

Moitree man killed in BCL attack

14 injured; Rajshahi polytechnic closed indefinitely; BCL expels 8 culprits

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A leader of Chhatra Moitree of Rajshahi Polytechnic Institute unit was killed in an attack by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) men over establishing supremacy on the campus forcing the authorities to close the institute for an indefinite period.

The Rajshahi City unit BCL dissolved the Polytechnic Institute unit committee of BCL and expelled its eight men including institute unit BCL President Nizam Uddin and General Secretary Saddam Hossain Tushar in connection with the attack.

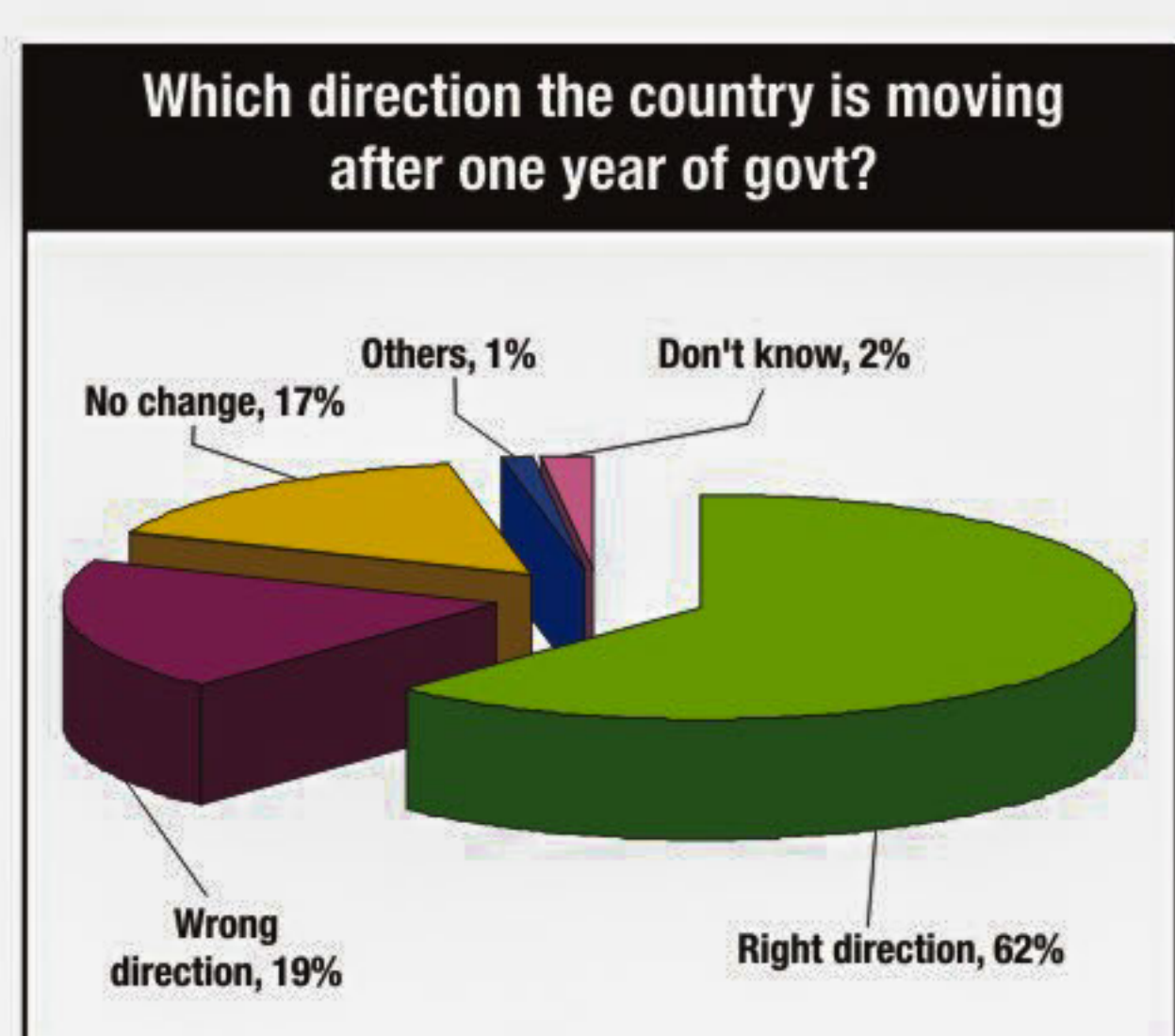
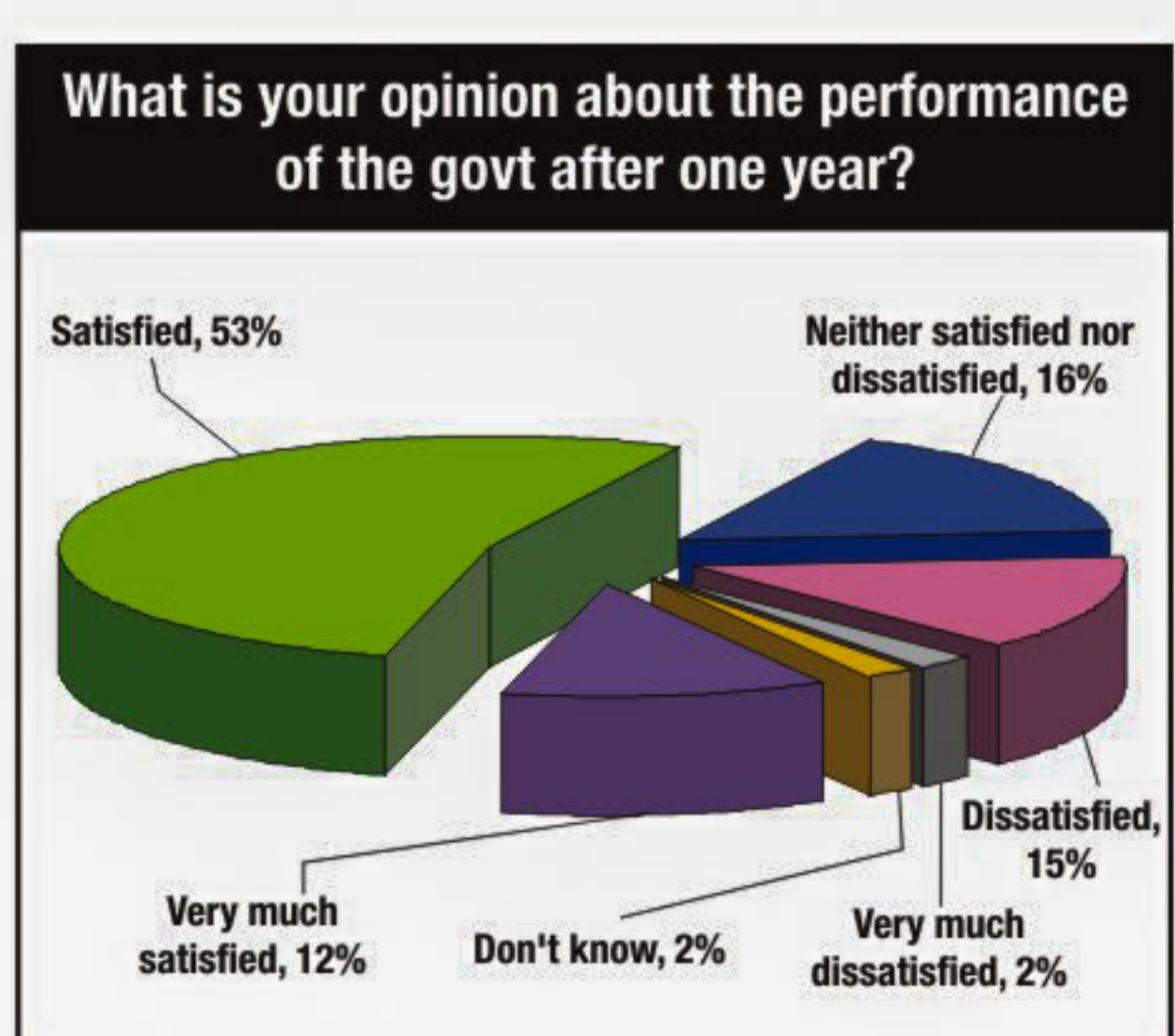
Four people including two policemen were injured during the attack on the campus while another ten people also injured in a clash between the two groups following the death.

Rezanul Islam Chowdhury Sunny, 22, the institute unit Moitree vice-president, succumbed to his fatal head injuries at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) around 4:30pm.

Sunny, son of Monwarul Islam Chowdhury, Motihar thana Awami League's information affairs secretary and Shamima Monwar, acting vice president of the city Mohila AL, was the student of Computer department of the institute.

Police quoting Moitree leaders and witnesses said a group of BCL men equipped with sharp weapons swooped on Moitree leaders Sunny, Jewel and Bulbul in front of the administrative building.

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The Daily Star-nielsen opinion poll

Govt still rides high on popular support

Respondents praise law and order improvement, lament inflation

STAR REPORT

The government still enjoys significant popular support with high approval rating for the prime minister, and favourable opinion about the government's efficiency including maintenance of law and order.

However, the massive mandate with which the government came to power a year ago looks eroded to some extent, a DailyStar-Nielsen opinion poll reveals.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina scored impressively high in approval rating outshining the popularity of her government.

Khaleda Zia as the opposition leader scored a much lower rating than her archrival Hasina.

The survey found an unusually high percentage of the people who did not know about any success or failure of the government. This testifies to a general failure of both the government and opposition to communicate with the people.

The survey was conducted between December 17 and 25 last year among 3,050 respondents, all above 18 years of age. They were interviewed at 180 spots.

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Bangladesh opener Imrul Kayes flicks the ball off his pads during his solid knock of 70 in their Idea Cup match against India at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

No Teesta deal during PM's trip

Dipu Moni says 3 agreements, 2 MoUs to be signed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

No deal on sharing the water of Teesta river will be signed during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's upcoming visit to India, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni told reporters at a media briefing yesterday.

She, however, hoped that progress will be made towards signing of the deal during the two prime ministers' official talk scheduled for January 11.

"We are not expecting the deal during this trip. But progress will be made in this regard as we expect a meeting of the Joint Rivers Commission soon," Dipu Moni said as she announced the details of the prime minister's (PM) tour schedule in New Delhi.

Her statement came two days after the secretaries concerned of Bangladesh and India, following a secretary level talk of the Joint Rivers Commission (JRC), had said they had 'narrowed down' their differences on sharing the water of Teesta, and will continue efforts to 'expedite' a deal.

The Bangladesh foreign minister yesterday said there had been no discussion on sharing the Teesta water over the last six to seven years. "Talks in this regard kicked off a few days ago. The secretary-level talks did make headway," she added.

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High hopes on 2,600MW power deal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

An agreement under which India will fund two power plants in Bangladesh will be signed during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to India that will help boost relations between the two countries.

India will contribute to the construction of the power plants with the capacity of 1,300 megawatts (MW) each, said Bangladesh Power Development Board Chairman A S M Alamgir Kabir at the 3rd Japan-Saarc Energy Symposium.

"We have planned to set up two coal-based power plants in Bangladesh," he said.

However, Kabir did not

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Circus back to shut classes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A circus show and trade fair in the grounds of Rangpur Zilla School has reopened after temporarily closing due to complaints from the school community.

Members of the school claim that the circus and fair, which was organised by the Rangpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI), is disrupting the school's activities and curtailing the

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Dhoni dashes Tigers' hopes

SPORTS REPORTER

A much-improved batting display was not enough for the Tigers to secure their third success against India as MS Dhoni stood tall with his seventh hundred to shrug off the host's best score with a six-wicket victory in the Idea Cup tri-nation tournament at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

The victory maintained the propensity of the team batting second chasing down any target as dew played havoc with the efforts of the bowling team. India proved that mantra again, recovering from an early hiccup, but they must thank Bangladesh captain Shakib Al Hasan who took a surprise decision to field first after winning the toss although 'win the toss, bat, win the game' had almost become a motto in the tournament due to the dew factor.

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2001 JS POLLS Judicial body formed to probe violence

UNB, Dhaka

The government has formed a three-member judicial inquiry commission to investigate the incidents of violence following the 8th parliamentary elections in 2001.

"The commission has been constituted as per directive of the High Court for unearthing the causes of the incidents and identifying those involved," an official announcement said yesterday.

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