

## Jamaat men

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procession and continued the vandalism causing traffic congestion on Port Connecting Road, Agrabad Access Road and Sheikh Mujib Road.

Armed with firearms, other weapons and sticks, they also damaged windowpanes of roadside shops and commercial establishments.

Besides, the activists attacked passengers of city service buses while they were fleeing for safety.

The sudden aggression created panic among the city people at Halishahar and Boropole, police sources said.

However, a mob of transport workers, pedestrians and affected people put up resistance around 5:10pm to stop Jamaat men doing any further destruction, said traffic constable Pradip who was on duty at Baropole intersection at that time.

The mob chased the activists when the procession reached near the district police lines, said Sub-Inspector Zakir of Halishahar Police Station. The activists fired one shot and threw stones at the mob,

injuring a few, said the SI who was among the injured.

A few Jamaat men entered Sambolai Singapore Market and a mosque opposite to the police lines while escaping from the attack, and police and Rab members picked up around 41 people from the places, he said.

One Abu Bakar was shown arrested with a firearm, he mentioned.

Locals claimed that most of the detainees were innocent and the culprits had managed to flee the scene.

Three cases were filed with Double Mooring Police Station in this connection.

**ARREST IN BARISAL**  
Police yesterday arrested 13 people when activists of Jamaat-e-Islami held a protest rally as part of their central programme in launch ghat area of the district.

On information, the police rushed to the spot but the demonstrators were trying to bring out a procession despite police resistance.

An elderly man, identified as Abdul Manna, 60, was injured when the police charged batons on the demonstrators.

## Mobin

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Third Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Ali Hussain passed the order after Ramna police produced him before the court with the prayer of a seven-day remand for him.

Defence lawyers submitted a bail petition saying their client's name was not included in the first information report (FIR) of the case. He was later implicated in the case as part of a conspiracy against him, they added.

The BNP leader was shown arrested in the murder case soon after another Dhaka court on June 30 granted him bail in the case filed with Gulshan police station for assaulting the police.

Police said they wanted to find out clues to the heinous offence that killed a driver. The court, however, fixed yesterday for hearing on the remand prayer in his (Mobin) presence.

The driver, Faruque Hossain suffered burns on 60 percent of his body as criminals torched his car on June 26 and died at the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) on July 1.

Shamsher Mobin, arrested on the day of hartal, was taken on a day's remand on June 28 on charges of obstructing police from discharging their duties and vandalising vehicles during the strike called by the opposition BNP.

Jamaat Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami, its Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojahid, Nayeb-e-Ameer Delwar Hossain Sayedee, BNP leader Mirza Abbas were also shown arrested in the case.

## 5 Bangladeshis

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Later, locals asked the BDR men to force the intruders to go back to India. But the border guards expressed their inability to do anything without instructions from headquarters.

The villagers chased the intruders shortly after 11:30am and forced them to go back to India.

Later, Indian Khasias again intruded into Bangladesh territory and started tilling farmlands. When a group of villagers chased them, they opened fire on the villagers while retreating to the Indian side of the border.

Injured Nur Mohammad, 45 and Kayes Ahmed of Kendri village and Abdul Mannan, 22, and Kamal Hossain, 24, of Assampara Adarsha village were admitted to Osmani Medical College Hospital while Delwar Hossain of Assampara to Jaintapur upazila health complex.

Of them, Kayes was in a critical condition.

Agitating villagers later put barricades on the Sylhet-Bamali Highway near the Sripur border shortly after 2:30pm, protesting BDR's inaction on preventing Indians from intruding into Bangladesh territory.

Vehicular movement was restored on the highway at about 4:30pm.

Maj Abdullah Al-Mamun, second-in-command of the 21 Rifles Battalion, said they repeatedly urged officials of Indian Border Security Force to prevent Indian nationals from intruding into Bangladesh territory but they did not pay any heed to the request.

"We don't know what they are talking about when they say progress," the official told AFP on condition of anonymity.

"We are not aware of any progress and we have not been informed of any progress. There is no law to bring persons who defy national flag or anthem to book," he said after the cabinet meeting.

Law enforcers could not take measures against those who have no respect for the country's national flag and anthem or do not hoist the flag on different national days since there was no law, he said adding that the cabinet approved the act so that law can take its own course to stop this.

Law Minister barrister Shafiqe Ahmed on June 22 said in parliament that there is no legal basis for hoisting flags of other countries in Bangladesh, as one can see these days, for supporting the teams in World Cup Football.

Barrister Shafiqe, however, told the House that the government has no plan to take action against the youths who hoisted flags of their favourite countries, as this is a 'sensitive' matter.

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## Alamgir acquitted

FROM PAGE 1

He said there was no sanction of ACC on filing the case against his client, since the posts of the chairman and two members of the commission were vacant on February 18, 2007 when its secretary issued the letter.

The counsel said the caretaker government had promulgated an ordinance giving legitimacy to issuance of such notices by the ACC secretary. Since the present government has not ratified it, the notices ceased to have effect, he added.

"The Anti-Corruption Commission has pursued the case against Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir till the highest court. The commission did not make any compromise," said ACC Chairman Ghulam Rahman.

"It's the duty of court to deliver justice and I think Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir has received justice," he added.

Regarding 50 other similar cases, he said, "The verdict might have an impact on the cases that involve issuing of notices, particularly the cases regarding amassing wealth beyond known sources of income."

ACC counsel Advocate Khurshid Alam Khan told this correspondent the SC order will make a great impact on many of the appeals filed by the accused with the HC against the lower courts' verdicts.

The accused of around 80 such cases will get benefit from the apex court order, he said, adding that he can say details after obtaining the copy of the order.

Asked about the consequences of the SC order, renowned lawyer Barrister Ajmal Hossain QC told The Daily Star all the verdicts by the special judge's courts that handed down 10 and three years' jail terms to the accused in each of the ACC cases will now reverse.

Such sentences were given after the 1/11 changeover by abusing power, which proved the failure of ACC to curb corruption, he commented.

ACC Deputy Director Jibon Krishna Roy filed the case with Tejgaon Police Station on March 6, 2007, accusing Alamgir of making a huge fortune through misuse of power and concealing information in the wealth statement submitted to the ACC.

Judge Shahed Noor Uddin of Special Court-3 set up at the MP Hostel in Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban complex on July 26, 2007 sentenced Alamgir to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment under section 27 (1) of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004 for amassing around Tk 3.27 crore through misuse of power.

Alamgir was sentenced to three years in prison under section 26 (2) of the ACC Act, 2004 for concealing in his wealth statement information about six fixed deposits worth Tk 1.17 crore.

Alamgir had filed an appeal with the HC challenging the trial court verdict.

Advocate MA Aziz Khan appeared for ACC.

## Target DAP, Rajuk

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Two of the five coordinators of the committee -- AS Sirazul Islam, a local businessman, and Abdul Kader -- were also present at the office of the UP chairman.

They said they did not get any notice from Rajuk about the DAP or the satellite town. But the rumour of losing lands due to DAP made them worried.

"Land prices are very high in Gazipur now. If the government acquires land, we will lose our homesteads and won't even get the market price," said Sirajul.

Denying any link with Saturday's vandalism, Sirajul, a coordinator of the committee, blamed Rajuk Chairman Nurul Huda for the incident.

"The chairman and officials of Rajuk conspired against the people of Gazipur and staged the agitation to pin the blame on us," he said.

Law enforcement agencies are convinced that a vested quarter instigated people to take to the streets and vandalise over 200 vehicles and a garment factory.

Abdur Rashid, officer-in-charge of Joydevpur Police Station, said they were trying to find out whether anything else rather than a rumour resulted in the event.

"We believe that only a rumour could not lead to such confusion and chaos. We are looking for the persons, who spread the rumour and instigated violence," he said.

Several thousand people from Basan and Gachha unions took part in the protests on Saturday.

Locals said they collected a two-page project proposal on the satellite town from Rajuk office.

"We got the document from Rajuk," said Abdul Kader, member of Basan union parishad.

Commenting on the docu-

ment, Rajuk Chairman Nurul Huda said the proposal had been drafted long ago but was cancelled later.

A rumour led to the agitation in Gazipur, he said.

"Rajuk did not issue any gazette notification about the satellite town. It has no plan to acquire land in Basan or Gachha union," said the Rajuk chairman.

But the locals and their representatives were fed with misleading information.

Local political leaders backed the mob that staged protest against the DAP.

Awami League lawmakers Zahid Ahsan Russel and AKM Mozammel Haq played a dubious role during the agitation on Saturday. They both encouraged the unruly mob to stage demonstrations instead of controlling it.

Russel, lawmaker from Gazipur-2, said the government published separate gazette notifications on the satellite town and the DAP. It created fear that the government would acquire land for the project in the area.

However, the Rajuk chairman rejected it as a rumour. There is no link between the DAP and the satellite town.

He said the government plans to build four satellite towns on four sides of Dhaka to ease the pressure on the densely populated city. It is still in primary stage.

A Rajuk team is working to find suitable places for the project, which will not affect people that much. Government land will be preferred for the project, said the Rajuk chairman.

A vested quarter is misleading people about the DAP saying Rajuk will acquire an area of 590 square kilometres.

## Semifinalists get rest

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Valdez's 41st-minute goal in Saturday's 1-0 quarterfinal loss to Spain and made reference to FIFA's apologies to England and Mexico earlier in the tournament after errors contributed to their elimination.

"FIFA will apologise tomorrow and everything will be fine," Martino said sarcastically.

But FIFA spokesman Pekka Odriozola said Sunday that FIFA had received no report or complaint about the comments, which came immediately after Paraguay's first ever World Cup quarterfinal.

David Villa's fifth goal of the tournament carried Spain through to their first ever World Cup semifinals and what should be a thrilling meeting with Germany.

Germany's Miroslav Klose celebrated a century of international appearances by raising his World Cup goal haul to 14 -- one less than record-holder Ronaldo of Brazil with a third-place play-off or final to come after facing Spain.

It is a match worthy of a final, but only a can make it to the showpiece at Soccer City and a possible audience with Mandela.

Mandela was prominent at the 1995 Rugby World Cup but the 91-year-old former president has kept a low profile

## Nizami

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alleged links with the planned violence to foil war crimes trial, and with militants.

A senior police official, who is on the interrogation team, said they would also verify some information already gleaned from Jamaat Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojahid and Nayeb-e-Ameer Delwar Hossain Sayedee.

Nizami is being interrogated in a case filed with the city's Paltan Police Station for attacking law enforcers and obstructing their work in February. Mojahid and Sayedee have already been interrogated in the case, and are being quizzed in another case filed with the same police station against the trio on February 12 for obstructing the president's motorcade.

Seeking anonymity, the police official said, "They are preparing to show the three Jamaat leaders arrested in two cases filed against JMB chief Saidur Rahman in connection with recovery of explosives from his den in the city in May."

Saidur, now in Narayanganj jail, has already divulged some information regarding links between Jamaat and the banned Jama'at ul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB).

The official said they have already collected call list of Saidur's cell phone, and found that a number of top leaders of Jamaat had contacted him by cell phone.

A police team took Nizami to the office of the detective branch of police from Dhaka Central Jail yesterday afternoon for interrogation.

He is also remanded for three days just as Mojahid and Sayedee in the case filed for obstructing the motorcade of the president.

The case statement said some 1,500 to 1,600 activists of Jamaat and its front organisations, nine of them identified, blocked the road at Fakirpool, obstructing the president's scheduled visit to a place. They also attacked police, who tried to disperse them, causing injuries to some law enforcers.

The three Jamaat leaders were arrested on June 29 and shown arrested in eight cases. They were also remanded for 16 days in five of those cases.

## 2,000 sued

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Police also produced the arrestees before court seeking to place them on a seven-day remand, the OC added.

A rumour that Rajuk was acquiring land to build Gazipur Satellite Town was spread on Saturday. The rumour led thousands of locals to vandalise over 200 vehicles, put up barricades on roads for hours, torch a garment factory and attack the law enforcers.

Police said they were looking into if there was any provocation behind the violence.

"We believe only a rumour could not make locals to act in such a violent way", the OC said adding that "We are looking for those who provoked the violence by spreading rumour."

## Accept both MRP

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She mentioned that almost all countries which introduced MRP faced similar problems and passed through a transition period to replace the hand written passports.

Bangladesh authorities are trying their best to expedite the transition process, the foreign minister said.

The envoys of Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Libya, Iraq, Iran, Egypt, Malaysia, the Maldives and South Korea attended the meeting with the foreign minister.

And they agreed to convey Bangladesh government's request to the authorities of their respective countries.

Talking to journalists later, the foreign minister said passport problem being faced in the UAE will be resolved soon. The Bangladesh ambassador will have a meeting with the UAE authorities today (Tuesday) to sort out the problem.

Replying to a question, she said Bangladesh missions abroad have not started issuing MRPs since it requires machines and other equipment.

Dipu Moni told another questioner that the authorities continued to issue hand written passports only in emergency cases initially with one-year validity. Since this led to problems, the home ministry increased the validity period from one year to two and three years, she added.

Foreign Secretary Mijarul Quayes was present at the meeting and also briefed the envoys.

## AL men ransack Jamaat office in Barisal

A CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Activists of ruling Awami League (AL) and its front organisations yesterday ransacked and 'set fire' on inventories of Jamaat-e-Islami's Hizla upazila office, alleged the upazila Jamaat Ameer Maulana Abul Hashem.

The ruling party men, who brought out a procession demanding trial of war criminals in the town, went on the rampage around 11:00am, he said.

Maulana Hashem, also the chairman of Gobindapur union parishad, said that the AL activists chanted provocative slogans from the procession led by Hizla upazila chairman and AL secretary Sultan Mahmud Tipu before attacking the Jamaat office.

The attackers broke the lock to enter the office and looted valuables before they ransacked religious books, furniture and documents and set fire on them, the Jamaat leader alleged adding that all these took place in front of police.

Upazila Awami League leader Sultan Mahmud Tipu, however, denied any attack

being carried out by any one participating in the procession although the admitted leading the procession demanding trial of the war criminals.

"We did not even go up to the Jamaat office. We stopped short due to rain," he told The Daily Star.

Asked who might have done this, Tipu said Jamaat men themselves or locals might have done this.

Hizla police station Office in Charge (OC) Rafikul Hossain acknowledged the account of ransacking the Jamaat office but denied that there was any incident of looting or setting fire on anything.

Police controlled the situation, he told The Daily Star.

Jamaat-e-Islami used to use it as an office that had a signboard inscribing Bakibullah Smrity Pathagar (library) under an Islamic Foundation project, the OC said.

Prof Abdul Jabbar, Jamaat's district Ameer of Barisal (east) condemned the attack and demanded arrest and punishment of those involved although no cases was filed at the time of filing this report at about 10:30 last night.

## Businessman

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Of the five, two were arrested with Babul's two rented auto rickshaws.

Family members and neighbours say over the last six months Babul used to drive a CNG-run auto rickshaw and hire out other two.

**FAMILY AND LOCALS' VERSION**  
Suva said, "Babul and Masud [mechanic] together went to a tea stall in Madhubagh in the evening. Around 11:00pm Masud returned alone and said SI Altaf arrested Babul in front of telephone office and took him to Nayatola police outpost."

She added, "I immediately went to Ramna Police Station around 11:30pm where a policeman informed me that Babul was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital as he sustained injury in his head."

Asked by the policeman around 2:00am, she called SI Altaf, who asked her to come to DMCH.

As she went to DMCH, SI Altaf grabbed her hand and assured her that he would take her responsibilities like her elder brother, she continued.

She said he uttered the words while taking her to the morgue to show her the body of Babul.

"I broke down in tears. SI Altaf took me and my niece to the police station in his car. There he requested me to sign a paper assuring me of giving me Tk 2 lakh but I denied and came back home," she said.

**ALLEGATIONS OF BRIBE**  
The family alleges SI Altaf and his colleagues beaten up Babul to death as he denied paying the money demanded by Altaf.

Suva and Setara, Babul's elder sister, said Altaf had been putting pressure on Babul for Tk 2 lakh saying he would not arrest Babul and release the two seized auto rickshaws and detained drivers Momin and Karim.

They allege Altaf realised Tk 33,000 in two instalments from Babul but eventually killed him as he denied paying further money.

Asked why Babul paid the bribe for the seized vehicles, they said the SI threatened

him with implicating him in the case.

They said they heard that an investigation committee has been formed but no-one called them in this regard.

**INVESTIGATION COMMITTEES**  
Separate committees are investigating the incidents but only Anisur Rahman was closed to Rajarbagh Police Lines, while the other accused personnel are discharging their duties.

In two other incidents, police picked up businessman Mizanur Rahman from his Badda house early Tuesday and Mujibur Hossain from Melartek Ghat in Darussalam early Thursday. Both of them died in their custody later.

Peaceful start to Mexico vote

Mexicans went to the polls Sunday to elect governors and local officials after the bloodiest electoral campaign in more than 15 years.

Voting in nearly half the country's states is expected to serve as an unofficial referendum on President Felipe Calderon's tough crackdown on drug-related violence.

The elections come less than a week after a deadly ambush on the campaign cars of Rodolfo Torre, who was tipped to win the governor's seat in Tamaulipas, for the centrist Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI).

Voting began without incident at 1300 GMT in the state on the Texas border. The slain candidate was replaced on the ballot sheet by his brother Egidio Torre.

**Nat'l Museum**  
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to suspend deputy keeper Noor-e-Nasrin, assistant keeper Saifuzzaman and security guards Dulal Mia, Abdul Karim and Alamgir Chowdhury.

Earlier, museum secretary Alam Ara Begum filed a case with Shahbagh Police Station on June 26 in connection with the heist.

Investigating officer of the case and Shahbagh thana SI Abdur Rahim told The Daily Star said that so far no one has been arrested in this connection and "the investigation is on".

He said Dr Rezaul Karim, an official of the department, recently went on LPR (leave preparatory to retirement). "He would be interrogated in this connection."

SI Rahim, however, declined to go into details "in the interest of secrecy of the case".

Talking to The Daily Star, a senior official of the museum said they noticed those artefacts missing for the last three years. But they could not go for any action due to the existing situation in the country and some high officials of the museum.

An official of the museum said that they did not see those artefacts in last three years. But the officials concerned did not check the inventory properly.

"Checking the inventory is a huge task as the number of the artefacts in the museum is over 86,000," said the director general.

## Living in danger

FROM PAGE 16

Fifty years ago, several hundred langurs lived in heavily forested areas of Jessore, Magura and Kushtia. Now different studies estimate the figure to be 200 to 400. Experts blame for the decrease on plundering of forests. The langurs survive on fruits and leaves of trees.

About ten years ago, the government started feeding the langurs and now spends Tk 1,668 for their food every day.

Two government employees distribute 71 kg of bananas, 4 kg biscuits and five and half kg peanuts to six places in Keshabpur and Manirampur.

That is once a day's feed for six of the ten groups. The rest risk their lives by intruding into human habitation for food.

Experts said langurs stray into croplands and home gardens. Between April 2008 and February 2009, five primates were killed either in direct attacks by humans or in road accidents, according to a study conducted by Mizanur Rahman, a JU Zoology student.

"Nowadays, the main problem

for the primates is conflict with humans as they [langurs] often destroy crops and trees, sometimes for food, sometimes while roaming their own territory," said Sudhir Kumar Deb Singha, a Keshabpur upazila forest officer.

The government is yet to have a plan to protect langurs from confrontations with humans. Sudhir suggested that the government should make a sanctuary for the langurs by setting aside some public land for tree plantation.

Such a sanctuary would provide them with natural food and a place to move about freely, added Asst Prof Kamrul Hasan of JU Zoology department.

Prof Anwarul Islam of Dhaka University Zoology department said, "Unless locals accept and want [to preserve the