



PHOTO: STAR
1) Defying serious ailment, elderly Nurul Islam comes from the bed of Patuakhali General Hospital leaning on his wife and son to exercise his voting right at Kalikapur Government Primary School centre in Patuakhali municipality, 2) Female voters queue up at Shibnagar polling centre in Kaliganj municipality under Jhenidah district, 3) A tense situation was created at MA Latif polls centre as Banaripara upazila parishad chairman Golam Faruk's men attacked the supporters of Montu Lal Kundu, the mayoral candidate backed by Bangladesh Workers Party, during yesterday's poll at Banaripara municipality.

ELECTION fever

Khagrachhari: BNP expels rebel candidate in Matiranga

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) on Wednesday expelled its rebel candidate for the mayoral post of Matiranga municipality under Khagrachhari district.

The expellee is Md Badsha, general secretary of party's Matiranga municipality unit, reports a correspondent.

According to a press release issued by office secretary of Matiranga municipality BNP Md Abul Kashem, action against Badsha was taken at a joint meeting of the district, upazila and municipality units as he did not withdraw his candidature as per instruction of the party.

Contacted, Badsha said he will continue election campaign as he is the appropriate candidate for the mayoral post. BNP nominated Abu Yusuf Chowdhury to contest for the post.

However, independent mayoral candidate advocate Nazrul Islam on Tuesday withdrew his candidature. He urged the voters to cast their valuable votes for a competent, sincere and honest mayoral candidate.

Faridpur: 4 candidates fined for violating poll code

A mobile court yesterday fined a mayor and three councillor candidates for violating election code of conduct in Boalmari municipality.

The accused are mayor aspirant Hasanuzzaman Mia Mukul and councillor candidates Shahida Begum, Mujibur Rahman, and Ruhul Amin, reports our correspondent.

Mukul was fined for pasting posters on the wall while Shahida for using colour photo in the election posters and pasting them on the wall.

Two other councillor candidate-- Mujibur Rahman and Amin Amin--were fined for using colour banners.

A mobile court led by Executive Magistrate Torikul Alam conducted the drive with the help of Boalmari upazila election officer Abdur Rashid in the morning.

Pabna: Cases against 300 ruling party activists in Ishwardi

Police yesterday filed three separate cases with Ishwardi police station, accusing over 300 activists of the ruling party of attacking four polling centres in the municipality to snatch ballot boxes on Wednesday night, reports our correspondent.

Sub-Inspector Ibrahim Hossain filed a case against 80 AL activists while Sub-Inspector Md Azizul Islam and Sub-Inspector Dulal Uddin filed two separate cases with the same police station against 250 activists of the party.

The supporters of AL backed mayoral candidate Abul Kalam Azad Mintu entered four pooling centres in Ishwardi municipality on Wednesday night and tried to snatch the ballot boxes. Law enforcers, however, foiled their attempts.

Contacted, officer-in-charge of Ishwardi Police Station Md Samuil Alam declined to mention the names of the accused for the sake of investigation.

Khulna: Four held for bid to cast false vote at Dakope

Police arrested four people, including a woman, for their alleged bid to cast false votes at a polling centre in Dakope municipality yesterday morning, reports UNB.

The arrestees are Rizia Sultana, Anisur Rahman, Jabbar and Rahul of the area.

Police said the arrestees tried to cast false votes at Mukul Chandra Primary School centre at around 11:30am.

Singair grand alliance prospect dim for intra-party feud

MUNICIPAL ELECTION
ZAHANGIR SHAH, Manikganj

Intra-party rivalry has weakened the prospect of the mayoral candidate backed by Awami League (AL)-led grand alliance in the January 17 poll at Singair municipality under Manikganj district.

Three candidates are contesting for the post of mayor, 42 candidates for the posts of councillors and 11 others for reserved seats of councillors for women.

Grand alliance backed candidate AL leader and incumbent Mayor Mir Mohammad Shahjahan is facing tough challenge from BNP backed candidate Khorshed Alam Bhuiyan Joy, president of Singair upazila unit of Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal as 'rebel' candidate of AL MM Alamgir Hossain, vice-president of Manikganj district unit of Jubo League, is also in the poll race.

Local lawmaker Syed Abdul Mannan, also president member of Jatiya Party, and Singair upazila parishad

A candidate in the woman's reserved seat at Singair municipality in Manikganj district, vying for the January 17 election at the municipality, embraces a 70-year-old voter during her campaign yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR



Chairman AL leader Mushfiqur Rahman Khan Hannan are seeking votes for grand alliance backed candidate Mohammad Shahjahan.

AL district unit General Secretary Gazi Kamrul Huda Selim and some local AL leaders have extended their support to MM Alamgir Hossain.

On the other side, former local lawmaker and Singair upazila BNP President Mainul Hossain Khan

Shanta, General Secretary Dewan Mozharul Haque, Singair union parishad Chairman Dewan Mithu and local BNP leaders and activists are working unitedly for their candidate Khorshed Alam Bhuiyan Joy.

Posters and banners with symbols are seen everywhere in the municipality area while the candidates and their supporters are moving door to door to woo voters.

Gossips on candidates

and election dominate meetings, especially at tea stalls and hotels.

The Singair municipality was formed on January 5 in 2001 on an area of 16.5 square km and Awami League leader Mir Mohammad Shahjahan was elected its chairman on July 20 in 2002, defeating BNP backed candidate Dewan Mozharul Haque Mohor.

There are around 17 thousand voters in the municipality.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Defeated AL rebel's supporters attack rival candidate's men: 3 hit by bullet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

At least three people suffered bullet injury as a rebel AL mayor candidate's men fired at the winning candidate's supporters in Santhia municipality area yesterday afternoon in the area.

Police picked up four from the spot. Agitated mob later besieged the rebel AL leader's house creating a tense situation.

Locals and police said the men of defeated AL rebel candidate Mozammel Haque Master attacked the activists of winning AL backed mayor candidate Mirazul Islam at Santhia municipality market leaving three injured on the spot. The injured are Mamun, Ershad and Raja--all supporters of Mirazul.

Earlier Mirazul was reelected Santhia municipality mayor in January 12 election defeating his nearest rival Mozammel.

Mirazul claimed that Mozammel Master's men attacked his activists when they were passing by Mozammel's house.

The injured three were taken to Bera upazila health complex where the condition of Mamun and Raja turned critical. The two were shifted to Pabna for better treatment.

After the incident, agitated mob besieged Mozammel Master's residence. Police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

They also picked up four people including two sons of Mozammel Master from the spot.

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