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Evicted Santals now face acute food crisis

Also, police not letting them out of 3 villages to 'avoid flare-up of violence'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaigpur

Indigenous people evicted from the land of Rangpur Sugar Mill in Gobindganj upazila of Gaibandha have been in dire straits as police are not letting them move out of three villages for avoiding any further violence.

As many as 1,200 families took shelter at Sahebganj, Joyuphat and Madapur villages of Sapmara union in the upazila after their eviction on Sunday night from the land that the Santal community claims to be of their forefathers. Their belongings on the disputed land were demolished that night.

During a visit to the areas yesterday, the correspondent observed panic among the indigenous people.

Police were deployed at the entries of the roads that lead to the villages. Law enforcers were seen whisking to a group of indigenous people as they tried to walk out of their village.

Advais said police were prohibiting them from going out of their villages.

However, Sabrata Sarker, officer-in-charge of Gobindganj police, said they had set up temporary camps to ensure safety of Advais.

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Santal women on their way back home in Madarpur village in Gaibandha's Gobindganj upazila after they are prevented from going out of their village allegedly by the police. Inset: Rangpur Sugar Mill authorities start fencing the sugarcane farm. The photos were taken yesterday.

PHOTO: KANGKAN KARMARKAR

NASIRNAGAR ATTACKS PM angry over AL MP's role

STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed anger over the role of Brahmanbaria district Awami League President RAM Obaidul Mukhtar Chowdhury in the Nasirnagar incident.

"I won't keep him in any committee," sources quoted Hasina as saying. She was speaking at the adjourned joint meeting of the Awami League Central Working Committee and Advisory Council at the Gono Bhaban.

The lawmaker from Brahmanbaria-3 is also a member of the AL central committee.

Mobs, including religious zealots and local goons, vandalised and looted over 100 houses of Hindus and temples in Nasirnagar upazila headquarters area last night during the three-hour mayhem on October 30.

Hasina said BNP-Jamaat

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Next time, watch which way Vigo goes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Political news junkies in the US depend heavily on realclearpolitics.com and fiveThirtyEight.com to get their highs. They meticulously analyze polls and big data to see which demographic a candidate is doing well in and where another candidate is lagging behind.

The junkies analyze exit polls as if they are sermons from the one above. All to predict who would win and who would bite the dust.

But before the internet and realclearpolitics.com and fiveThirtyEight.com there was a county on the edge of the state Indiana. This small county of 108,000 votes does not matter much to most pundits on CNN or Fox News.

Vigo county, however, has had its share of presidential elections. The county has voted for the president to be without failure since 1956. In fact, it has been wrong only twice since.

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42,000 displaced in Mosul assault

Says IOM as Iraqi forces yet to push deep into IS-held city; US-led coalition raid 'kills 20 civilians' near Syria's Raqa

AGENCIES

Nearly 42,000 people have fled their homes since last month's start of the operation to recapture Mosul from the Islamic State group, the International Organization for Migration said yesterday.

aid organisations have warned that more than a million people could be displaced in the battle for Mosul, and while it has not yet reached that scale, the numbers are growing.

The IOM said on its displacement tracking web page that 41,988 people have been "displaced" as a result of the ongoing Mosul operations which began on 17 October 2016.

That was an increase of more than 7,000 from the figure the IOM gave the previous day.

The IOM said a significant part of that increase was the result of new counts of people who were already present in camps, though more were also still arriving.

While the worst-case scenario has not materialised so far, Iraqi forces have yet to push deep into the city, and the number of people fleeing could increase dramatically when that occurs.

Both Mosul residents and the United Nations have reported that IS has forcibly gathered civilians for possible use as human shields.

IS militants have displayed the crucified bodies of five people they said gave information to "the enemy", and are back on the city streets policing the length of men's beards, residents say.

The five bodies were put on display at a road junction, a clear message to

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Anti-liberation forces behind B'baria attack

Says 14-party after visiting Nasirnagar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The October 30 attack on the Hindus in Brahmanbaria's Nasirnagar was instigated by "anti-liberation forces and aides of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia", top leaders of Awami League-led 14-party alliance said yesterday.

They also vowed to try the attackers and the masterminds behind the incident at the speedy trial tribunal.

"The killers and looters who don't believe in Bangladesh's liberation carried out the attack on the Hindus of Nasirnagar," Health Minister Mohammed Nasim said while talking to some of the victims at Goura Mandir in the upazila. Nasim led a 14-member 14-party alliance team, which visited the areas that came under the attack that day.

"The attack was aimed at demeaning the Sheikh Hasina-led government and making Bangladesh look like it is not safe for the Hindus," he said. "The attackers will be tried at the speedy trial tribunal."

The AL presidium member also

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Let's move now

Canada's immigration website crashes as people look to leave US after Trump win



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

The Canadian immigration site has broken as people look to leave the US in the immediate aftermath of Donald Trump's election as the country's new president.

The official website for Citizenship and Immigration Canada has stopped working, apparently because of the sheer number of people looking to emigrate to the country from south of the border.

Canada's website would usually offer ways of applying either to live in or become a citizen of the country. But all those people trying to access it are actually only able to see a long loading page with no proper access to the website.

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4 policemen, journo jailed for snatching

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced four railway policemen and a journalist of a local weekly newspaper to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment for robbing a man of cash and gold ornaments last year.

Each convict was also handed down a Tk 10,000 fine, in default of which each will have to serve in

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SIBL
 Social Islami Bank Limited
 PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 10
 Fajr 5:40 12:45 3:45 5:25 7:00
 ZAKAT 5:35 1:15 4:00 5:30 7:30
 SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

MONEY LAUNDERING: Top court asks Morshed Khan, wife, son to surrender

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed former BNP foreign minister M Morshed Khan, his wife Nasrin Khan and their son Faisal Morshed Khan to surrender before a court in six weeks in a money laundering case.

The HC, however, asked the lower court to grant them bail in the case after their surrender.

Delivering a verdict on a revision petition filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), the HC extended till March 31 next year its earlier order of freezing the bank accounts of Morshed, his wife and son with the Standard Chartered Bank in Hong Kong.

The bench of Justice M Enayetur Raheem and Justice JBM Hassan also permitted the ACC to further investigate the money laundering case against them.

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The photo taken in May shows earth filling going on inside a fence built occupying a portion of the Turag near Kamarpara Bridge in Tongi. The High Court yesterday directed the government to stop earth filling, encroachment and construction of structures along the Turag in 48 hours.

PHOTO FILE

Save Turag

HC asks govt to stop earth filling, encroachment within 48 hours

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government to stop earth filling, encroachment and construction of structures along the foreshores of the Turag river within 48 hours and submit a report to it by November 27 after complying with the order.

The court also asked the deputy commissioner of Gazipur to submit within the same timeframe a list of names and addresses of those involved in carrying out such activities.

In response to a writ petition, the court issued a rule upon the authorities concerned to explain in four weeks why their inaction to stop such activities should not be declared illegal.

The court also asked the authorities to explain why they should not be ordered to remove the soil already dumped in the river and to demolish the structures along the foreshores of the Turag.

Shipping secretary, chairman of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority and Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha, directors general of Water Development Board and Department of Environment, deputy commissioner and superintendent of police in Gazipur, and officers-in-charge of Turag and Tongi police stations were made respondents to the rule, petitioner's counsel Marzill Murtshid told The Daily Star.

The HC bench of Justice Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque and Justice Mohammad Ullah came up with the order and rule after hearing the writ petition filed by Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh, seeking necessary orders from the authorities concerned to save the river.

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