

BNP-backed candidate, aides attacked in Jessore

Poll violation allegation against grand alliance candidate in Panchagarh

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Criminals injured the BNP-backed mayoral candidate in Harinakundo upazila town and his two aides on Wednesday while BNP-backed candidate in Panchagarh municipality yesterday alleged violation of electoral rules against Awami League-led grand alliance candidate.

Jinnatul Haq, BNP-backed mayoral candidate in Harinakundo upazila town, and his two associates were

injured in separate incidents on Wednesday, reports our Jhenidah correspondent.

Jinnatul received first aid at Harinakundo upazila health complex while seriously injured Shalok Mondol and Nazer Ali of Tithuliapara village under the upazila are undergoing treatment at the health complex.

"Shalok and I were pasting posters in front of Brac office at Tithuliapara village at around 8:30pm when some unidentified

criminals started beating us with spear and sticks. At one stage the spear pierced into my abdomen. Shalok received injuries at his leg," Nazer Ali said.

Earlier in the morning, AL activists beat up BNP mayoral candidate Jinnatul Haq, also former councillor of ward No 8 of Baithapara village of Harinakundo upazila town, when he was conducting an election campaign at Tithuliapara of the town.

He was rushed to Harinakundo health complex. He was released after first aid.

"Some 15/16 Awami League men including Faruk, Manik, Shariful Aijuddin, Patul, Sumon, Hashem, Hannan, Saifuzzaman, Jiar, Abu Bakar, Monirul, Kalu and others attacked me. They beat me with rods and sticks. At around 10:30am I went to Harinakundi police station to file a case but the OC refused to record the case and told me to meet in the afternoon," the mayoral candidate said.

"Awami League activists are trying to prevent us from asking for votes. Even we cannot go to upazila Doel Chattar due to threat by the ruling party men," said Abul Hossain, president of Harinakundo upazila unit of BNP.

On the other hand, Sajedur Rahman Tanu Mollik, joint secretary of Harinakundo upazila unit of AL, said no AL activists were involved in the attack

on BNP mayoral candidate and his men.

Our Thakurgaon Correspondent adds: Existing Mayor of Panchagarh municipality, also a BNP-backed candidate in the upcoming mayoral poll, at a press conference yesterday alleged violation of electoral rules against AL-led grand alliance candidate Md Jahirul Islam.

"Violating electoral rules, AL-led grand alliance candidate Md Jahirul Islam is campaigning with motorcade comprising 20/25 motorbikes after filing nomination on December 12. He is giving assurance to poor voters for giving rice at a cost Tk 15 per kg taking their Voter Identity Card," Touhidul Islam said at the press conference held at his Masjidpara residence in Panchagarh town.

"Jahirul Islam also makes objectionable comments against me that clearly violates electoral rules. The authority is yet to take any legal step although Ahsanul Parvez, returning officer and chief of Election Monitoring Committee, was verbally informed of the matter," he said.

When contacted, Ahsanul Parvez said there is no scope to take action until a written complaint is filed.

Denying the allegation, AL-led grand alliance candidate Md Jahirul Islam said riders on 4/5 motorbikes accompany him when he conducts workers' meeting at different places.



Workers busy at a hilsa wholesaler at Chandpur that sees huge supply of the popular fish as large catches, being netted in adjacent Padma and Meghna rivers and different areas including Bhola, Lakkhipur, Doulat Kha, Charfashion, Hatia, Dhalchar and Ramgati, are brought to the river port daily. Usually considered as an off season, the winter this year sees abundant supply of hilsa, much to the surprise and joy for fishermen and traders.

PHOTO: STAR

ELECTION fever



PHOTO: STAR

Dinajpur municipality mayoral candidate freedom fighter Md Shafiqul Haque Chhutu, also the incumbent mayor, conducts a mass contact in the town a couple of days ago.

Nilphamari: Rebels still in race

Rebel mayor candidates of both Awami League (AL) and Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) are still in poll race in two out of three municipalities in the district, reports our correspondent.

As many as 16 mayor candidates are contesting the upcoming elections to three municipalities. Of them, six are from Nilphamari municipality, seven from Saidpur municipality and the rest from Jaldhaka municipality.

In Nilphamari municipality, AL nominated district AL President Dewan Kamal Ahmed as mayor candidate. His election symbol is "wall clock". Two rebel party candidates are veteran freedom fighter AKM Aminul Haque and Joint Convener of the district unit of Muktiyoddha Santan Command Principal Anisur Rahman Rumi.

Aminul has got election symbol "pen and ink-pot" while Rumi "spectacles". Awami League has not yet taken any action against the two.

BNP nominated municipal unit president Zahurul Islam as mayor candidate. His election symbol is "television". BNP's rebel candidate Sadar upazila unit secretary Anisur Rahman Koko is in the poll race with with election symbol "pineapple".

BNP Nilphamari district unit has expelled Koko for contesting the election defying party instructions. Koko rejected his expulsion and vowed to contest.

In Saidpur municipality, AL candidate Akhtar Hossain Badal and BNP candidate Amzad Hossain Sarkar are vying for the mayoral post of the municipality. Akhtar in the poll race with his symbol "television" while Amzad with "pen and ink-pot".

Rebel AL candidate Hitler Choudhury Bhulu with election symbol "cup and plate" and rebel BNP candidate Shaheen Akhtar Shaheen with election symbol "pineapple" have started visiting the different areas of the municipality to woo voters. Both BNP and AL have not yet taken any disciplinary actions against the rebels.

Three other mayor aspirants in Saidpur municipality are Jatiya Party (JP) leader Siddiqui Alam, independent candidate Hossain Tahmid Imam and Jobayedul Islam of Bangladesh muktiyoddha Society.

In Jaldhaka municipality, three mayor candidates from three political parties are contesting the election to the municipality. No rebel candidate from any of the three parties are in the race. The mayor aspirants are upazila Jubo League President Abdul Wahed Bahadur, BNP leader Anwarul Kabir Chowdhury and Ilyas Hossain Bablu of Jatiya Party.

Pabna: Campaign begins

Mayor aspirants, councillor candidates and women candidates for the reserved seats in seven municipalities of the district have started campaign after getting election symbols, reports our correspondent. District election office (DEO) sources said 10 symbols for mayor candidates and 12 for councillor candidates have been distributed among the candidates. The candidates along with their supporters have started mass contact in the respective municipalities. Their supporters are also going door to door to woo voters.



PHOTO: STAR

Motor parts traders occupy a large portion of the road at Muradpur in Chittagong city, much to the inconvenience of pedestrians.

BAGERHAT MUNICIPAL POLL

BNP expels 2 leaders for violating party decision

UNB, Bagerhat

Two BNP leaders, contesting municipal elections in Mongla port and Morelganj as mayoral candidates violating party decision, have been expelled from the party.

They are Oliur Rahman Paltu, vice president of Morelganj pourashava BNP and Molla Abdul Jalil, vice president of Mongla pourashava BNP. District BNP general

secretary Prof Ali Reza Babu told the news agency yesterday that the party gave support to Morelganj pourashava BNP president Abdul Majid Jabbar and Mongla pourashava BNP general secretary Mohammad Julfikar Ali to contest the respective polls.

Paltu and Jalil are contesting the mayoral polls violating party decision, he said.

Under the circumstances, local BNP at a meeting on Wednesday with district BNP president MA Salam in the chair took the action against the two rebel leaders, party sources said.

The two expelled leaders, however, remained unmoved.

They said they would contest the polls despite steps taken against them by their party.

WEDNESDAY'S INCIDENT

Case, counter-case filed in Magura

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Two separate cases were filed with Magura Sadar Police Station on Wednesday night in connection with Defulia Bazar incident that left at least eight people, including acting mayor of Magura municipality Tapan Kumar Roy, injured.

Ruhul Amin, a supporter of Awami League mayor aspirant Altaf Hossain, lodged a case against Tapan Kumar Roy, also a rebel AL candidate for the post of mayor in the upcoming election to the municipality, and 17 others.

In the case, the plaintiff alleged that Tapan and his supporters attacked them

Wednesday evening when they were engaged in electioneering at Defulia Bazar in favour of AL candidate Altaf Hossain. The attackers also fired five shots, creating panic among the people, he stated in the case.

Tapan also filed a case with the police station concerned the same night against former president of district Jubo League Sohail Parvez, former president of district BCL Shakharul Ialam Shakil and eight others.

In the case, he alleged that the accused attacked him and his supporters when they went to the bazaar to meet the voters at around 5:30pm.

29 BDR mutineers jailed in B'baria

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

The Special Court-14 yesterday sentenced 29 BDR mutineers of 1 Rifles Battalion to different jail terms and also fined them Tk 100 each at Kalikatcha in Sarail upazila of Brahmanbaria.

Col SM Farhad AFWC PSC, Comilla sector commander of BDR, chaired the four-member special court at recreation hall of the 1 Rifles Battalion Headquarter while Deputy Attorney General Forhad Ahmed, BDR officials Lt Col Akhteruzzaman BP and Maj Md Maksudul Alam were members.

The court gave this verdict on the fifth working day from the start on

October 13.

Examining the document and witnesses the special court found all 29 BDR mutineers guilty. Then the court sentenced 28 BDR mutineers to rigorous imprisonment for different years and fined Tk 100 each while one was sentenced to four months imprisonment and fined Tk 100.

According to the accusation put up by Subedar Major Md Nurul Karim, 29 BDR member of the battalion revolted against their officer on February 26 in 2009 here, expressing their solidarity with the mutineers of BDR Headquarters in Pilkahna on February 25 and 26 in 2009.

NEW YEAR CELEBRATION PARTY @ 31st NIGHT

Performers: Malaysian band Hyperdrive, Balla Dancer from Abroad, & Exclusive Fashion Show

Venue: Tennis Court, Radisson Water Garden Hotel

Best DJs in town: DJ Judo, DJ Tanzil, DJ Shimonty, DJ Hridoy, DJ Jobaer, DJ Maria, DJ Himel, DJ Tonmoy

Ticket Price: Tk. 3000 WITH 2 DRINKS V.I.P.: 6500 (BUFFET DINNER WITH 2 DRINKS)

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10th Annual General Meeting of Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited

Time: 7.00 pm
Date: Sunday 26 December, 2010

Venue: Karooki Room of Aristocrat, House # 16, Road # 15, Gulshan

10th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited held in Hotel Aristocrat, Dhaka on 26th December 2010 was presided by Chairman of Board of Directors of APSCL Mr. Khan Md. Belayet Hossain. The Chairman of Bangladesh Power Development Board (PDB) Mr. ASM Alamgir Kabir and other share holders were also present in the meeting. The financial statement of FY 2009-10 was received by the share holders with a few suggestions in the meeting. It is also decided in the meeting to increase the company's authorized capital up to Tk 3000 Crore and increase the number of directors in the Board up to 11.