



3-day Ras Mela starts on Kuakata beach

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

The 150-year-old traditional Ras mela, the biggest festival for Hindu community in the country's southern region, began in Kuakata yesterday.

Several thousand devotees have already started gathering at the venue but they are deeply worried over the countrywide hartal called by Jamaat.

However, the party withdrew the shutdown in Patuakhali for two days yesterday and today.

The three-day celebrations started at 4:00pm with devotees taking a dip in the water of the Bay at dawn after the full moon, known as Ras Mela.

Devotees believe that the bathing in the bay during this festival would wipe out all their sins. People irrespective of all faiths and professions joined the biggest celebra-

tions in the area. It also celebrated at Dubler Char in the Sundarbans at the same time.

As much as 16 pairs of couple idols of Srikrishna and Radha and idols of Hindu community have been set up at a temporary mandop at the beach. Various programmes including Kirton and religious discussion are held at the festival.

Kuakata sea beach is now crowded with full of tourists. Thousands of tourists from home and abroad have flocked there to enjoy the Ras Mela.

All hotels, motels and tourists lodges are jam packed with visitors' days ahead. The administration has made adequate security and safety measures and deployed police and Rab personnel in strategic areas including the sea beach and tourists zone.

DRIVE AGAINST ILLEGAL GAS CONNECTIONS

Locals attack mobile court, Titas staff in Narsingdi, 4 injured

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

An Ansar member and newsmen of three private TV channels were injured as locals attacked a mobile court and officials of Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited at Mulapara village in Sadar upazila yesterday.

Injured Ansar Abul Kalam, 45, was rushed to Narsingdi General Hospital and later shifted to National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (NITOR) in the capital.

Sources said a mobile court let by Executive Magistrate Jahirul Hayat, along with Shahidul Islam, manager of Titas Gas in Narsingdi, went to the village and disconnected about 500 illegal domestic gas lines around 12:30pm. At one stage of the drive, aggrieved locals attacked the mobile court

and beat up Abul Kalam mercilessly. They snatched his rifle when Kalam jumped into a pond in a bid to save himself from the attack.

Later, the villagers swooped on Ayub Khan Sarkar, district correspondent of Channel 9, and two camerapersons, Kawsar Ahmed, of Somoy TV, and Laxman Burman, of Channel 24, while they were covering the incident.

Meanwhile, Abu Hena Morshed Zaman, Deputy Commissioner (DC) in Narsingdi, and Additional Superintendent of Police Shahnawaz Khaled visited the injured newsmen at Narsingdi General Hospital and inquired about their condition.

Headed by Additional District Magistrate Kamal Hossain, a three-member probe committee was formed yesterday to probe the incident.

The committee has been asked to submit its report within three working days.

Locals stage a demonstration, blocking the road in Habiganj town yesterday, demanding action against the Rapid Action Battalion men for torturing journalist Din Islam.

Rab's torture of newsman in Habiganj protested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Around 5,000 locals staged demonstration and handed over memorandum to Habiganj district officials yesterday demanding steps against Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) men for torture on a newsman.

They also besieged the road and the DC office for two hours and took out procession.

After a clash between the inhabitants of two villages who gathered at Katiadi Bazar in Habiganj Sadar upazila in observance of Ashura Tuesday afternoon, a heated exchange occurred between some Rab men and Din Islam, reporter of the daily Bijoyer Dhani of Habiganj, locals said.

The Rab men beat Din Islam mercilessly and after four hours handed him over to Habiganj police, who admitted him to Habiganj

Sadar Hospital Tuesday night. He was sent to jail in the case filed by Rab yesterday morning.

Over 5,000 villagers took out a procession from Eidgah Maidan and gathered in front of the DC's office, raising slogans against the Rab men.

Habiganj Ashura Udjapon Committee general secretary Abdul Jalil chaired the rally held at Nimtola while Lashkarpur union parishad chairman (UP) Amzad Ali, local Awami League leader Mahbubur Rahman Hiron, and BNP leader Mohibul Islam Shahin addressed.

They alleged the Rab men tortured journalist Din Islam without any reason in presence of hundreds of people and police.

Even after a negotiation by the upazila parishad chairman in the evening, they picked up the journalist on their vehicle and tortured

him for hours before handing over to the police at 10:30pm, alleged UP Chairman Amzad Ali.

Asked about the matter, Mosabbir Rahman, Srimangal camp in charge of Rab-9, claimed that Din Islam was arrested for pelting bricks on the Rab men and attempting to lock in a clash with them.

Contacted, Habiganj Sadar upazila parishad Chairman Syed Ahmedul Haque told this correspondent, "I negotiated the matter of alleged misbehaviour with the Rab. But then they picked Din Islam up."

Md Nazim Uddin, officer in charge of Habiganj Sadar Police Station told this correspondent, "Rab handed over Din Islam at about 10:30pm Tuesday on charge of pelting brickbats and attempting to assault them. Deputy assistant director of Rab's Srimangal camp filed the case."

KALIGANJ UPAZILA IN JHENIDAH

Rival AL men vandalise party office, shops

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

A faction of Kaliganj upazila unit of the ruling Awami League vandalised local party office and three shops at the upazila market on Tuesday night.

Mostafizur Rahman Biju, mayor of Kaliganj Municipality, told this correspondent the supporters of local lawmaker Anwarul Azim Anar led by his nephew Ashraf Ali attacked the AL office when they were holding a meeting there at around 8:30pm.

They damaged furniture and vandalised a motorbike in front of the office, he said, adding that the attackers also blasted bombs.

Party sources said AL men belonging to upazila unit President Abdul Mannan were holding a meeting at the party office, protesting bomb attack on the residence of central Jubo League chief in the capital.

The rival AL men also

vandalised three shops adjacent to the party office during the attack. Shop owners Badal Kumar Biswas, Uzzal Kumar and Ananda Biswas claimed that the

attackers looted goods from their shops

Contacted, Ashraf Ali refuted the allegation, saying that the AL men loyal to the lawmaker were not involved in the incident.



PHOTO: STAR

Kaliganj upazila Awami League office lies vandalised following attack by a rival faction of the unit Tuesday night.

22 held while returning from India without passports

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

Members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) arrested 22 Bangladeshis while they were returning home from India through Putkhali border under Benapole port

Police Station without passports on Tuesday night.

Alauddin, Putkhali camp in charge, said the border guards, acting on a tip-off, conducted a drive in the area at around 10:30 pm and detained seven women, 11 men and four children.

BGB sources said they

arrested the Bangladeshis while entering the country without valid documents. They all hail from Jessore, Narail, Satkhira and Bagerhat districts, sources added.

BGB personnel later handed over the arrestees to Benapole Port Police Station.

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)

PROMOTION OF DEVELOPMENT AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING IN THE CHITTAGONG HIIL TRACTS (CHT)

Notice for Cancellation of Pre-bid Meeting and announce new date

Request for Quotation (RFQ) for Electrical Infrastructure Renovation for CHTDF, Rangamati Office

Due to continued Countrywide Hartal, pre-bid meeting for above mentioned RFQ is cancelled. Revised pre-bid meeting date is 09 November, 2014 Sunday at 10:30 am.; all other terms and condition will remain un-changed.

The RFQ along with the instructions for submission can be downloaded from UNDP website: http://procurement-notice.undp.org/view_notice.cfm?notice_id=18768.



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PROCUREMENT NOTICE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT (IC)

PROMOTION OF DEVELOPMENT AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING IN THE CHITTAGONG HIIL TRACTS (CHT)

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility (CHTDF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Bangladesh, seeks proposals from interested and well qualified individuals in response to the following procurement notices in the CHT:

1. National Consultant - Education Expert for conduct the final evaluation of strengthening Basic Education in CHT; download the IC Notice here: http://jobs.undp.org/cj_view_job.cfm?cur_job_id=51168

2. National Consultant - CHT Expert for conduct the final evaluation of strengthening Basic Education in CHT; download the IC Notice here: http://jobs.undp.org/cj_view_job.cfm?cur_job_id=51169

Two (2) separate IC Procurement Notices along with the instructions and deadline for proposal submission can be downloaded from the links mentioned with the respective position.



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Any direct or indirect solicitation will result in disqualification of the candidature.

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| ৩. অটোমেটিক মার্বেল পোলিশার কমপ্লিট সেট (হেড-১০) | ৮. হ্যাড পোলিশার - কমপ্লিট সেট - ৪টি |
| ৪. সেমপারিং মেশিন - কমপ্লিট সেট - ১টি | ৯. কম্প্রেসার ফর পলিশিং - ১টি |
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