



PHOTO: STAR

Every winter, bee-hiving on vast tracts of mustard field in Manikganj has become a common scene. Collected from different upazilas of the district, honey is exported by several organisations to earn forex. This photo was taken from Falsatia Chak in Shibalaya upazila a few days ago.

Arrests follow Sunday's incidents in districts

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Police yesterday detained 66 leaders and activists of BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami in connection with Sunday's clashes in different districts and during their country-wide demonstrations yesterday in protest against what the agitators said 'government's repression and police attack' on opposition men.

As police foiled a demonstration by Rajshahi city unit BNP and arrested a leader of Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal, aggrieved BNP activists besieged Boalia Model Police Station.

Police dispersed the agitators and arrested six activists who were later punished by a mobile court at the PS.

A mobile court also punished three people in Faridpur on charge of creating obstacle to government work.

Twenty-seven of the arrestees were picked up in Khulna, 15 in Patuakhali, nine in Faridpur, 10 in Sirajganj, two in Rajshahi, three in Barisal, report our district correspondents.

Earlier on Sunday, a man was killed in Sylhet and several others were injured when opposition activists clashed with police in different districts apparently in reaction to violence centring a freedom fighters' reception organised by BNP in the capital.

RAJSHAHI

The city unit BNP tried to bring out a procession near Bhuban Mohan Park when police interfered and arrested Mosaddek Hossain Bulbul, convener of Rajshahi city unit Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal, and Golam Mostafa, a loudspeaker operator, at around 11:00am yesterday.

About an hour later, hundreds of BNP activists laid siege to Boalia Model PS and chanted slogans demanding release of the Jubo Dal leader.

Following reinforcement by riot police, law enforcers dispersed the agitated BNP activists and arrested city unit Jatiyatabadi Mohila Dal Assistant General Secretary Shahnaj Parveen, Mohila Dal ward No 21 unit President Noorjahan Begum, BNP activists Shamsunnahar, Joyal



PHOTO: STAR

Abedin, Masud Rana and Jasim Uddin from the scene.

A mobile court led by Executive Magistrate Ashrafal Ahmed fined each of them Tk 4000, following their confession of breaking discipline of the police station, the magistrate told journalists.

Golam Mostafa was released by another mobile court while police sent Bulbul to the jail through a court after accusing him in a case filed under Rajshahi Metropolitan Police Act for trying to bring out procession defying repeated request by police.

KHULNA

Police in a pre-dawn operation picked up 27 leaders and activists of BNP, Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir from their residences in Khulna city.

The arrestees include Khulna city Nayeb-e-Ameer of Jamaat Master Shafiqul Alam, President of Khulna district unit of Krishak Dal Nurul Huda Khan Babu, President of Ward No 23 unit of BNP Hasibul Huq Babla and General Secretary of Khulna Commerce College

unit of Shibir Emran Hossain.

PATUAKHALI

Police arrested 15 leaders and activists of BNP and Jamaat from different areas in the district on Sunday night.

The arrestees include Ishaq Mia, ameer of Baufal upazila unit Jamaat, Maulana Faruq Hossain, secretary of Dumki upazila unit Jamaat, Maulana Habibur Rahman, finance secretary of Jamaat of the same unit, Zakir Hossain Badal, president of Kalapara upazila unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD).

SIRAJGANJ

Police lodged a case against 129 people in connection with obstructing plying of vehicles on the west approach road of Bangabandhu Bridge and burning a passenger coach in Jhaol area during agitation by BNP activists in the area on Sunday.

Police arrested 10 BNP activists including Jhaol union parishad Chairman and union unit BNP President Abdul Awal the same day.

BNP and Jubo Dal activists besiege Boalia Police Station in Rajshahi following arrest of central Jubo Dal leader Mosaddek Hossain Bulbul from an agitation programme in the city yesterday, left, a protester being taken to the police station.

PHOTO: STAR

FARIDPUR

Police on Sunday night picked up nine activists and supporters of BNP, Jubo Dal and JCD in the town on charge of vandalising vehicles and torching a private car on Saturday, said Nur-e-Alam Siddiquee, officer in charge of Kotwali police station.

A mobile court led by Executive Magistrate Shahriar Motin yesterday gave punishment to three of the detainees -- Md Zahangir Hossain, 27, vice president of Faridpur district unit of JCD, Sukur Ali, 22, and Sumon Datta, 20, for hampering government work.

Zahangir was sentenced to two years' imprisonment while Sukur and Sumon were awarded six months' jail each.

BARISAL

City unit of BNP held a rally in front of its office yesterday noon while rally, activists of ruling Awami League made a showdown with motorcycles on city roads.

Police arrested three BNP activists in the city early yesterday.

Clash over tender in Patuakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Chase and counter chase between two rival groups of ruling Awami League yesterday disrupted the tender submitting at Local Government Engineering Department office in the town.

Most contractors could not submit their tenders because of a tense situation there.

Additional police were deployed at different points of the town while Rab teams patrolling the spot to thwart any possible violence.

Sources said, LGED called a tender package on November 3 to construct 10 cyclone shelters at a cost of Tk 25 crore in the district under a project funded by the World Bank (WB).

Yesterday was the last day for submitting the tenders. Nineteen contractors bought tender documents from the office concerned but only five could submit their tenders in time.

At about 12 noon yesterday, when some contractors went to LGED office to submit their tenders, a gang led by a few local AL leaders chased them. Later, they were counter chased by their opponents triggering tension in the area, witnesses said.

Tofazzel Hossain, secretary of district Shramik League, said he went to LGED office at about 12 noon to submit tender. Within minutes, a group led by Reaz Mridha, president of Patuakhali bus owners association stopped them at the gate of LGED office.

"When we tried to get inside the LGED office, some cadres of ruling AL men chased us out, Tofazzel said.

Many contractors couldn't submit their tender at the office, he added.

However, Reaz Mridha, refuting the charges, said Tofazzel came to LGED office with some cadres and started to raise voice on LGED premises. We just asked them not to do so, he said.

Contacted, Md Monirul Islam, OC of Patuakhali police station said, chase and counter chase took place between two groups over tender submission at LGED office. On hearing the matter, police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control, he added.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE FAIR AT SCHOOLS



PHOTO: STAR

Two students of Kaptai High School under Kaptai upazila of Rangamati district take part in quiz contest during the English language fair at the school yesterday.

Kids of 2 more schools spend joyful day

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Young learners spent a joyful day as they took part in amusing interactions in English language fairs held at two schools in Rangamati and Mymensingh districts yesterday.

Under English in Schools (EIS) programme, The Daily Star and mobile operator Robi jointly organised the fairs in coordination with the education ministry to encourage English learning among secondary school students. Adcomm Ltd is the creative and event partner of the fair.

Students of Kaptai High School under Kaptai upazila in Rangamati and Nandail Pilot Girls High School under Nandail upazila in Mymensingh joined the fairs at their school auditoriums.

Each of the fair venues saw screening of Lion King, a globally renowned movie, followed by students' participation in spot quiz, vocabulary test, one word question, and quick questions --all based on the movie. Selected students also took part in extempore speech on different topics and role-play, reports our correspondents from Rangamati and Mymensingh.

In Rangamati, about 100 students of Kaptai High School, their teachers and

family members took part in the festival titled "Safalyo Ashbei" (success is a must) at the school auditorium.

Prizes were distributed among the winners of different events at the end of the programme.

Ripayan Barua, area manager of Robi, inaugurated the fair at noon while Mostafizur Rahman, headmaster of the school, was



the chief guest. Asif Haider, coordinator of the fair, ABM Sirajul Islam, senior teacher of Kaptai High School and Sajjad Hossain, Robi distributor in Kaptai were also present.

The area manager of Robi distributed prizes among the winners of different events at the end of the programme. English teachers ABM Sirajul Islam, Badal Chandra Dey, Harunur Rashid and Mofizur Rahman of Kaptai High School were the judges.

In Mymensingh, more than 160 students of Nandail Pilot Girls High School under Nandail upazila eagerly took part in different competitions in the English

language fair held at the school auditorium.

Prizes were distributed among the winners of different events at the end of the programme.

Nandail Pilot Girls High School teachers Nurunnesa, Jahanara Begum, Ayesha Akhter, Masuma Begum, Bazlur Rashid, Jamal Uddin, Mizanur Rahman and Mahubub Alam spoke at a discussion held at the venue.

The learning techniques shown in the language fair are helpful for both the students and teachers as picking up a language is enjoyable and more effective than learning a language through a lot of effort, the speakers said at the discussion.


The three-year EIS programme, initiated two years ago to promote English learning in secondary schools, covers seven lakh students in one thousand schools, including 317 government and 683 non-government ones, across the country.

Under the initiative, three complimentary copies of The Daily Star, with a special page on English lessons prepared by the Centre for Languages of Brac University and coordinated by the Ministry of Education, are given to each of one thousand schools five days a week.



PHOTO: STAR

Prize winning students of Nandail Pilot Girls' High School in Nandail upazila of Mymensingh district pose for a photograph after the English language fair yesterday.



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Executive Vice President

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An engine boat carrying a motor vehicle and passengers amid risk of accident as the lone ferry at Baliahati terminal on the alternative Kalapara-Kuakata route became inoperative a year ago and still lies stranded on a shoal.

PHOTO: STAR