

**Pro-BNP SCBA lawyers vow to carry on anti-govt protest**  
AL-affiliated group demands arrest of Khaleda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The two groups of lawyers affiliated with the BNP and the ruling Awami League held separate programmes on the Supreme Court Bar Association premises yesterday, in support of and protesting the ongoing blockade respectively.

Meanwhile, judicial activities at the Supreme Court has been nearly halted due to the blockade and hartal in the capital, as most judges and lawyers did not attend the court on security grounds.

SC sources said all the Appellate Division judges and some High Court judges, however, had discharged their judicial functions for a few hours.

At its rally, the pro-BNP lawyers of Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum (JAF) vowed to continue protest until the "fall" of the present government.

JAF leader and SCBA Secretary AM Mahub Uddin Khokon said the AL men were killing people by burning vehicles, but the government was blaming BNP for that.

Earlier in the day, pro-AL lawyers formed a human chain under the Awami Jubo Ainjibi Parishad banner, led by former SCBA secretary Momtaz Uddin Ahmed Mehedi.

Mehedi demanded arrest of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, saying she was responsible for the deaths caused by bombing and torching of vehicles.



**SOVEREIGN BEING TRAMPLED BY SERVANTS**

1) Narayanganj City BNP leader ATM Kamal arrested in Hajiganj yesterday after trying to lead a pro-hartal march. Family alleged that a police sub-inspector had threatened to shoot him before. 2) A bus damaged by petrol bombs near Barisal University. Six passengers were burnt. 3) Police escort a caravan of trucks headed for the capital, in Palashbari area on Rangpur-Dhaka highway. 4) While about a dozen others remain stuck there. 5) An alleged Islami Chhatra Shibir activist starts a fire on a road in the capital's Badda. 6) Two Shibir activists held in Cox's Bazar with four petrol bombs. 7) A crowd buying rice and flour at an open market sale point at fair prices in Badda as the ongoing blockade has triggered a price hike.

PHOTO: STAR, BANGLAR CHOKH

**86 cops to be awarded on Police Week beginning Jan 27**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some 86 police officers and constables will be awarded Bangladesh Police Medal and President Police Medal at a function of Police Week-2015 beginning on January 27, confirmed sources at the home ministry.

According to the sources, most of the police officers, who played "effective roles" to resist BNP-led opposition parties' movement centring the January 5 national election have been selected for the awards this year.

Police constables-Imam Uddin and Abdul Awal Bhuiyan who were killed in the election violence and constable Abdul Malek who was shot dead in a gunfight with robbers-are among the awardees this year.

The selected police officers include Shahidul Islam, deputy inspector general (DIG) of special branch; Golam Faruk, additional DIG (admin and operation); Monirul Islam, joint police commissioner (Detective Branch, Dhaka Metropolitan Police); Jahangir Hossain, deputy police commissioner (DB, DMP); Krishna Pada Roy, deputy police commissioner (DB, DMP); Habibur Rahman, superintendent of police (SP) of Dhaka; Sheikh Nazmul Alam, deputy police commissioner (DB, DMP); Chowdhury Majurul Kabir, SP of Satkhira; Shah M Azad, senior assistant SP of Rab-8; Shamsul Haque, assistant SP of Faridpur; and Abu Bakor Siddique, OC of Dhanmondi police.



**Appeal for help**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Atiq Hossain, a student of mechanical engineering at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BuEt), has been suffering from reactive arthritis for over a year.

With serious pains in the joints of hands and legs, and muscles drying down, he is unable to move and attend classes.

Physicians at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University said he needed around Tk 20 lakh for advanced treatment, which the family could not afford.

Atiq, son of Altob Hossain, a retired school-teacher now residing in the capital's Mirpur, therefore, seeks financial help from the well-off and philanthropists.

Aid can be sent to Altob Hossain, A/C No: 0011100111299, Uttara Bank Ltd, Darus Salam Road Branch, Dhaka.

**Ctg mobile court jails youth for carrying Yaba**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A mobile court in Chittagong City yesterday sentenced a youth to six months imprisonment for carrying Yaba tablets.

Police arrested Lokman Khan, 26, of the city's Miakhan Nagar, with seven Yaba tablets from Maider Mill area in the morning.

Lokman who claimed himself to be a student of a private university in the city admitted before the court that he is a regular user of Yaba.

**HC halts**

FROM PAGE 4  
General Mokhlesur Rahman told The Daily Star.

That day the mayor, Ariful Haque Chowdhury, was suspended after being charge-sheeted on November 13 last year by Criminal Investigation Department in the SAMS Kibria murder case and sent to jail by a Habiganj court following his surrender on December 30.

Most of the SCC's 35 ward councillors favour the panel mayor-2, Saleh Ahmed Chowdhury. The HC bench comprises Justice Naima Haider and Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam.

**Family fears for life of held N'ganj BNP leader**

Alleges local SI threatened him with shooting before arrest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday arrested Narayanganj city BNP General Secretary ATM Kamal whom a sub-inspector of Narayanganj Sadar Police Station had allegedly threatened to shoot.

Salma Kamal, wife of the leader, filed a complaint with the superintendent of police on January 15, expressing her fear over the "threat", an allegation denied by police.

ATM Kamal was arrested on charges of vandalising vehicles and hindering official activities of police recently, said Officer-in-Charge Manjur Kader.

Police picked him up around 7:30am in Hajiganj area where he along with hartal supporters gathered to bring out a procession.

The BNP leader was a fugitive, said the OC. Narayanganj SP Khandakar Mohit Uddin denied that police threatened him.

Nahin Mujtoba Sohan, son of Kamal, when asked for the date the threat had been issued, said they had come to know about this from relatives and friends of his father recently.

He expressed worries over his father's life, and said Kamal was not involved in any criminal activities but only politics.

Police took the BNP leader to a court and sought to remand him for seven days. The court fixed January 25 for a hearing.

Meanwhile, Dhanmondi police yesterday picked up Abu Naser Rahmatullah, a BNP leader and president of Swadhinata Forum, from in front of his house, in an arson case.

**JU signs MoU with Pakija group for water research**

JU CORRESPONDENT

Jahangirnagar University signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Mom Tex Ltd of Pakiza Group to get support for the water research project of the environmental science department, said a press release yesterday.

The project is being funded by the World Bank. JU treasurer Abul Khayer and Rashedur Rahman of Mom Tex inked the MoU.

**Anik's victory becoming**

FROM PAGE 3  
were accompanying him, his family sources said.

He is now concerned over his Secondary School Certificate exams scheduled to begin on February 2, said Mizanur.

"He has only one question in mind whether he would be able to return on time and attend the exams."

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed him a cheque of Tk 5 lakh yesterday for his son's treatment, Mizanur said.

Anik, a class-X science student of Feni Government Pilot High School, and one of his classmates suffered injuries to their faces and eyes in violence on Trunk Road in Feni on January 5 while returning home on a rickshaw from their private tutor's house.

The violence took place at a time when opposition activists were demonstrating across the country against the govern-

ment confining Khaleda to her Gulshan office in Dhaka, and the ruling party activists were holding programmes to resist them.

After his initial treatment at Feni sadar hospital, Anik was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital that night. As the facial wounds healed a little, he was admitted to Niesh.

On Sunday, Anik complained that he was unable to see with the right eye while there was trouble in the left eye as well.

Shyamal, resident surgeon of Niesh, said Anik's right eye had suffered more damage.

Meanwhile, Executive Magistrate Abdul Quader, 35, who suffered wounds to the eyes in another bomb attack in Feni on January 9, went to India for treatment yesterday, said his brother Mofizul Islam.

The BNP-led indefinite blockade has been going on since January 6.



**Police put concrete blocks on the road in front of Shah Ali market in Mirpur-1 of the capital to make a separate lane for rickshaws and reduce traffic jam, claim local businessmen. However, rickshaw pullers make no use of it, instead use the other lane, while the rocks lie haphazardly on the road narrowing it more, increasing traffic congestion. The photo was taken yesterday.**

**Burn victim unidentified**

FROM PAGE 3  
quoting his rescuers.

Dr Ashraf Mollik, director of the hospital, said more than half of his body was burnt, and his health condition was critical.

"We are yet to identify his parents and find his residence."

"We contacted the Ashulia police but they didn't pay heed to our call... we don't know how and why he was injured."

Police, however, said they could do nothing in these circumstances.

"We sent a team to the hospital... The victim could not tell anything about his identity, address or the incident. We have nothing to do till we get the information," Officer-in-Charge of Ashulia Police Station Mostafa Kamal told The Daily Star.

He, however, said police were working to find his identity. The OC said no violence occurred in Nabinagar on January 13.

**Guideline issued to stop**

FROM PAGE 4  
The guideline incorporates the provisions of several laws, including the Food Safety Act 2013, Special Powers Act 1974 and Consumer Rights Protection Act 2009.

Under the guideline, a central monitoring committee, headed by the additional secretary of the commerce ministry, will be framed to take legal action against offenders.

**324 die in 2 yrs due**

FROM PAGE 3  
other due to the loss of their daily earnings.

In the last 20 days, political violence killed 29 people and injured over 55,000, while 3,200 vehicles were vandalised and 637 burnt, 65 of them completely.

Haque said, "On behalf of the association, we demand compensation and rehabilitation of the passengers, workers and owners affected by political violence."

He also called upon the government to ensure security of the passengers and vehicles.

On January 15, transport owners and workers rallying in the capital threatened to launch "tough" protests if the attacks on vehicles and people continue.

Transport owners told the gathering that their daily losses amounted to Tk 300 crore because of the ongoing blockade and hartal.

**Road crashes**

FROM PAGE 4  
Our Mymensingh correspondent reports, an unidentified man died when a truck ran him over while he was crossing Mymensingh-Kishoreganj road in Ramgopalpur area of Gouripur upazila yesterday.

Our Dinajpur correspondent reports, seven cops of Dinajpur Police Station were injured when a police van collided head-on with an ambulance on Dinajpur-Dhaka highway in Nashipur village under Dinajpur Sadar yesterday.

Our Noakhali correspondent adds Md Ibrahim 30, of Comilla died and his co-riders were injured when a truck hit his motorcycle on Sonaimuri-Laksham road in Kalabagan area of Sonaimuri upazila on Tuesday.

**Concerns over**

FROM PAGE 3  
been the country's prime minister or president for two terms, from contesting in the national poll, and ensuring that the government fulfil the public's reasonable demands.

The rally was organised at Laldighi Maidan to mark the 35th founding anniversary of Bangladesh Islami Front-backed Bangladesh Islami Chhatra Sena.

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