

EVICTED OF ILLEGAL CATTLE MARKET IN SYLHET
Irked pro-AL men go berserk
Beat up cop, journo; block road, vandalise vehicles; set up market again just hours after drive

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

About 200 activists of pro-Awami League (AL) organisation Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and AL's youth front Jubo League barricaded an intersection, vandalised vehicles and beat up a journalist and a uniformed policeman after an illegal cattle market they set up was evicted in Sylhet city yesterday.

While pedestrians and shopkeepers fled in panic, a contingent of some 40 to 50 police stood unmoving just yards away at Rikabibazar intersection. The District Police Lines is situated around 30 yards from the spot.

Lifting the barricade around one and a half hours later at 5:30pm, the activists, whom locals believe to be of Lamabazar, Medical Road and Kajal Shah areas, set up the market again on two half-a-kilometre stretches from Rikabibazar intersection, one leading to Mirer Maidan and the other Chouhatta.

Using loudspeakers, they claimed of having reached an agreement with the adminis-

tration over re-establishing the market. Intermittently they said out loud, "Police are part of the government...we are also the government's men...we have no dispute with them...the market will run".

This correspondent found the activists stopping trucks carrying cattle from going to the city's lone authorised market in Kazirbazar and telling traders to unload the sacrificial animals at their illegal market.

Executive Magistrate Kazi Arifur Rahman, who had carried out the eviction around 1:30pm, said the expulsion was ordered by the mayor.

The barricade was placed around 4:00pm from when some 20 vehicles, mainly rickshaws and auto-rickshaws, were vandalised by the activists raising the "Joy Bangla" slogan.

The assaulted cop, whose identity is yet to be found, was on one of the rickshaws and he fled toward the police lines.

During the assault on Kamkamur Razzaque Runu, journalist of private television channel RTV, his camera was snatched.

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With only a day to go before Eid-ul-Azha, traders cash in on brisk business of tree stumps and palm-leaf mats, which are used in processing meat, and fodder in the capital's Karwan Bazar yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN



Dhaka city gets an unusual desolate look with most of the dwellers having left to celebrate Eid-ul-Azha outside the capital, with their near and dear ones. The photo was taken at Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, one of the busiest thoroughfares of the city.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

EID-UL-AZHA TOMORROW
Nat'l Eidgah congregation at 8:30am
 STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eid-ul-Azha, the second biggest festival of Muslims, will be celebrated across the country tomorrow.

The main Eid jamaat (congregation) will be held at the National Eidgah on the Supreme Court premises in Dhaka at 8:30am, if the weather remains favourable, said an official of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC).

In case of inclement weather, the jamaat will be held at Baitul Mukarram National Mosque at 9:00am, added the official.

Besides, arrangements for Eid congregation of women have been made at

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25 doped in a day in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Drugging gangs robbed a large amount of cash, 10 cattle and a truck from 25 persons, mostly traders, in several incidents in the capital Dhaka and its outskirts yesterday.

Except for two who were treated at an Araihsar hospital in Narayanganj, all of the victims were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

People at Rupnagar Eastern Housing cattle market found unconscious groups of cattle traders, seven around 2:30am and eight around 4:00am. It is suspected that their meal, which they cooked themselves, had been spiked with sedatives.

Killings, oppression cannot save Hasina
 BNP Joint Secretary General Rizvi Ahmed tells press conference
 STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Joint Secretary General Rizvi Ahmed yesterday said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina would not be able to save herself despite the oppression and killing of BNP leaders and activists being carried out by her government.

"The present illegal government is thinking that it would be able to hide all its misdeeds through abductions, forced disappearances and killing opposition men. All cruel rulers of the world

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LATIF'S REMARKS
Govt should prepare code of conduct for ministers
 Suranjit tells discussion
 DHAKA, Unb

Senior Awami League leader Suranjit Sengupta yesterday called upon the government to prepare a code of conduct for the cabinet members so that it does not have to face any embarrassing situation because of any minister's unwarranted remarks and behaviour.

He made the call, referring to his party colleague Latif Siddique's recent "derogatory" remarks in New York on Hajj, Tabligh Jamaat and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's son Sajeeb Wazed Joy.

"Every institution is regulated with its own rules. There's a code of conduct for judges. A minister, who represents the nation, should behave keeping in mind its social and political impact, as he or she holds a very important position,"

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