Remains of 18th century indigo hut found at Ishwardi village

AHMED HUMYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Workers while digging a pond at Nurullahpur village in Ishwardi upazila of the district on 22 December last year found the remains of an indigo warehouse dating from the British period.

"Remains of ancient structure including a brick wall, long tunnel, underground brick foundation and beams made of seasoned wood prove the existence of an 18th century indigo hut and the palace of a Zamindar," Md. Badrul Alam, regional director of archaeology in the Bogra region told this correspondent.

Alam along with other archaeology experts visited the spot on 25 December and proposed the government to include the site in its register of properties of archaeological significance.

It is believed that the 70-foot-long tunnel might have served as a link between the indigo hut and palace, though this cannot be confirmed without further excavation of the site.

Nazrul Islam Babu of the village recently engaged the workers to dig the pond who first located the long tunnel at the site.

Upon its discovery, the site attracted hundreds of curious onlookers and the local administration stopped the digging of the pond.

In order to prevent damage, Ishwardi upazila nirbahi officer Md. Sanwar Hossain wrote for police guard at the site and restriction on public access there for the

KM REZAUL HOQUE,

Large scale use of logs

and bamboo roots in

brick kilns, many of them

using unapproved low-

height chimneys, is badly

affecting crops, trees as

well as human beings in

Several unscrupulous

people have set up

brickfields in remote areas

and on croplands without

any approval or license

from the competent

authorities and are using

logs and bamboo roots as

Such crude brickfields

with about 30-foot-high

chimneys made of iron

sheet are set up on lands

leased for six months, said

people of Hapania village

But as per government

rules, at least 135-foot-

high brick-built chimney

is required for a brick

The unapproved brick

fields use wood instead of

coal, causing destruction

of a large number of trees.

humiliating defeats.

long break when the party

relied on Awami League's

support and used AL's sym-

bol 'boat" in the 2008 polls.

This time, the party

backed 18 candidates and

six of them won. Party Chief

Rashed Khan Menon and

Fazle Hossain Badshah were

by using AL's symbol.

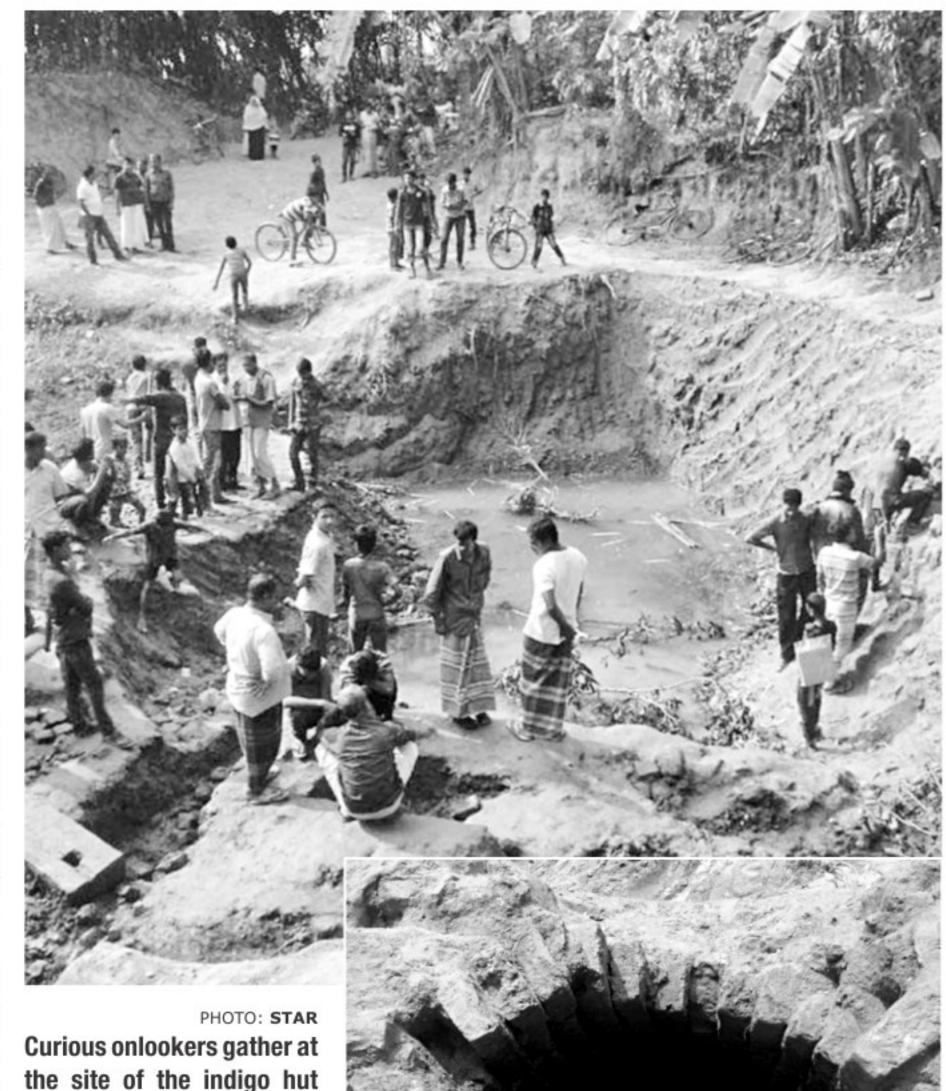
The party won two seats.

in Gobindaganj upazila.

fuel for burning bricks.

Gaibandha

the district.



Ishwardi upazila of Pabna last month. Inset, a tunnel that links the warehouse with the zamindar palace. time being.

that was unearthed at

Nurullahpur village in

The 'Archaeological Survey Report of Greater Pabna' published by researcher Dr. Md. Khlequzzaman in 1997 states that British trader 'Cock Burn' commenced indigo farming in Nurullahpur village and established an indigo warehouse there during the 18th

century, said Dr. Abdul

Alim, researcher and chair-

affect crops, human health

Due to emission of huge

smoke and ashes, many

people, especially children

and elderly people suffer

It also causes much harm

to crops and plants, said

local hospital.

Department at Pabna the 1859 revolt against University of Science and British indigo farming. Technology.

British traders during the colonial rule used to torture the local farmers for refusing to cultivate indigo.

Quoting the book, Alim claimed revolutionary Boikunthunth Shannal damaged five indigo huts in

Ariful Islam Babu, secretary

of Gaibandha Nagorik

Parishad.

man of the Bangla one at Nurullahpur, during

Chairman of At the indigo huts, Laxmikunda union Md. Anisul Haque Mollah said locals knew there was once an indigo hut in Nurullahpur but its exact location was unknown to them. He hoped that the remains would be preserved as part of the coun-

Defeated candidates demand repolling

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Four defeated candidates have demanded re-polling in their constituencies, bringing allegations of vote rigging, ballot box snatching and assault on agents by their opponents during national elections held on Sunday.

The candidates are Golam Kibria Tipu from Barisal-2, Khademul Islam Khudi from Gaibandha-3, Shankar Pal from Habiganj-2, Atiqur Rahman from Habiganj-3 and Syed Mohammad Tanvir Ahmed from Habiganj-4 parliamentary constituencies.

Our Barisal correspondent reported that Jatiya Party (Ershad) candidate Golam Kibria Tipu on Sunday night submitted a petition to Returning Officer Shahidul Alam, accusing the supporters of his rival candidate advocate Tipu Sultan (unofficially elected) of rigging vote at 16 out of 87 centres.

He alleged that Tipu's men forcibly ousted his agents from 15 centres in Babuganj upazila and one centre in Muladi upazila and stamped ballots in his favour with the help of local administration.

He demanded re-polling at the centres, cancelling the election results announced on Sunday night. Workers Party candidate advocate Tipu Sultan won the JS seat, securing 35,605 votes. His nearest rival candidate Golam Kibria Tipu polled 23,407 votes.

In Gaibandha, independent candidate Khademul Islam Khudi yesterday

demanded re-election in Gaibandha-3 constituency.

Addressing a press conference at the local press club, Khademul alleged that the AL activists were involved in vote rigging at Bakshiganj, Chandia, Caigari, Jamalpur, Bhatgram, Khorda Ruhea, Tiagacha Ganga and Narayanpur polling centres in Sadullapur upazila and stamped ballots in favour of their party candidate Dr

Younus Ali Sarker. Khademul said he filed a petition with the returning officer on Sunday night, alleging massive irregularities in voting at the centres.

Our Moulvibazar correspondent adds: Three defeated candidates of Habiganj--Shankar Pal Atiqur Rahman and Syed Mohammad Tanvir--have rejected election results and demanded re-polling in their constituencies.

Addressing a joint press conference at Habiganj Press Club on Sunday night, the three candidates alleged that Awami League activists captured 96 centres in their constituencies and cast 'false' votes in favour of their candidates.

Of the polling centres, 41 are in Habiganj-2, 25 in Habiganj-3 and 30 in Habiganj-4 constituencies. Shankar Pal and Atiqur Rahman contested the parliamentary election in Habiganj-2 and Habiganj-3 JS seats as Jatiya Party candidates while Syed Mohammad Tanvir Ahmed was an independent candidate in Habiganj-4.

Five jailed for casting fake votes in B'baria

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Five people were sentenced to jail on Sunday night for casting fake votes and stamping ballots in Sarail upazila.

The convicts are assistant presiding officer Zobeda Khatun, visitor of Sarail upazila family planning and health department, polling officer Kohinoor Begum, visitor of the same department, another polling officer Nasima Khatun, assistant teacher of Aruail Bahumukhi High School and AL candidate Umme Fatema Shuli Azad and the upazila unit Jubo League leader Ashraf Uddin verdictat 9:00pm.

2013-14/W2.3315

GD-87

Of them, the officials were sentenced to three years imprisonment for stamping ballot papers at Sarail Uchaliapara Government Primary School polling centre in favour of former JP MP Ziaul Haque Mridha who won the

AL candidate Shiuli from Brahmanbaria-2 constituency and Sarail upazila Jubo League leader Monu were awarded five years imprisonment for casting fake votes in their

Senior assistant judge Kamal Hossain Shikder, special judge of a mobile court, pronounced the

SNIPPETS

Gas cylinder blast kills 1

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

A balloon seller was killed and three others were injured in a gas cylinder explosion at Nazipur village in Potnitala upazila of Naogaon district yesterday. The deceased is Ainul Islam, 30, son of Mohammad Asad of Chirkidar village in Kahalu upazila of Bogra district. Injured Mostaque Hossain, 25, Asraful Islam, 35, and Abdul Malek, 36, of Ramchandrapur village under Mohadebpur upazila in the district, were admitted to Potnitala upazila health complex. Police said the gas cylinder exploded at 9:30pm, leaving four people seriously injured. Of them, Ainul Islam died on way to Rajshahi Medical College and Hospital.

Jubo Dal leader held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Police arrested a local Jubo Dal leader from near his party office in the town yesterday. The arrestee is Shamim Azad, president of Mymensingh district unit Jubo Dal. Golam Sarwar, officer incharge of Kotwali police station, said Shamim was arrested on charge of torching vehicles, creating anarchy and attacking on the law enforcers in the town recently.

10 Ashrayan huts gutted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

At least 10 houses were gutted in a fire at Pashchim Hetalia Ashrayan project in Sadar upazila on Sunday evening. More than ten people were also injured in the fire incident. Fire service sources said, the fire originated from an electric short circuit at a house and soon engulfed the adjoining houses. On information, fire fighters rushed to the spot and doused the blaze after two hours of hectic efforts. There were around 100 houses under the project, said locals.

Youth gets life in arms case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabgani

A court here yesterday sentenced a youth to life imprisonment in an arms case. The convict is Sohel Rana, 20, son of Badal Ali of Biswanathpur village in Shibganj upazila. According to the prosecution, a team of Rab-2 arrested Sohel Rana along with two pistols, four magazines and 15 bullets at Chouka village in the upazila on April 4, 2010. Later, a case was filed with Shibganj police station against the convict under Arms Act.

8-yr-old loses FROM PAGE 16 school was closed, said his

He was rushed to Dhaka

Medical College Hospital and then shifted to National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (Nitor).

The incident happened around 9:00am when two unidentified people handed a shopping bag containing three ball-like objects to Yasin, a seven-year-old who was accompanying Fahim on the way home from Madhya Badda Govt Primary School.

inside the bag were balls, Fahim grabbed one wrapped in red scotch tape, said Abdul Jalil, officer-in-charge of Badda Police Station. The crude bomb soon

Thinking that the objects

exploded in his hands, leaving him injured in the abdomen and face as well.

Watching this, Yasin threw away the bag causing another explosion that left him with minor injuries, the OC said. Police later recovered a tennis ball and the shopping bag from the spot.

time of the blast as his

A grade-II student, Fahim was returning home at the

uncle Rafiqul Islam. Doctors at Nitor said the

boy was out of danger. His mother Nasima

Begum, a garment worker, was seen weeping inconsolably at the hospital. "My son has lost everything. My son won't be able

to work any more," sobbed the mother, who was at work when the incident took place. The destitute mother

added that she had taken up the job only to ensure uninterrupted education for her child.

Quoting doctors, Fahim's uncle Rafiq, who was attending to him at Nitor, told The Daily Star that his nephew might not be able to work with the remaining three fingers of the injured hand in future.

The tendons in the fingers had been damaged severely, he added.

With minor injuries to the lower part of his body, Yasin was receiving treatment at a local hospital.

Police said they were searching for the two men responsible for the incident.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives (Local Government Division) Local Government Engineering Department Office of the Upazila Engineer

Upazila: Jaldhaka, District: Nilphamari Memo No. LGED/UE/Jal/2013/01

Date: 01.01.2014

Inviting for Tenders (NCB) Tender Notice No. 02/2013-2014

Procuring entity & code Upazila Engineer, Upazila: Jaldhaka, District: Nilphamari Procuring entity district Nilphamari Invitation for LGED/PEDP-III/D-01/2011(Part-6)5612 5 Date: 05-08-2013 Invitation Ref. No. Procurement method National Open tender Method (NOTM) Source of funds Funds from Government of Bangladesh ADB, IDA, DFID, EU, USAID, UNICEF, JICA, SIDA, CIDA. Development partners Programme name (code) Third Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP-III) 03-02-2014 Tender publication date 01-01-2014 11 Tender last selling date: 04-02-2014 Time: 01:00pm Tender closing date 04-02-2014 Time: 02:00pm Tender opening date Name & address of selling tender Office of the Executive Engineer Office of the Upazila Engineer Office of the Upazila Engineer Upazila: Sadar, LGED. District: Nilphamari District: Nilphamari Upazila: Nilphamari Office of the Upazila Engineer, LGED, Upazila: Jaldhaka, District: Nilphamari. Name & address of receiving tender documents Office of the Upazila Engineer, LGED, Upazila: Jaldhaka, District: Nilphamari. Name & address of opening tender documents

Place of pre-tendering meeting Office of the Upazila Engineer, LGED, Date: 15-01-2014 Date and time: Upazila: Jaldhaka, District: Nilphamari Time: 11.00am Eligibility of tenderer As described in tender document Description of work: Tender package No. document (Taka) validity period PEDP-III/NLP/JAL/ Bhabonchur Kadamtali RNGPS (Horiz. Ext) 2013-14/W2.3314 West Golmunda Maddhapara, RNGPS (") Nekhbakto Charvarat, RNGPS, (Horiz, Ext) PEDP-III/NLP/JAL/ 120 days

2,68,000/00

3000/00

12 months

Md. Harun-Or-Rashid

Upazila Engineer, Jaldhaka, Nilphamari

Purba Golmunda GPS (Horiz, Ext) 120 days PEDP-III/NLP/JAL/ Ghugunjari GPS (Vertical Ext) 3000/00 2,52,000/00 12 months Paschim Shimulbari Kochpara GPS (Vert. Ext) 2013-14/W2.3319 Kalkeot GPS (Vertical Ext) Name of official inviting tender Md. Harun-Or-Rashid. Designation of official inviting tender Upazila Engineer Upazila Jaldhaka, District: Nilphamari. Address of official inviting tender 23. Contact detail of official inviting tender Phone No. 05524-64050, 01911626500

Nekbakto GPS 2 Room (Vert. Ext) & 3 room

(Horiz, Exten)

Email: Fax: X ue.jaldhaka@lged.gov.bd Tender shall be valid for a period of 120 days after tender opening and must be accompanied by the tender security specified above. Interested tenderers may obtain further information from the office of the undersigned and purchase the tender documents in Cash/Treasury Chalan/Bank Draft from the places mentioned above. The tenderer or their authorised representatives are allowed to attend the opening of tenders. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

didates sailed through the generosity. Since the restoration of election with the party symdemocracy in 1991, the bol as the AL did not nomi-

> The situation for the almost the same.

previous elections in 1991, 1996 and 2001 with its own electoral symbol "flaming torch". But it failed to manage any seat, with most of its candidates losing their security deposits.

Finally, JSD saw a ray of hope when it got AL support to contest 2008 polls. Boarding AL's boat, it won three seats at that election.

elected unchallenged while two other candidates won party had its highest ever success thanks to the AL's The remaining two can-

Fielding 23 candidates, the party won in five seats. Of them, Inu and two others were elected unopposed.

The remaining two candidates won the polls with their own electoral symbol, challenging the candidates of Jatiya Party. BNF was floated just

before the 10th parliamentary polls despite widespread controversy. The party fielded 22 candidates but only one -- party convenor SM Abul Kalam Azad -won from a constituency in Dhaka.

It became possible for Azad to win the seat when Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad quit the race.

The history of Bangladesh Torikat

the district, including the try's historical heritage. Brick kilns with low-height chimneys

> Hakkani, a brick manufacturer of Gaibandha town.

Despite locals Many brickfield owners repeated appeal to stop from diseases said doctors at set up the kilns near locali- operation of brick kilns ties or busy roads to ease in populated areas, the transportation of bricks callous owners have and inputs, said Abdul Latif continued the business.



A brick kiln at Radhakrishnapur in Sadar upazila of Gaibandha burns fuel wood instead of coal, defying government rules.

Small parties, big success

Workers Party has been able nate their candidate in those to win only once. That was a two seats. seat at the 1991 election on its own symbol "hammer". Hasanul Haq Inu-led Jatiya In the two consecutive elec- Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) is tions, its candidates suffered The party contested the But fortune smiled after a

In Sunday's election, the

Federation is also not that old. The party fielded 31 candidates in the 2008 polls but all of them lost their security deposits. In Sunday's election, the

party posted three candidates. Two of them, including the party president Nazibul Bashar Maizbhandari, used the AL's electoral symbol. Nazibul came out suc-

cessful in his constituency while re-polling will be held in the other constituency, where the party candidate had contested, using the AL symbol. Voting in some polling

centres across the country was suspended due to a deterioration of law and order.