



Bangladesh National Hindu Grand Alliance in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday protests the recent attacks on Hindus centring round the January 5 general polls. The alliance also demanded a judicial investigation into the attacks, exemplary punishment for the perpetrators and compensation for the victims and their rehabilitation.

PHOTO: STAR

Reserve sixty JS seats

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demanding judicial investigation into the attacks, immediate arrest of the perpetrators and punishment for them and compensation for the victims and their rehabilitation.

Addressing a sit-in in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital, they also threatened to refrain from voting if their demands were not met.

To press home the demands, the alliance launched a signature campaign which the leaders said would be sent to the prime minister, Speaker, BNP chairperson and Election Commission on January 30.

The alliance Secretary General Gobinda Chandra Pramanik urged for not using issues centring Hindus for political gains.

Hindus were never safe in the present election process and continuation of this system will leave the country devoid of the religious community within the next 20 years, he said.

Among others, the alliance Chief Adviser Brig Gen (ret'd) Jayanto Kumar Sen and Advocate Dinbandhu Roy addressed the programme.

Meanwhile, protesting the attacks, several hundred Hindus of Gopalganj's Kotalipara upazila formed a human chain at Kotalipara sadar.

Govt plans to be reviewed

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Ministry of Finance.

He said to have better outcomes, the planning, programming and execution processes would have to run simultaneously.

He said the government would focus on short- and mid-term perspectives as well as long-term perspectives to materialise its aspiration for turning the country into a developed one by 2041.

Mustafa also talked about the execution of the huge annual development programme (ADP) in the current fiscal year (2013-14) in the wake of the political unrest over the last few months over the 10th parliamentary polls.

He said Bangladesh was passing through a crisis period due to the political instability mostly attributed to the BNP-Jamaat-Shibir's violence and their oppression on minorities for which tough measures were needed to protect Bangladesh.

Since the government had to pass through a crisis period amid violent protests by the opposition, the private sector is feeling somewhat uninterested in investing and so the public sector has to restore this confidence, he said.

In this regard, he said the government would prioritise approvals to those projects. The ADP, except the self-financed projects, in the current fiscal are worth Tk 65,872 crore.

He also said the projects taken up by the government would be implemented. "Once you have committed, those have to go on."

Laying emphasis on establishing good governance, Kamal said the government would have to ensure transparency and accountability in all sectors and curb corruption with an iron hand. "We will have to deliver results."

JTC agrees

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between the two countries.

He emphasised establishment of road connectivity and drew attention to the fact that as growth demands of the developed countries are likely to remain weak in few more years, greater importance is needed to be laid on regional trade.

In the JTC meeting which ended in the spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation at the Bangladesh Embassy, the two sides also decided to form two Joint Working Groups—one on cooperation in agriculture and the other on cooperation in the fisheries sector.

The business leaders of Bangladesh and Myanmar enjoyed a unique opportunity to share views on issues of bilateral trade and investment during the two-day programme.

Police still clueless about six-murder

UNB, Dhaka

Though nearly a month has elapsed since the six-murder incident in the capital's Gopibagh, no headway has been made in the investigation into the case.

The investigators, who are sure it was a planned murder over a religious conflict, said they are yet to find any clue that will reveal the identities of the murderers.

On December 21 last year, six people, including a pir (religious leader) and his son, were killed by miscreants on RK Mission Road in Gopibagh. The pir had been arrested twice several years back for controversial preaching of his own religious beliefs.

The dead are Lutfar Rahman Faruq, 60,

the self-proclaimed pir, his son Sanwar Islam alias Monir, 30, a banker, and his four followers - Mujibur Rahman, 30, Russell, 25, and Shahin, 25, and Manju, 30.

As the perpetrators still remain at large, family members of the victims have shifted their residence from Gopibagh to elsewhere as they are insecure.

Lutfar's younger son Abdullah Al Faruk filed a case with Wari Police Station on December 22 against 11 unidentified people for the murders. Later, the case was transferred to Detective Branch (DB) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police for investigation.

Contacted, Abdullah Al Faruk, a private bank officer, told the news agency that there has been no significant progress in the investigation into the case so far.

PM exchanges pleasantries

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Bandyopadhyay, Khairul Anwar Mukul of NTV, Mozammel Babu of Ekattor TV, Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique, Prof Golam Rahman and Prof

Anwar Hossain.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury, Communications Minister Obaiddul Quader and Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor were present.

2 Shibir men held

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out subversive activities, police conducted a drive in a house in the area and arrested the two, said Iftekhar Hasan, officer-in-charge (OC) of Sitakunda Police Station.

Besides 2 kilogrammes of gunpowder and 200 grammes of potassium, police recovered several books on jihad, five cocktails, and three sharp weapons from the house.

Meanwhile, police arrested three Jamaat-Shibir men, including Javed Jahangir, one of the accused in a case filed

for murdering a Jubo League activist, in Kerani Hat and Chadaha areas under Satkania upazila of the district, said Md Khaled Hossain, OC of Satkania Police Station.

After the news that Jamaat leader Quader Mollah would be executed on December 10 spread, Jamaat-Shibir activists went on the rampage in different areas of Satkania upazila.

They hacked Jubo League activists Jabbar and ransacked his house. Jabbar succumbed to his injuries on December 19.

Bangladesh to root out

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to use them in their favour.

Earlier, activists of the local Gonojagoron Mancha unit, freedom fighters and leaders and activists of different political parties

and cultural organisations welcomed the activists on the road march.

Earlier, street rallies were organised at Jamurki in Mirzapur upazila and Elenga in Kalihati upazila of the district.

Trade fair draws huge

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due to the recent political unrest, participation of both consumers and visitors on the first holiday are satisfactory.

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