

One killed, 66 hurt in post-poll clashes in 3 districts

STAR NATIONAL DESK

One person was killed and 66 others were injured in post-election clashes in Patuakhali, Satkhira and Noakhali districts yesterday and on Sunday night.

In Patuakhali, clashes between the supporters of the defeated member candidate and the elected member left one person dead and 49 others injured in Sadar and Galachipa upazilas yesterday morning, according to our correspondent.

The injured were admitted to Patuakhali General Hospital and Galachipa Upazila Health Complex while the rest given first aid.

Supporters of defeated member candidate Anwar Khan and elected member Motaleb Mridha's clashed at Crokmoahal village under Kamapur Union of Patuakhali Sadar upazila at around 9:00am, leaving at least 30 people from both sides injured.

The clash ensued when Anwar's men swooped on a victory procession of Mridha at the village at around 9:00am. The feuding groups used sticks and sharp weapons during the clash that continued for half an hour.

At around 10:00am, defeated member candidate Sohrab Mia's men attacked the supporters of elected member Shah Alam Bhuiyan at Shially village in Badarpur Union of the same upazila as they tried to bring out a victory procession in the area. Shah Alam's men made a counter attack. At least nine people from both sides injured during the clash.

Shahidul was shifted to Barisal-Sher-e-Bangla Medical College and Hospital at noon. As his condition deteriorated, the doctors referred him to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital. He succumbed to his injuries on way to the capital at around 6:00pm.

Police arrested 17 people at the two villages for their alleged involvement in the post-poll clashes.

In Galachipa upazila, defeated chairman candidate Shiplu Khan's men attacked the supporters of Ershad Hossain Badal, newly elected chairman of Satabari Union Parishad, at around 11:00am, leaving 10

people injured.

Of them, Wahid, 33, Ashfaqur Rahman, 40, Bappi, 18 and Milon, 45, were admitted to Galachipa Upazila Health Complex while the rest given first aid at a local clinic.

Our Satkhira correspondent reported that at least 20 people, including Satkhira district Awami League (AL) Organising Secretary Abdul Hamid, were injured as supporters of the newly elected chairman of Keralkata Union Parishad under Kalaroa upazila clashed with their rivals yesterday.

The incident took place at around 9:00am when the supporters of the newly elected chairman Morshed Ali, also a local leader of the ruling Awami League (AL), attacked the residence of the defeated chairman candidate Abdul Hamid at Keralkata village.

In another incident, a supporter of the newly elected Helatala Union Parishad chairmam Moazzem Hossain came under attack by his rivals yesterday. Defeated chairman candidate Abu Taleb's men beat up Mizanur Rahman at Damodarkati village.

Our Noakhali correspondent adds: Post-election violence left at least seven people injured at Chartorabali village under Mohammadpur Union in Subarnachar upazila on Sunday night.

The injured are Didar Bhandari, 40, Maulana Helal Uddin, 36, Anwar Hossain, 35, Nizam Uddin, 26, Tarik Ullah, 38, Akram Hossain, 24, and Md Sahajahan 28. Didar, Helal and Anwar are undergoing treatment at Char Jabbar Upazila Health Complex.

Police and locals said when the presiding officer at CDSP Primary School center announced the election results of the centre, the supporters of chairman candidate advocate Enam bought out a procession in the area.

At this stage, Enama's rival candidate Md Mohiuddin's men made an attack on the procession, leading to a clash between the two sides.

On information, police and coastguards went to the spot, dispersed the clashing groups and brought the situation under control.



PHOTO: STAR

CURIOSITY LANDS THEM IN HOSPITAL! Several Class II students of Baghail (No 2) Primary School in Ishwardi upazila of Pabna district take treatment at upazila health complex yesterday as they fell ill after drinking water mixed with insecticide out of sheer curiosity.

Just out of curiosity they mixed pesticide with water, drank

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Ten children in Ishwardi upzila under Pabna district landed in hospital as they fell sick by drinking water mixed with insecticide out of curiosity yesterday.

The children, all Class II students of Baghail (No 2) Primary School, are now out of danger after treatment at Ishwardi upazila health complex, hospital sources said.

"Several students of class

II suddenly fell sick and lay down inside the class room at about 11:00am. The teachers immediately took 10 children, aged 8 to 9, to Ishwardi health complex," said Md Moniruzzaman, headmaster of the school.

"We have washed the affected children's stomach to remove the poison. They mixed the insecticide with a good amount of water and so, the reaction was poor not serious. The children are now out of danger. They are

still kept in here under the physicians' watch," said Dr Ataur Rahman, acting chief of the health complex.

"A student of the school bought insecticide from a shop in front of school for his home. To know how it tastes, the minor children mixed the poison with water and drank it. The shopkeeper has gone into hiding after the incident," Md Samiul Alam, officer in charge of Ishwardi police station, said after investigation by police.

Burn care experts meet to better treatment

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A four-day-long South East Asia Burn Care Training Retreat started at Tea Resort in Srimongal upazila of Moulvibazar district on Sunday.

Forty-seven burn care experts and burn care leaders from Bangladesh, UK, Nepal, India, USA, Canada, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan participated in the programme.

The Interburns, an organisation of international network for training, education and research in burns, and Acid Survivors Foundation, Bangladesh, jointly organised the programme.

The April 4-6 training retreat aims at helping burn care practitioners of the region to bring positive changes in their own institutions and form a network to

better overall burn care facilities in the region, speakers said at a press briefing yesterday.

Burn injuries, caused by fire, scald, chemicals and electricity due to accident or violence, often lead to death, or lifetime disfigurement and disability, said speakers at the training programme.

Most of the treatments in the region are incomplete, untimely and ineffective; those who survive are usually discharged from hospital disabled.

Nearly all burns are preventable while seriousness of the injury can be significantly reduced by appropriate first aid, said experts in the training retreat. Furthermore, timely and effective treatment can prevent unnecessary contractures and disabilities, making the injured people able to manage many life challenges, they said, adding that burn care needs

to be a team work from the beginning.

Arranged amid picturesque natural beauty, this programme has brought together senior surgeons, psychologists, nurses, physiotherapists and occupational therapists from East and West, showing a model of team work, networking and relationship building, especially among health care professionals of different nations, speakers said.

Momtaz Uddin Bhuiyan, director of Hospital Services, inaugurated the four-day programme.

Among others, Tom Potokar, UK director of the Interburns, Monira Rahman, executive director of Acid Survivors Foundation in Bangladesh, burn experts Shobha Chamania of India, Professor AJM Salek of Bangladesh and Opoku Ware of Ghana addressed different sessions.

Call to change project site

A CORRESPONDENT, Gopalganj

Locals blocked the Dhaka-Khulna highway for one hour on Saturday protesting acquiring of agricultural land for a commercial town project at Haridaspur.

Farmers and land owners also organised a human chain at about 11:00am in the area as part of the protest programme.

Later, they met the press and new urged the government to change the project site.

"The government earlier acquired some lands for constructing the highway and the new project will take more agri lands making the people poorer," said a protester.

People of Haridaspur is comparatively poor and some of them are day-laborers because of inadequate land, he added.

OVER 300 DID NOT GET ADMIT CARDS HSC examinees set fire to college office room

UNB, Gaibandha

Agitated HSC examinees of Shaghata BM Technical College yesterday set fire to the office room of the college as they did not get their admit cards to appear at the examination scheduled to begin today.

The agitated students also vandalised the car of the principal in the morning.

Sources said, the HSC examinees came to the college to collect their admit cards. Later, the principal of the college informed them that they did not get some

330 admit cards of the students from the education board.

Hearing the news, the students became agitated and set fire to the office room of the college.

Sensing danger, principal and other employees of the college fled from the scene.

Later, demanding the principal's removal, the examinees brought out a procession and held a meeting on the campus. They also demanded of the authorities concerned to arrange their admit cards without further delay.

SNIPPETS

Prisoner dies in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A prisoner at Pabna district jail died of cardiac arrest on Sunday afternoon. The dead was identified as Mansur Ali Akand, 65, of village Pati in Manirampur upazila in Jessore district. He had landed in jail on April 6, 2010 in a robbery case. Ishwardi police arrested him and sent him to jail. According to jail superintendent, Pabna, Mansur was feeling bad on Sunday noon. The jail authorities sent him to Pabna Medical College Hospital immediately but he died in the afternoon. Officer-in-charge of Pabna Sadar police station Md. Enayet Uddin said the body was sent to Pabna Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy yesterday morning.

Goods train derails

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Train communications between Mymensingh and Dewanganj route were disrupted for two hours due to derailment of three compartments of a goods train yesterday morning. Railway sources said, three compartments of a goods train bound for Dewanganj in Jamalpur derailed near Nuton Bazar level crossing in the town at around 11:30am. On information, a relief train rushed to the spot and rescued the derailed compartments in two hours. The rail communication resumed at around 1:30pm, sources said.

4 jailed for drinking liquor

OUR CORRESPONDENT, C'nawabganj

A mobile court on Sunday sentenced four people to six months imprisonment at Bompur village under Nandipur union of Gomostapur upazila for drinking liquor. The convicted persons were identified as Nazrul Islam, 36, son of Nur Mohammad, Oliul Islam, 34, son of Naimuddin, Rafiqul Islam, 32, son of Hazrat Ali of Laxmipur village and Sudhir Singh, 40, son of Hori Narayan Singh of Bompur village under the upazila. According to SI Abdul Bari of Gomostapur police station, a team of police raided Sudhir's house at Bompur village at around 8:00pm and arrested the four red-handed.

Tomtom driver found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

A 'tomtom' (three wheeler) driver was found dead in Pakundia yesterday. The deceased was identified as Abul Kalam, 25, son of Feroz Mia of Talshi village. Police and locals said, Abul Kalam's body was found in a paddy field in Charpara area in the upazila yesterday noon. Family members claimed that Abul Kalam went out of home on Saturday but he did not return. He was killed probably as a sequel to previous enmity, they said.

Young woman murdered

UNB, Chandpur

Police recovered the body of an unidentified young woman, aged about 25, from a ditch at Boddanathpur village in Matlab Uttar upazila Friday. Local people found the body floating in the ditch near a paddy field in the afternoon and informed the police. Later, police recovered the body and sent it to Chandpur General Hospital morgue for autopsy. Police suspected that criminals killed the young woman after gang rape elsewhere and dumped the body in the ditch.

Robbers loot house in Natore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

A gang committed robbery at the house of a doctor at Naldanga on Saturday night and took away cash and gold ornaments. Police said, a gang of 10/12 robbers entered the house of Mizanur Rahman Halim, a doctor at Natore Diabetic Hospital and looted Tk 90 thousand and around 9.5 tolas of gold keeping the house members hostage at gunpoint. Obidul Haq, officer-in-charge in Naldanga police station said, a case was filed in this connection. "Police are trying to arrest the culprits," he added.

Youth electrocuted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A young day-labourer came in contact of an electric wire while cutting a branch of a tree and died at village Mukundapur in Kaliganj upazila on Sunday. The victim was identified as Rafiqul Islam, 27, son of Kala Chand of village Ratneswarpur in the same upazila. Quoting local people police said, Rafiqul was, cutting a branch of a tree owned by Mahbubur Rahman of village Mukundapur. At one stage the victim came in contact with a live wire of an electric electrocuted, he fell down the tree. The incident took place at about 3:00pm.

Seminar held in Chittagong

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A seminar on "Hazrat Gausul Azam Shah Sufi Maulana Syed Golamur Rahman Babavandari -- the symbol of non-communal tradition" was held on Sunday at the auditorium of Chittagong District Council. The seminar was organised by Gilani Complex, Bangladesh. Allama A. N. M. Delwar Hossain Al-Quaderi presented the keynote paper at the seminar. Alhaj Mizanur Rahman Majumder, managing director of Portland Cement, delivered the welcome speech. Director of R.M. International Alhaj Majharul Hoque, general manager of Isphani Group, Alhaj Minhazuddin Ahmed, Alhaj Sufi A.F. Muhammadur Rahman Al Quaderi and Yusuf Reza discussed the keynote paper. The seminar was presided over by Gausul Azam Shah Sufi Maulana Syed Saifuddin Ahmmad Al-Hasani.



PHOTO: STAR

Teachers and students of music and drama department of Rajshahi University stage a sit-in in front of the vice chancellor's residence yesterday demanding removal of the departmental chairman.

AGITATION AT MUSIC, DRAMA DEPT ON RU VC seeks two days to resolve problems

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rajshahi University (RU) vice chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan yesterday sought two days to resolve the music and drama department problem.

Prof Sobhan asked for the time as the teachers and students of the department were agitating for the last four days demanding removal of the departmental head.

Sources said over 100 students and 15 teachers out of total 19 staged a day-long sit-in in front of the vice chancellor's residence from 8:00am yesterday demanding removal of department chairman Prof Moloy Bhoomick.

They also staged a street drama and sang songs as part of their agitation and to press home their demand.

At around 2:30pm, the vice chancellor along with the proctorial body came to gate of his residence and met with the teachers and stu-

dents of the department.

During the meeting Prof Sobhan said that he will need at least two days to resolve the problem of the department. He also urged the teachers and students to withdraw their programmes.

But the protesters vowed to continue their programmes including sit-in and work abstention until

Follow-up

the demand was met. They also threatened to go for hunger strike from today if the university authorities failed to meet the demand within the deadline.

The teachers of the department were observing work abstention from last Thursday demanding removal of Prof Bhoomick alleging that he took several arbitrary decisions ignoring the academic and planning committee since taking office on November 10, 2009.

The students of the department also joined the teachers from Saturday.

Other allegations against Prof Bhoomick include fixing the Masters final examination date of the 2009 batch brushing aside the concern of other members of the examination committee and issuing of threats and misbehaviour with colleagues.

Prof Moloy Bhoomick on Sunday demanded investigation into the charges brought against him by the teachers of the department. At a press conference, Prof Bhoomick claimed himself innocent and said he neither took any arbitrary decision nor defied the university acts.

Meanwhile, no classes and examinations were held at the department yesterday. The departmental chairman's office remained locked as the teachers put the office under lock and key on Thursday.

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