

FILING OF CASE FOR BOMB ATTACK

APP accuses APS of state minister of interference

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

An assistant public prosecutor (APP) of Pabna District and Sessions Judges' Court has alleged that the police did not receive a case of bomb attack on his residence by ruling party men due to pressure from the assistant private secretary (APS) of a state minister.

Reading out a statement at a press conference held at Pabna Press Club auditorium yesterday, the APP, advocate Kazi Mahabubul Alam, also said police submitted a so called charge sheet without proper investigation in an earlier case for vandalism in his residence.

Alam alleged that police failed to take proper action due to the role of Anisuzzaman Dolon, APS of State Minister for Home Shamsul Haque Tuku.

"A group of ruling party men led by Mollah Kofil, also a renter of my residence, and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) Pabna district unit secretary Rofikul Islam Rumon, BCL leaders Sumon, Boshak and Biplob attacked my residence over a house rent feud with Kofil on March 27. Kofil is backed by Anisuzzaman Dolon, APS of State Minister Shamsul Haque Tuku," goes the written statement.

"The attackers ransacked my house and damaged furniture and valuables

worth over one lakh taka but the on duty police officials remained silent on the spot. Even the police did not receive our case on the day. Later I along with the leaders of district Bar association of police and then our case was received. But a counter case filed by the BCL Pabna district unit secretary was recorded before our case.

"Although we have filed the case against Mollah Kofil, Rumon, Sumon, Mahamud Mollah, Sohul and some other 40 to 50 ruling party activists, the police hurriedly filed a charge sheet against only three of the accused on April 5, without proper investigation. The charge sheet has been submitted in this way so that the case is not proved to the court.

"The criminals hurled bombs at my house at the night on April 9. Police visited my residence on the day and seized exploded bombs as the pieces of evidence from the spot. I have filed a case against eight criminals including the BCL secretary and Mollah Kofil on the day but the police did not receive the case still now due to the pressure of Dolon," Kazi Mahabubul Alam said at the press conference.

Contacted by this correspondent, Md Enayet Uddin, officer in charge of Pabna police station, said, "Without knowing who

hurled bombs, they filed a case against a few people due to enmity. Police did not receive the case for explosion as the criminals have not been identified."

Asked about the allegation of improper investigation of the previous case of vandalism, the OC said, "Police investigated the incident according to the rule. We have submitted the charge sheet based on pieces of evidence."

Denying any pressure from Anisuzzaman Dolon, APS of state minister for home, regarding the case, the OC said, "The APS did not even talk with us about this case issue."

"The incidents happened over enmity between Kazi Mahabubul Alam and Mollah Kofil. Both groups filed separate cases over March 27 incident and the police submitted charge sheets in both the cases," the OC added.

Asked about the allegation presented at yesterday's press conference, Anisuzzaman Dolon, APS to State Minister Shamsul Haque Tuku, said, "The allegation is false and baseless. They brought it to harass me. I never influence the police for any case. Police recorded the case of both the parties. How do they say I have influenced the case?"



A farmer gives a bleak look, sitting on the floor of his blown off house at Golbunia village in Kalapara upazila under Patuakhali district, right, the structure of Purbo Tiakhali Registered Primary School in the same upazila lies in a mangled form after a tornado hit the area on April 7.



PHOTO: STAR

Tornado victims still under open sky

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Over a thousand tornado-hit people of two villages in Champapur union under Kalapara upazila are living under the open sky as they are yet to get any relief from any government and non-government organisations.

The storm swept over Golbunia and Chalitabunia villages on April 7, totally damaging at least 30 houses while 200 others partially.

Four-month-old Bashar, son of Bashir Howlader of Golbunia, who sustained severe injuries during the tornado, died on Tuesday night.

Over a hundred of students of different primary and high schools and colleges, who lost their books during the tornado, face serious trouble as their first terminal examinations will begin tomorrow.

"Nothing could be saved. All the books and study materials of mine and my only brother, who is a student of class three, have been lost", said Tanzila, a class six student of MU High School of Golbunia.

Housewife Julekha Begum, 30, said she could not cook as their household tools including earthen

woven were damaged in the storm.

"Now we are passing days in misery as there is no sign of any relief as yet", she added.

Most of the villagers are now living under the open sky, said another victim, Kuddus Howlader.

Frustration gripped the farmers as watermelon on several hundred acres got fully or partially damaged.

The storm hit the fields at the peak hour of marketing of the juicy fruit, lamented several watermelon farmers.

Al Amin Talukder said he spent Tk 73, 000 to cultivate watermelon on

his 5 acres of land and expected to earn Tk over 2 lakh this year. "But the tornado shattered all my dreams", he added.

Bodiur Rahman Banti, administrator of Champapur UP, said over 100 families of the villages, hit by the storm, are living under the open sky as no relief reached the spot.

Contacted, UNO Dedare Alam Mohammad Maksud Chowdhury said they have already prepared a list of the storm-hit victims and wrote to the authorities, seeking relief.

Storm lashes 3 districts, damages houses, crops

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Nor'wester, accompanied with hails at some places, lashed several districts since Friday, damaging houses and crops.

A storm, accompanied with hailstorm and followed by heavy rain, lashed Dinajpur yesterday, damaging thatched houses, crops on vast tracts of land and uprooting trees.

The storm that preceded dusty wind, also caused power failure in almost all the areas in the district, reports our Correspondent.

Starting at around 4.00pm, it lashed Sadar, Biral, Khansama, Birganj and Kaharol upazilas.

No casualties were reported in the 10-minute storm, but paddy fields and mango trees were heavily damaged.

A large number of thatched houses in Biral upazila were damaged, locals said.

In Rangpur, about 1,000 houses were damaged and hundreds of the trees uprooted during a storm early Saturday, reports a correspondent.

The nor'wester, followed by torrential rain, lasted for about one and a half hour.

The most affected areas were Haragachha municipality, Tepamadhupur and Shaheedbagh union of Kaunia upazila, Tambulpur union of Pirgachha upazila, Nohaly and Kachua union of Gangachhara upazila, Tampat union and Satmatha, Salban and Hanumantala of Rangur Sadar upazila.

Kalipadh Das, deputy director of DAE Rangpur office said, torrential rain caused serious damage to boro and jute on over 5,000 hectares.

The district town and its surrounding areas and the upazilas plunged into darkness hampering normal life.

In Gaibandha, nor'wester

accompanied with hails damaged dwelling houses, educational institutions, croplands and uprooted trees and electric poles on Friday night.

The storm badly affected six unions of Sundarganj upazila damaging boro crops, onion, chili and jute plants on a vast tract of land. A large number of fruit bearing trees and electric poles were uprooted, reports our correspondent.

The badly affected areas are Ujan Bochagari, Bochagari, Chaygharia, Seecha, Bazra Kanchibari, Silamoni where about 500 tin-shed houses were blown away.

Besides, BRDB office, Sundarganj Degree College, Jaramnadi Girls High School, Haripur Eulus Khan Dakhil Madrasa, BSM Girls High School, Dhopadanga Girls High School Mohammed Ali Sishu Niketon were damaged.

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19 hurt in Khulna clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

At least 19 people were injured in a clash between students of private owned Mangrove Polytechnic Institute and angry mob at the Junction Road under Khalishpur police station of the city on Saturday.

Nine of the injured are now undergoing treatment at the Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH).

The injured include managing director of the institute Md Saiful Islam Momin, general secretary of ward-I unit of Awami League Molla Haider Ali, general secretary of ward-14 unit of AL Mirza Belayet Hossain and Israil Hossain of Schecchashebak League.

Witnesses and police sources said students and teachers of the institute brought out a rally on the occasion of Pahela Baishak at about 11:00am.

Some unruly students of the rally while passing by Junction road started hurling filthy remarks and throwing flower petals at girls and women that angered local people.

At one stage, a chase and counter chase erupted between the students and the locals, leaving over 19 from both sides injured.



STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

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