



PHOTO: STAR
Bomang Circle Chief Raja Angus Pru Chowdhury receives gifts as well as 'jhum tax' from his subjects on the first day of 135th Raj Punyah, the traditional week-long royal festival of Bomang dynasty, on the compound of Rajbari in Bandarban yesterday.

POST-POLLS VIOLENCE

Over 1,000 sued, 25 BNP men held in Nabiganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Police sued over 1,000 people after Wednesday's post-polls violence in Nabiganj municipality of Habiganj district and arrested 25 BNP and JCD men yesterday in connection with the incident.

At least 40 people, including eight policemen, were injured in post-election violence in the municipality. Police were trying to disperse a crowd that gathered to bring out a procession protesting alleged irregularities in Tuesday's polls in which BNP-backed mayoral candidate Abdus Shahid Golap lost to the Awami League-backed candidate by 112 votes.

A clash broke out and police used 30 rubber bullets and lobbed 15 tear-gas canisters.

Locals said a police contingent led by the officer-in-charge of Nabiganj Police Station went to Hajari Community Centre around 4:00pm and asked the protesters to stop their rally and marching in a procession.

At one stage police resorted to charging truncheons.

The protesters vandalised a police van and had the contingent of police pinned down.

On information, another contingent of police reached the scene and fired about 30 rubber bullets to free the surrounded policemen. It aggravated the situation and

the agitators chased the police into the police station. They also pelted them with brickbats and police resorted to teargas.

Abdus Shahid Golap claimed that ruling party men took control of Sinimpur School polling centre around 10:00pm Tuesday and manipulated its result that eventually cost him his victory.

Residents of Rajnagar, Rajabad, Haripur, Kanaipur and Salamapur areas of the municipality had left their homes after police filed three cases.

Our Tangail correspondent reported that at least 10 people were injured and 12 shops ransacked in post election violence at Gopalpur and Madhupur

municipalities of the district on Tuesday and Wednesday.

In Gopalpur, supporters of the defeated Awami League (AL) mayoral candidate Rakibul Haque Sana ransacked seven shops of the supporters of mayor-elect Jahangir Alam Rubel at Gopalpur Bazar and beat four employees of shops on Wednesday.

Hearing the news, Rubel's men rushed to the bazaar and ransacked two shops of defeated Sana's supporters.

In Madhupur, supporters of the defeated AL mayoral candidate Abu Khan beat up five workers of mayoelect Sarkar Shahid at Natun Bazar on Tuesday evening. They also ransacked five shops at the bazaar.

Husband's brutality turns her maimed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Seriously injured by husband for protesting his alleged illicit relation, a young housewife is groaning in pain at Dinajpur Medical College and Hospital (DJMCH).

The victim, Mahfuza Begum, 25, received stab injuries on different parts of body by her husband Masud Rana, 30, who also severed her left ankle joint with a sharp weapon at his Haldibari-Mondolpara village house in Parbatipur upazila of Dinajpur district

on Wednesday afternoon, said the victim's family members.

Mahfuza, daughter of late Mahub Alam of Chowdhurypara village in Gaibandha Sadar upazila, has three children including a girl reading in class III.

"Masud, a rickshaw puller working in Dhaka, returned home about two weeks ago. All the time he remained busy talking over mobile with a woman, raising my suspicion. As I protested, Masud got angry and engaged in a bitter argument with me on Wednesday afternoon. He started stab-

bing me indiscriminately. At one stage, he slashed my left ankle joint and severed it by chopping," said Mahfuza lying on the floor at orthopaedic department of DJMCH.

Hearing her scream, the neighbours came to her rescue and took her to Parbatipur Upazila Health Complex in a critical condition. Following doctors' suggestion, profusely bleeding Mahfuza was admitted to Dinajpur Medical College and Hospital at 7:40pm the same day.

Doctors of DJMCH conducted a six-hour-long

surgery at the night and she required at least 160 stitches at different parts of body.

Locals handed over Masud Rana to Parbatipur police on Wednesday evening and Mahfuza's mother Jamila Begum filed a case accusing him, said Nuruzzaman Chowdhury, officer in charge of Parbatipur police station.

"What will happen to my three children? My husband has so far neglected his duty to them. Nobody will give me job as I have become maimed," said Mahfuza.



PHOTO: STAR
With all signs of inhuman torture by husband, Mahfuza Begum undergoing treatment at Dinajpur Medical College Hospital.

Stalker injures college girl

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

An alleged stalker seriously injured a college girl by hitting her with his motorcycle in Shibchar upazila of the district yesterday.

The victim is Amena Akter, 17, an HSC student of Nurul Amin University College in the upazila.

Amena along with her classmates was going to attend a cultural programme at GC Academy in nearby Bhadrasan area. As they came closer to the academy stalker Mizan along with two friends hit Amena with motorcycle from behind, leaving her seriously injured, sources said.

She was rushed to local upazila health complex, where the on duty doctors referred her to the Orthopaedic Hospital in the capital as her left leg was broken and two ligaments were torn.

Hearing the news, the agitated students of the college barricaded the highway for one hour demanding punishment of the criminals.

On primary investigation, police found the incident was intentional, said Sub-inspector Mohammad Salah Uddin of Shibchar police station.

MP locks Roumari UZ offices as officials skip meet

Bribery by UNO alleged

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram

Locals brought out a procession at Roumari upazila headquarters yesterday afternoon demanding immediately transfer of the upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) for his alleged bribery.

Earlier on Wednesday, lawmaker from Kurigram-4 (Chilmari, Raumari and Rajibpur) constituency Md Zakir Hossen locked offices of seven officers as they were absent in a meeting called by the upazila Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) officer following the lawmaker's instruction.

The offices of the UNO, woman affairs officer, BRDB officer, upazila engineering officer, upazila forest officer, upazila cooperatives officer and upazila primary education officer were kept under lock and key from 3:00pm to 4:30pm on the day.

Lawmaker Zakir Hossen told this correspondent, "As I received complaints of taking bribe for preparing beneficiaries' list for the 11th batch of 'Job opportunity programme for ultra-people of the northern region' under the BRDB a few days ago, I requested the BRDB officer to call a meeting at 10:00 am on Wednesday where all the upazila officers should be present."

"But I found them absent and waited for them till 3:00pm on the day. I also tried to contact them by mobile phone but some officers kept their cell phones closed. So, I locked their offices so that they can open their rooms after meeting with me. At about 4:00pm the officers opened their rooms after meeting with me," he said.

While trying to contact with the officers of the locked offices, this correspondent also found their

cell phones closed.

Roumari UNO AKN Shawkat Alam Majumdar told this correspondent yesterday, "Today my office is going on as usual but I have heard the lawmaker is making a showdown with his associates in the upazila town. I am not involved with any bribery".

"Nobody had informed me about the meeting on Wednesday when I joined a scheduled meeting as chief guest at the information centre of Datbhanga union under the upazila and earth lifting programme in the union," he said.

"After arriving at my office I saw it locked. I informed the deputy commissioner of the matter and tried to open the office with the help of police. At that time, the MP misbehaved with me. Later the office was opened following the MP's order at 4:30pm," he added.

7 jailed for sand lifting

UNB, Panchagarh

A mobile court on Wednesday sentenced seven people to one month's imprisonment for lifting sand illegally from the Korotoa River at Meergarh in Sadar upazila.

The convicts are Jhanu, Mokaddes, Zinnat, Dulal,

Ashraf, Mokles and Rezaul of the area.

Acting on a tip-off, the mobile court led by magistrates Nazmul Islam Bhuiyan and Abu Hasnat Md Arefin went to the spot and arrested the seven while they were lifting sand from the river without prior permission.



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