation of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) on August 6 last year.

"Their involvement in extortion is an open secret, but no-one dared to file any case against them," said the officer-in-charge of Tejgaon Police Station. Apart from a number of general diaries against them, he said, Rahman and Solaiman are accused in two extortion cases lodged with the police station in August and November last year.

The two other arrestees, Wahid Mollah and Suraj Mian alias B h a g i n a

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Commotion on border as BSF mistakenly kills Indian woman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sathkira

Indian villagers agitated at the killing of an Indian woman by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) at Ghojadanga in Basirhat Police Station under North 24 Parganas besieged the border outpost.

A BSF jawan gunned down the woman along the barbed wire fencing inside Indian territory at Ghojadanga opposite to Bhomra land port yesterday afternoon thinking her a Bangladeshi national.

Angry Indian villagers caught hold of the BSF jawan and beat him up. They besieged the Ghojadanga BSF camp and demanded punishment of the jawan for the killing.

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27 killed in Pak building collapse

AFP, Lahore

At least 27 people died and several others were trapped yesterday when gas cylinders exploded and flattened a building housing an ice cream factory in the Pakistani city of Lahore, officials said.

Rescuers desperately searched for survivors buried in the rubble of the four-storey block in a residential suburb of the eastern city, which also contained tenements, as heavy cranes lifted huge concrete slabs.

"I heard a deafening bang, then it seemed like the world fell in on me and then I passed out," Mohammad

Mushtaq, 20, an employee at the ice cream factory, told AFP at the scene.

Mushtaq, who suffered superficial facial injuries, added: "The next thing I knew I was being pulled out of the rubble by rescuers several hours later."

Police said a truck was offloading the gas cylinders when the explosion happened at around 3:00 am (2200 GMT) in the densely populated Allama Iqbal Town area of Lahore. The truck and a nearby car were both obliterated.

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11-year-old girl raped, killed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Unidentified miscreants allegedly raped and strangled a schoolgirl to death in the city's Sheikhpura area yesterday.

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Prayer Timing		
May 4		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-15	4-50
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-31	6-35
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation