



A partially demolished dam on Chiknai river in Chatmohor upazila of Pabna. The encroachers returned to the site to repair or rebuild the dams yesterday, just a day after the demolition drive by the administration.

DAMS ON CHIKNAI RIVER IN PABNA

Encroachers return just a day after demolition

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Encroachers, reportedly ruling party men, have started repairing the dams, which were demolished by Chatmohor upazila administration in Chiknai river on Monday.

After publishing a report in The Daily Star on February 15, the local administration conducted a drive on Monday and removed the illegal dams across the river.

While visiting the area on

there.

"They assured me of removing the fences after catching fish," The UNO said, adding that if the encroachers try to rebuild dams across the river, legal action will be taken against them.

In a flagrant breach of environmental law, Md Kazal Bishwas, joint secretary of AL Mulgram union unit in Chatmohor upazila, along with the local ruling party men constructed the

dams in Chiknai river two weeks ago in the name of a fish project, halting the natural flow of the river.

Within two kilometres of the river, the encroachers erected two embankments at Bonnagri and Sangram in the union.

They were also planning to build another dam at Atlanka, some one km north of Bonnagri, local sources said. Around 15 maunds of fish fries were released in the river-cum-pond.



Bangladesh Mohila Parishad in Thakurgaon forms a human chain in the district town yesterday, demanding punishment to a clinic staff who performed operation on a patient, allegedly causing her death on Monday.

Punish killers of Joba Rani

Human chain in Thakurgaon demands

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

District unit of Bangladesh Mohila Parishad formed a human chain at Thakurgaon intersection yesterday, demanding punishment to a hospital manager who allegedly performed operation, killing a patient on Monday.

Deceased Joba Rani, 35, expecting wife of Madan Chandra Roy of Madansako village in Birganj upazila in Dinajpur went to the hospital for cesarean operation.

The speakers said that taking advantage of rural people's ignorance and their poverty, a section of dishonest owners of such clinics often cheat them.

They also urged the authorities concerned to visit the private clinics and hospitals on regular basis for ensuring proper treatment to people.

The husband of the deceased told this correspondent that he had taken his wife to New Square Hospital while she was having labour pain around 1:30pm on Monday.

We waited for around three and a half

hours as there was no surgeon at the hospital. Then, around 5:00pm, manager and co-owner of the hospital Md Shahin, who had no medical credentials at all, took Joba Rani to the operation theatre and performed the operation, said Madan.

After giving birth to a stillborn, Joba started bleeding profusely and Shahin gave her an injection which deteriorated her condition. She eventually died around 6:30pm, said the bereaved husband.

"After killing my wife, Shahin offered to pay us the transport cost and asked us to leave the hospital immediately. But we did not leave," Madan said.

Police later recovered the body at around 12:00 midnight. However, Shahin and his partner Kamruzzaman Babu fled the scene.

Executive Magistrate Wasimul Bari yesterday morning sealed off the hospital after shifting its patients to Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital. Assistant manager of the hospital Ferdous Alam and nurses Shila Rani Sarker and Shahnaz Pervin were arrested during the drive.

BCL does it again at BRUR

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Ruling Awami League's student front Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday went on a rampage at the establishment section of Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur (BRUR) allegedly to push for the recruitment of candidates of its choice.

During the violence, BCL activists, led by Hadiuzzam Hadi, vice-president of the university unit, vandalised tables, chairs and others furniture and tore emergency files of the establishment section.

An officer of the section said that the unruly BCL men also took away some emergency files.

Witnesses said, at around 11:30am, BCL activists led by Hadi and Ali Raz, entered the section and demanded appointment of officers at the university according to their choice.

The BCL men also rebuked the officers and the employees of the section for not issuing viva voce cards to their selected candidates.

Earlier, on Monday, a few unruly BCL activists of the university unit vandalised furniture and two computers of five rooms at the administrative building, demanding immediate opening of the 'Bangabandhu Student Hall'.

This time Malopara villagers could cast votes peacefully

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Malopara villagers, who fell victim to violence on January 5, cast their votes peacefully in Abhaynagar Upazila Parishad election yesterday.

"Around 400 voters of the village cast their votes at Chanpatola-Changutia Alia Madrasa centre, about one half kilometres away from the village.

"People of Malopara participated in the voting with enthusiasm as law enforcers, including BGB, Rab and

police, patrolled the area from 11:00am," said Biswajit Sarker of the village.

Presiding Officer Timir Baron Sarker said voting at his centre was peaceful.

Around 300 to 400 Jamaat-Shibir activists attacked the houses of Hindus at Malopara under Abhaynagar upazila of Jessore in the evening of January 5 for casting votes in the 10 parliamentary elections on the day.

They vandalised and looted

around 150 houses and set 12 of them afire. At least 20 people were injured during the attack.

Voting at 62 polling centres in the upazila was by and large peaceful. Ruling party men tried to capture Jafpur Boys' High School in Rajghat union at noon.

Law enforcers dispersed the unruly supporters of AL-backed candidate Robin Adhikary, firing two blank shots. Voting was suspended for half an hour.

KORNAI VILLAGE IN DINAJPUR

Another Hindu family flees to India for fear of life

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

The house of Karuna

Chandra Roy at Kornai Schoolpara of Kornai village in Dinajpur Sadar wears a deserted look as the owner along with family members migrated to India on Friday.

The head of the migrating family was identified as Karuna Chandra Roy, 36, son of Atul Chandra Roy, of Kornai Schoolpara village in Sadar upazila.

According to the villagers and relatives, Karuna, along with his wife Sushila Rani Roy, 27, and their children Kowsholya Chandra Roy, 12, Pabitra Chandra Roy, 10, and eight-month-old daughter left the village on Friday early morning.

Before leaving the village, he told his only aunt (sister of his father) that they were going to a relative's house in Kharol upazila of Dinajpur where they would stay for a few days.

But on Saturday night, Karuna phoned her aunt and said that he had already crossed into India with his family members.

"He just informed this and inquired about his father's health and then requested me to kindly take care of him," said Antobala Roy, 52, with tearful eyes.

Atul Chandra Roy, 60, a widower and father of Karuna Chandra Roy is still



unaware that his son is not in Bangladesh any more.

Karuna's younger son Mithu Chandra Roy, 27, migrated to India 4 years ago, added aunt Antobala.

Karuna was passing fearful days with his family members as he had been continuously receiving death threat from the persons who opposed the January 5 national elections, alleged the villagers.

The Jamaat-Shibir men threatened him several times to slit his throat anytime, they said.

According to locals, Karuna, a mason by profession, came to Kornai village around 13 years ago and purchased a piece of land at

Schoolpara. There he built a mud house and was leading a happy life with his family members.

His two children -- Kowsholya and Pabitra -- were studying in Class V and Class III at Kornai Government Primary School.

Around three years ago, he demolished the mud house and erected a two-room semi-concrete building. "He did all this to live in the village, but finally had to leave home for insecurity and threat", lamented the aunt.

While talking to this correspondent, several villagers apprehended that more people like Karuna may leave the country if the situation remains unchanged.

Earlier, Bhusan Chandra Roy, 36, son of late Bahiru Chandra Roy of Kornai Schoolpara village, who was mercilessly beaten up by the 18-party men on January 5, left the village for India on January 31, said his family members.

It is really painful for anybody to leave his motherland for good, remarked villager Romeni Kanto Roy.

On January 5, around 1500 to 2000 Jamaat-Shibir and BNP men, equipped with sharp weapons and wooden sticks swooped on the Hindus of Kornai village and carried out vandalism, arson attack and looting. The attackers damaged at least 150 houses and 43 shops.



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কেজ়ে ১: বি এন কলেজ ঢাকা।

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