



Travelling along this road from Malibagh to Shantinagar in the capital has turned into a nightmare as one has to cross numerous muddy water-filled potholes. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

BNP still hopeful to get go-ahead for rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday said they are still expecting to get permission from the Dhaka Metropolitan Police to hold a rally tomorrow at the capital's Nayapaltn marking today's, what they call, "National Revolution and Solidarity Day".

"We strongly believe we will get permission from the police administration...", said Rizvi Ahmed, senior joint secretary general of the party, while addressing a press briefing at the party's Nayapaltn headquarter.

BNP on Friday sought fresh permission from police for holding its rally in front of the Nayapaltn office for tomorrow as police denied them permission to stage the rally at Suhrawardy Udyan on November 7 or 8 over

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Rich tributes paid to MR Khan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People from all walks of life yesterday paid rich tributes to the memory of internationally acclaimed child specialist National Professor Dr MR Khan who passed away on Saturday from old age complications.

"His contribution to the nation is incomparable. He was not only a great physician but also a great social activist," said Health Minister Mohammed Nasim while paying his respects with the public after the body was brought to the capital's Central Shaheed Minar around noon.

"We are saddened by the death of this great personality. The people of this country will remember him for genera-



Prof MR Khan



Tributes paid to MR Khan at the capital's Central Shaheed Minar.

PHOTO: STAR

tions for his contribution to medical science," he said.

Politicians, cultural personalities, teachers, doctors and medical students placed flowers at the programme organised by Sammilito Sangskritik Jote.

Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus expressed deep shock and recalled Dr Khan's contribution to the national healthcare industry, especially in reducing child mortality through his different pioneering roles, says a statement.

"Mr Khan will be remembered for his constructive and visionary contribution in child health development. Besides being a renowned pediatrician, Mr Khan gave important policy guidelines in shaping the country's

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Writ plea filed seeking security for minorities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A writ petition was filed with the High Court yesterday seeking its directives upon the government to provide security to the country's minority communities, including those of Nasirnagar upazila in Brahmanbaria.

Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) filed it praying to the court to ask the authorities concerned to submit a report before it on what steps have been taken against those attacked the Hindus and damaging their houses and temples in Nasirnagar.

In the petition, the rights organisation urged the HC to direct the authorities to explain under what authority the Nasirnagar upazila nirbahi officer and Nasirnagar Police Station officer-in-charge attended and addressed a public rally before the attack on October 30.

The ASK also prayed for issuing a rule upon the authorities to explain why the local administration's failure in protecting the Hindus in Nasirnagar should not be declared illegal and why they should not be directed to take all necessary measures to prevent such attacks in future.

Home secretary and public administration secretary, inspector general of police, deputy inspector general of police of Chittagong Range, deputy commissioner and superintendent of police of Brahmanbaria, UNO of Nasirnagar and OC of its police station have been made respondents to the required rule.

Petitioner's lawyer Abu Obaidur Rahman told The Daily Star that according to the constitution, the UNO and OC are

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

Sections of AL-BNP, Jamaat intruders behind attacks

Eminent citizens tell press in capital after visiting B'baria

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sections of the Awami League and the BNP and Jamaat-Shibir intruders in the two parties played a leading role in attacking minorities at Brahmanbaria's Nasirnagar, said a group of eminent citizens yesterday, after a visit to the scene.

Besides, it is already proved that the allegation of indirect provocation and cooperation by the local police and upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) in the attack is true, they told a press conference at the capital's Liberation War Museum.

The attacks were aimed at forcing the minorities to leave the country and then grabbing their lands, they claimed while revealing the findings of their inspection.

A six-member team, which visited the affected area on November 2, included rights activists Sultana Kamal and Khushi Kabir, left politician Pankaj Bhattacharya, Liberation War Museum trustee Dr Sarwar Ali, and anti-militancy campaigners Ziauddin Tariq Ali, Dr Noor Mohammad

Talukder, and Dr Asit Baran Roy.

On October 30, around 200 religious bigots attacked at least five temples and vandalised and looted about 100 Hindu houses in several localities in Nasirnagar upazila over a Facebook photo, posted purportedly from the account of one Rasraj Das, of a Hindu idol imposed on the Kabah. The attackers also beat up more than 100 people.

Reading out a written statement at the conference, Pankaj said communal elements hiding inside the government, administration and ruling party must be uprooted.

Sultana Kamal said the culture of blame game among political parties and authorities concerned paved the way for criminals to escape punishment, and it eventually gave birth a culture of impunity and encouraged continued repression on minorities.

"We have repeatedly said that we want an impartial judicial inquiry into the incident (the Nasirnagar attacks) because we think the investigation will never be neutral if it is

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5



Shahin



Shakil

Miscreants 'try to immolate' reporter

Also assault cameraperson

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Miscreants allegedly assaulted a reporter and a cameraperson of Jamuna Television and tried to burn the reporter with kerosene in the capital's Chakbazar area yesterday.

Reporter Shakil Hasan and cameraperson Shahin Alam said they went to the area to work on a feature on illegal polythene factories in the morning when 10-12 men including two owners of a polythene factory swooped on them.

"Soon after we went there a few men told us to steer clear of any trouble.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

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