



PHOTO: STAR

A mobile court seizes huge quantity of urea that was illegally hoarded at Shahidi Cold Storage at Pulhat in Dinajpur town yesterday.

Huge fertiliser seized in Dinajpur town

Two godowns sealed on recovery of over 20,000 sacks

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

More than 20 thousand sacks of fertilisers were seized from two warehouses in the district town yesterday.

Both the warehouses were sealed off for hoarding fertiliser illegally, police said.

Earlier on a tip-off, executive magistrates Md Abdur Rahman and Tasnin Jebin Sheikh, along with their forces, raided two godowns in the area at around noon.

The team found at least 10,800 sacks of urea, 2,579 sacks of MOP and 1,800 sacks of TSP in the first godown--

Shahidi Cold Storage.

Another 7,000 sacks of fertiliser, including 4,820 sacks of urea, were recovered from the second godown, situated around 300 yards away from the first one. Each sack contained 50kg fertiliser.

Police quoting documents said the godowns were owned by Mosaddeque Hossain, former vice-president of Dinajpur Chamber of Commerce and Industries and owner of Messrs Mosaddeque Traders and Md Abdus Sattar, owner of Messrs Sattar Traders.

They are authorised fertiliser deal-

ers in the district, police said.

Executive magistrate Md Abdur Rahman told this correspondent that about 6,805 extra sacks of urea were found in the first godown.

Md Abdus Satter, who was present on the spot during the raid, however, said he and his partner jointly stored the urea with permission from the authorities concerned.

Sources said, the two dealers and owners of the godowns stockpiled the fertiliser illegally in a bid to sell them in higher prices in case of fresh tax on it in the coming budget.

None was arrested in this connection.

BALLOT BOOKS LOOTED FROM NOAKHALI CENTRE

2 bullet injured, another beaten up during poll

UNB, Noakhali

Two people received bullet wounds and another was beaten up and badly injured by criminals in separate incidents of poll-related violence in Char Kakra and Char Hazari union parishads (UP) in Companyganj upazila yesterday afternoon.

Supporters of Awami League-backed chairman candidate Shafiqur Rahman stormed into Amin

Memorial High School polling centre of Char Kakra during vote and took away three ballot books each containing 100 ballot papers at gun point at 2:30pm.

Being informed, police rushed in and chased the gang members who swooped on the law-enforcers.

Police fired two rounds from their shot guns in self defense leaving two people - Haji Abul Kalam, 65, and

Imran Hossain, 16, injured.

The criminals managed to flee the scene leaving the three ballot books behind the centre. The injured were admitted to local hospital.

In a separate incident, a gang of 10 criminals swooped on member candidate Mohammad Khalil, 38, and mercilessly beat him up leaving him seriously injured at a polling centre of Char Hazari union parishad dur-

ing vote at 3pm.

Police with the help of locals rescued and rushed profusely bleeding Khalil to hospital.

Six people were arrested on charge of creating anarchy during vote.

Of them, Shamsul Alam Sabuj, 38, and Rezaul Karim, 28, both hailing from Parbatir Char village, were instantly tried and sentenced to 15 days imprisonment each by a mobile court.

Peaceful UP polls in four districts

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Barring some stray incidents, peaceful voting took place in 31 unions of Manikganj, Khagrachhari, Mymensingh and Kurigram districts on the third day of the second phase of UP election yesterday.

In Manikganj, elections to 12 out of 13 union parishad under Harirampur upazila were held peacefully. Polling to Lesraganj Union Parishad could not be held as the court had earlier postponed the poll over a dispute relating to area demarcation.

Police and Rab personnel were deployed in the unions to maintain law and order during voting.

In Khagrachhari, voting took place in three unions under Lakshmichhari upazila of the district peacefully.

District Election Officer Md Nurul Hassan said no untoward incidents occurred during polling at all the 27 centres in the upazila.

A mobile court led by Executive Magistrate Mohammad Zakir Hussain fined a chairman candidate of Dullatali Union Tk 500 for violating code of conduct.

In Mymensingh, elections in 10 unions under Phulpur upazila of the district were held yesterday.

A mobile court led by Executive magistrate Ferdous Wahid sentenced a man named Jahangir Alam, 22, to six months imprisonment for violating election code of conduct at Kakni Govt Primary School centre.

In another drive, mobile court led by Executive Magistrate Sharif Md Fayzul Alam picked up two motorcyclists--Habibur Rahman and Masud Reza--from Bangabandhu Degree College centre in Tarakanda Union and handed them over to police.

Magistrate Tahmina Zakaria fined a youth Tk 1,000 for entering the Purba Dhakirkanda centre premises in a car.

In Kurigram, Barring two separate incidents, elections in six unions under Roumari and Rajibpur upazilas of the district were held peacefully.

Locals caught Md Hazrat Ali, a member aspirant of Jadurchar Union in Roumari, as he was buying votes in front of Dhanerchar Government Primary School centre in the morning. He was later handed over to police.

Meanwhile, BGB members clubbed five people as they were locked in an altercation with the husband of a woman candidate for reserved seat at a polling centre in the union.



PHOTO: STAR

A visually impaired man casts vote with the help of his wife at 5 No Bhelabad Government Primary School centre in Harukandi union under Harirampur upazila of Manikganj district during the union parishad election yesterday.

Building bridge at last moment to 'bridge gap'

24 fined in Gaibandha for violating poll code

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A chairman candidate in Badiakhali Union of Gaibandha Sadar upazila is building a bamboo bridge over a canal to woo voters in the union only 12 days ahead of election, breaching code of conduct.

In seven other unions of the upazila, a mobile court yesterday fined 24 chairman and member candidates on charge of violating the election rules.

Chairman aspirant Atowar Rahman has engaged his supporters to construct the bridge at Chat Chalkbarul village in Badiakhali Union to gain support from voters.

"We are erecting the 150-metre long makeshift bridge that will cost around Tk one lakh," said the campaigners of the chairman candidate.

They said the locals face immense trouble to cross the canal during rainy season and the bridge will help a lot to mitigate their sufferings.

A former member of Badiakhali Union Parishad said chairman candidate Atowar Rahman is erecting the bamboo bridge at his own cost only to win the election. He should be punished for violating election code of conduct, the ex-member added.

Refuting the allegation, Atowar Rahman said question of donation does not arise as

local people are also contributing bamboos and other materials to build the bridge.

Contacted, Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md Ashib Ahsan said if any candidate spends money on such activities, he or she will face action on charge of violating election code of conduct. "As of now, we have not received any complaint," the UNO added.

Twenty-four candidates in seven other unions of the upazila were fined for violating election code of conduct.

The court led by the UNO Md Ashib Ahsan, also the executive magistrate, launched the drives and fined the candidates for pasting posters on walls.

The magistrate realised Tk 18,500 from Jahangir Alam, Saidul Hasan of Kuptola Union; Manik Mia, Sabu Mia, Abu Taleb of Kamarjani Union; Swadhin Mia, Tara Mia, Sheikh Sachib, Shafiqul Islam of Kholahati Union; Abdul Hamid, Abdul Matin, Saidur Rahman, Hafizur Rahman, Ataur Rahman, Abu Awal of Ghagoa Union; Masud Mia, of Ballamjhar Union; Emdadul Islam, Kasimuddin, Badal Mia of Gideri Union; Ramsha Begum, Abdur Rashid, DR Nazmul Huq, Abdul Hannan and Rabeya Begum of Laxmipur Union.

Of the candidates, three are contesting for chairman post while the rest for member posts.



PHOTO: STAR

1) An elderly voter blesses Dighi union parishad (UP) chairman candidate Nusrat Islam Nupur during her election campaign, 2) Garpara UP chairman candidate Aloma Begum, also the sitting chairman, conducts a door to door campaign to woo voters, 3) Nabagram UP chairman candidate Masuda Akter does the same, and 4) Atigram UP chairman candidate Nargis Akter Bachcha, also the incumbent chairman, submits nomination paper to the returning officer ahead of the UP election in Manikganj Sadar upazila on June 20.

4 'confident' women candidates

All of them pledge to stop child marriage, dowry

ZAHANGIR SHAH, Manikganj

Four women contesting for the posts of chairman in the upcoming elections to four union parishads under Manikganj Sadar upazila have pledged to stop child marriage and dowry and work for women's empowerment, if elected.

They are Nargis Akter Bachcha, Aloma Begum, Nusrat Islam Nupur and Masuda Akter. The candidates are going door-to-door to woo voters and confident of winning polls scheduled for June 20.

Nargis Akter Bachcha, also the sitting chairman of Atigram Union Parishad, is again in the election race to retain the post. She pledged to stop child marriage and dowry in Atigram Union and make it a model union.

Her father Alhaji Jahir Uddin Bepari was the chairman of Atigram Union Parishad for 28 years from 1934. After

his death, Nargis engaged herself in social work and was elected chairman of the union in 2003.

Nargis told this correspondent that he had repaired damaged roads and built new ones in her union during her tenure. "I shall take up some new projects, if elected," she said, adding that she needs people's mandate again for development of Atigram Union.

Aloma Begum was elected chairman of Garpara Union Parishad in a by-poll in February 2005. The post fell vacant following the death of her husband Nasirul Haque Khan Patol in December 2004. She is again contesting the election for the post.

Aloma told this correspondent that she constructed roads, culverts in her union during her tenure. She pledged to stop child marriage and dowry and work for empowerment of women in her union "I shall give priority to the

election pledges, if voted to power," she added.

Nusrat Islam Nupur is contesting the election to Dighi Union Parishad. Her father Nurul Islam Nuru was the chairman of the union for four consecutive terms. After her father's death in 2009, Nusrat and her mother Saleha Islam, incumbent vice-chairman of Manikganj Sadar Upazila Parishad, started social work in the area.

She is campaigning door-to-door to woo the voters and confident of winning the election.

Masuda Akter is in the race for the post of chairman of Nabogram Union Parishad. Her husband Gazi Habibur Rahman, popularly known as Monno Gazi, was the chairman of the union. She engaged herself in social work after her husband's death in 1995. Masuda said she will stop dowry and child marriage in the union and make it a model union, if elected.



PHOTO: STAR

BENEVOLENCE 12 DAYS BEFORE POLLS! Workers busy building a bamboo-made bridge over this canal at Chat Chalkbarul village in Badiakhali union of Gaibandha Sadar upazila as Atowar Rahman, an aspirant for the union parishad chairman post, took the initiative to woo voters in the union only 12 days ahead of the election, violating code of conduct.