

## SPOTLIGHT: UPAZILA POLLS

GOURNADI, BAKERGANJ IN BARISAL

## More than 60pc polling centres vulnerable

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Barisal

A staggering 89 of the 139 polling centres in Gournadi and Bakerganj upazilas under the district have been marked as vulnerable ahead of the upazila parishad elections to be held on February 19, said sources at district election office and police.

Forty-five centres with 276 polling booths for 1,25,286 voters of Gournadi and 94 centres with 647 polling booths for 2,13,968 voters of Bakerganj upazila

have been selected for the polls, said Md Dulal Talukdar, district election officer, also returning officer of the polls.

All the 45 polling centres in Gournadi upazila are identified as vulnerable, 28 of them are 'risky' and 17 'highly risky'.

Of the 94 centres in Bakerganj upazila, six are 'risky' and 38 'highly risky', said the officials concerned.

Infrastructural condition, location and communication facilities of the polling centres, political and law and order situation

of the areas were considered while marking vulnerability of the centres, police said.

Special security arrangements including deployment of necessary forces, striking forces, mobile teams, raids to arrest miscreants will be taken to conduct free, fair and peaceful polls in all the centres, said AKM Ehsan Ullah, district superintendent of police.

The lists of vulnerable polling centres have been sent to the upazila nirbahi officers concerned for taking necessary action, said Dulal Talukdar, returning officer.

## SYLHET ROUND-UP

## Both AL, BNP in trouble with 'rebel' aspirants

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,  
Sylhet

Both Awami League and Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) have failed to field single candidate for the posts of chairman in four out of six upazilas of the district in the upcoming upazila parishad elections.

AL central Organising Secretary (Sylhet division) Misbah Uddin Siraj said they expelled seven party men on Saturday for not quitting the election race on the last day of withdrawal of nomination papers.

District BNP Organising Secretary Ali Ahmed yesterday told this correspondent that the party would take a decision about the rebel candidates very soon.

In Golapganj upazila, AL-backed candidate Iqbal Ahmed Chowdhury is contesting the election while rebels Humayun Islam Kamal and Akbar Ali Fokhor are also in the race.

Upazila BNP is in trouble with former district JCD president Emran Ahmed Chowdhury and union parishad chairman Nosirul Haque Shahin as they are contesting the election against party-backed candidate Jilal Ahmed. Besides, Nazmul Islam of Jamaat-e-Islami is also contesting for the post of upazila parishad chairman.

In Companiganj, rebel AL candidate Jahangir Alam is contesting the election against party-backed candidate Abdul Basir. BNP has supported Ali Ahmed while Shahab Uddin from the same party is also in the race.

In Zakiganj, AL has supported Lokman Uddin Chowdhury, but party activist Younus Ali is contesting the election as rebel candidate. BNP's Saifuddin Khaled is contesting the election in the upazila against party-backed Iqbal Ahmed, also a former

municipality mayor. In Jaintapur, AL-backed candidate Md Abdulla is contesting the election while party man Kamal Ahmed, Dorbost union parishad chairman, is also in the race. BNP-led alliance has supported sitting upazila parishad chairman Zainal Abedin of Jamaat.

In Gowainghat upazila, both BNP and AL have fielded single candidate for the post of upazila parishad chairman.

In Biswanath upazila, AL-backed candidate is Firoze Khan (Ponki khan). BNP has supported its upazila unit vice-president Sohel Ahmed Chowdhury as candidate for the post of chairman. Jamaat has also fielded its upazila leader Nizam Uddin Siddiqui, chairman of Khajanchi union parishad, as candidate for the post of chairman.

Rashid, 55, a village police and son of Zahid Uddin Sheikh of Mulghar village was shot dead by the outlaws while he was returning home from a local market around 9:00pm on January 27, 2004.

The convicts are Shamim Sheikh, son of Abu Sheik, Anwar Sheikh, son of Osman Sheikh of Mulghar village, Rony Sardar, son of Abdul Ali Sardar of Kakdanga village and Habi Molla, son of Harun Molla of Sonakhali village in Fakirhat upazila. All of them were active members of the outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP-ML).

They were tried in absentia.

One of the accused, Ibrahim Sheikh alias Ibra, son of Imruj Sheikh of Mulghar, died during the trial.

According to the prosecution, Harun-or-

At least 47 others, including teachers and students of the school, were injured in the accident.

Police suspect that the slippery road in the rain could be one of the reasons for the accident. The children had gone to Mujibnagar in Meherpur for the picnic.

All educational institutions in Shasha upazila remained closed yesterday to mourn the death of seven school children.

Jessore district administration yesterday formed a four-member committee headed by Additional Deputy Commissioner Sabina Yasmin to probe the bus accident. The committee has been asked to submit its report within three days.

A special *doa*, seeking salvation of the departed souls and early recovery of the injured school kids will be held at all government primary schools across the country today (Monday).

## Sylhet, Bogra AL expel 'rebel' candidates

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Iqbal Hossain Mostan, Companiganj upazila AL advisory committee member Shamsul Islam and former BCL president of the same upazila Shahjahan Chowdhury.

Besides, the meeting called for not to support union parishad chairman and former upazila BCL president Kamal Ahmed, who is contesting for Jaintapur upazila chairmanship as a rebel. Decision to expel him could not be taken since Kamal does not hold any post in the AL, the meeting was told.

In Dhunat, the expelled aspirants are senior vice-president of Dhunat upazila unit AL Qudrat-e-Khoda, another vice-president Shafiqul Islam and upazila Jabo League president VP Sheikh Motiur Rahman.

In Sariakandi upazila, two other AL expelled aspirants are Monjil Ali of upazila unit and AL leader Shahjahan Ali.

In Nandigram upazila, an upazila election aspirant was expelled by AL district unit committee. He was upazila unit AL secretary Anisur Rahman.

Contacted, AL district unit president Motomaj Uddin said that the 'rebel' aspirants were previously advised verbally for withdrawing candidature. But still they violated the order of the central and district committees.

The 'rebel' vice chairman candidates, who were also expelled during the same meeting are Jaintapur upazila AL law affairs secretary Altaf Hossain, Osmaninagar thana AL assistant publicity secretary

## গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

নির্বাচী প্রক্রিয়ার কার্যালয়

গণপূর্ত বিভাগ-২, রাজশাহী

ফোন নং-০২১-৮১২২৭৬ ফ্যাক্স-০৭২১-৯৭২২৭৯

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স্মারক নং: ১০০১

নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা গণপূর্ত বিভাগ-২ রাজশাহী এর অকেজো মোটরযান, রাজশাহী-ক-৭৮৬ যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে সে অবস্থায় নিলামে বিক্রয়ের জন্য আগ্রহী জনসাধারণ, ব্যবসায়ী এবং গণপূর্ত বিভাগের সকল শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদারগণের নিকট হাতে সীলমোহরকৃত কোটেশন আহবান করা যাইতেছে। উক্ত কোটেশন তফসীল আগ্রামী ০৪-০৩-২০১৪ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চালাকালীন সময়ে গণপূর্ত সার্কেল, রাজশাহীর অধীনে সকল বিভাগীয় কার্যালয়ে ক্রয় করিতে পারিবে এবং ০৫-০৩-২০১৪ তারিখে বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত নিয়ন্ত্রকর্তার অফিসে ভয়স্ত্বার দাখিল করিতে পারিবে। আগ্রহীগণকে মোটরযানটি পরিদর্শনে গণপূর্ত ই/এম উপ-বিভাগ-২, রাজশাহী এর দণ্ডে যোগাযোগ করে দেখা যাইবে।

হাসান আহমেদ সারওয়ার

নির্বাচী প্রক্রিয়া

গণপূর্ত বিভাগ-২, রাজশাহী

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Namaz-e-Janaza for seven school kids, killed in a road accident on Saturday night, was held at Benapole Ball Field in Sharsha upazila of Jessore yesterday.

## AL man's cadres torch 13 houses of party rivals

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Mymensingh

A group of people, allegedly belonging to ruling Awami League (AL), torched at least 13 houses of their rivals at Swalpo Paschimpara village in Gouripur upazila on Saturday night.

Police said, Shahed Ali, an AL supporter was attacked by a gang on Friday night on his way back home. Injured Shahed was admitted to Gouripur upazila health complex.

As Shahed had a long-standing rivalry with Mustakim Member, also an AL supporter, over establishing supremacy in the area, Shahed's men blamed Mustakim and his men for the attack, said police.

Following the attack on Shahed, his sons -- Swapon and Nayan -- along with their men attacked the houses of Mustakim Member and his relatives around 9.00pm and ransacked the houses. At one stage they torched 13 houses, said Hamidur

Rahman, officer in-charge of Gouripur police station.

## Laxmipur clash

In Laxmipur district, local Awami League men clashed with the activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and its student body Islami Chhatra Shibir at Charalrance Bazar in Kamalnagar upazila on Saturday, leaving three people injured.

Police and witnesses said, the clash ensued following the arrest of Kamalnagar upazila unit Jamaat Nayeb-e-Ameer Shihab Uddin at noon, reports UNB.

As a sequel to the arrest, some Shibir men beat up three people, including upazila unit AL leader Shahjahan and Chhatra League (BCL) leader Fahad Hossain Tipu, at Charalrance Bazar around 7.00pm.

At one stage, AL and BCL men attacked the Shibir activists, triggering a chase and counter chase between them.

At least five shops and two party offices of BNP were vandalized during the melee.

## Jubo League leader killed in Cox's Bazar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A local leader of Jubo League was brutally killed by unidentified criminals at Kalarmarchhara in Maheshkhali upazila yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Mujib Ullah, 24, convenor of Kalarmarchhara union unit of the ruling party's youth wing and son of AL leader Abu Hashem of Andhar Ghona village.

Mujib's brother Syedul Quader said that a gang of 20-25 swooped on their house in the early hours and stabbed Mujib indiscriminately.

They also hacked Hashem as he came to the rescue of his son, leaving both of them seriously injured.

The two were first rushed to Cox's Bazar General Hospital where the on-duty doctors referred Mujib to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

However, the Jubo League leader succumbed to his injuries on the way to the hospital around 1:00pm.

Syedul alleged that Mujib was killed as he joined a committee formed recently to resist the local robbers. He used to help the administration to locate and arrest the criminals.

## HWF RALLY IN KHAGRACHHARI 'Punish culprits who raped, killed Sabita'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachari

Leaders of Hill Women's Federation, a front organization of United Peoples Democratic Front, yesterday demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the criminals who killed Sabita Chakma.

They were holding a protest rally in Mukta Mancha area in the district town.

They also said Sabita was killed after rape and blamed three settler Bangalees for it.

The accused are Nasir, driver of a sand carrying tractor, its helper Nazrul and labour Nasir.

The speakers at the rally said that violence against the indigenous women were

rising gradually in the district as most of criminals did not get punishment, while the police played a mysterious role.

They urged the government to take immediate initiative to ensure justice in all cases of violence against the indigenous women of CHT region.

Earlier, on Saturday evening, police recovered the body of Sabita Chakma from a bush in Kamalchhari area of Sadar upazila.

Her husband Dev Ratan Chakma said, Sabita went missing from noon on Saturday after she went out to collect grass for cattle.

Later locals found her body in a bush about 30 yards from their house.



Students of primary schools in Shaikupura upazila form a human chain on a road at Sheikhpura Bazar in the upazila yesterday, demanding immediate arrest of the culprits who killed four-year-old Laxmi Rani of the area after abduction on February 10.

## BSF hands over 12 Bangladeshi

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Thakurgaon

The returnees are Provat Barman, 30, son of Amulya Barman, Radha Barman, 25, wife of Provat Barman, Rup Rani Barman, 15, daughter of Provat Barman, Ajit Kumar Barman, 30, son of Shoshi Mohon Barman, Awusti Mohon Barman, 23, wife of Ajit Kumar Barman, Ritu Rani Barman, 12, daughter of Ajit Kumar Barman, Animesh Barman, 14, son of Ajit Kumar Barman of Gouripur village, Premananda Barman, 30, son of Chinta Mohon Barman of Lashkarpura village, Sudhir Barman, 28, son of Sotyendranath Barman of Begubari village, Nipun Barman, 26, son of Fanibhusan Barman, Nishita Rani, 08, daughter of Nipun Barman, Mita Rani, 25, wife of Suash Chandra Barman of Sondalganj village in

The flag meeting took place on the zero line of the border near Uttar Nurpara village under Sadar upazila of Panchagarh.

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## Expression of Interest (EOI)

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