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No end in sight to violence

Pabna-4 BNP candidate stabbed, flown to Dhaka; Fakhrul's wife alleges threats from AL men

STAR REPORT

The election is just three days away and polls campaign ends at 8:00am tomorrow, but election violence and attacks on BNP and Oikyafront candidates are escalating even after military deployment.

In the latest such attack by alleged Awami League men, BNP candidate for Pabna-4 constituency Habibur Rahman Habib was stabbed in Ishwardi of Pabna yesterday.

His wounds were said to be serious, and the BNP leader was flown to Dhaka in a helicopter in the afternoon for treatment.

"He has four stab injuries on his hip and all the wounds are deep. So after primary treatment, he was taken to Dhaka for better treatment," said Abul Kalam Azad, emergency ward record keeper at Pabna Medical College Hospital.

It comes a day after BNP candidate Goyeshwar Chandra Roy and 30 others were injured in an attack by alleged AL men in Dhaka's Keraniganj.

Since election campaign officially began on December 10, at least 53 BNP and Jatiya Oikyafront candidates have now been attacked allegedly by



Stabbed BNP candidate for Pabna-4 Habibur Rahman Habib is being taken to hospital after alleged Awami League men attacked him and his supporters on Alhaj School ground

PHOTO: STAR

Violence and polls can't go hand in hand

Says election commissioner Mahbub Talukdar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expressing grave concern over the ongoing spate of violence ahead of Sunday's polls, Election Commissioner Mahbub

Talukdar has said violence and election cannot go hand in hand. "If we cannot hold a peaceful election in a violence-free environment after 47 years of independence, the sacrifice of 30 lakh martyrs for independence and democracy will go in vain. We cannot allow this to happen," he said at a press briefing in his

Nirbachan Bhaban office yesterday. Reading out a statement, the commissioner said, "An election is not just about being participatory; it has to be free, fair,

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



Oikyafront has sensed defeat, now flexing its muscles Says Hasina

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday alleged that the Jatiya Oikyafront, sensing its inevitable defeat in the election, has begun flexing muscles across the country, killing five AL leaders and activists and

leaving over 400 injured. "They [Oikyafront]

know they won't be able to win the election because the people of Bangladesh

in Ishwardi yesterday. SEE PAGE 11 COL 2 CAMPAIGN ENDS TOMORROW

AL dominant, BNP hamstrung Dr Kamal alleges; police seek to give

STAR REPORT

With the 17-day electoral campaigns ending tomorrow morning, the Awami League-led alliance candidates are campaigning at full throttle while contenders from the . BNP-led combines are struggling due to "arrests, police · harassment and attacks by opponents".

The ruling party candidates have been dominating the scene since the election campaign officially began on December 10.

They are making door-to-door visits, bringing out processions, holding meetings and distributing leaflets. Their posters can be seen almost everywhere.

Their supporters are using social media platforms for · said in a press statement. campaigning.

Talking to The Daily Star last night, AL Joint General government had made "the Secretary Abdur Rahman said party President Sheikh Hasina will address election rallies in four districts, includ-, ing Jashore and Panchagarh, through video conference . today.

 He also said party candidates as well as leaders and activ- · Commission. · ists will carry out hectic campaigns on the last day of elec-' tioneering to woo voters.

However, the contenders of the BNP-led alliances -- the 'Voters never made a mis-Jatiya Oikyafront and the 20-party combine -- are cam- take in the past and they . paigning on a limited scale.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5 .

Oikyafront out of polls

him security

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

· Alleging mass discrimination to push it out of election, major political opposition Jatiya Oikyafront says it is now depending on the vote of the people.

"It's too apparent, the arrangement is complete to oust Oikyafront from the · election," Dr Kamal Hossain, key leader of the alliance,

He alleged that the arrangement" by pulling . strings of the administra-. tion, judiciary, law enforc-· ers, goons and the Election

"At this point, the people's vote is our hope. never will," Kamal said.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Plot on to see BNP loses three more candidates

HC disqualifies them 3 days before polls; Jamaat man running on BNP ticket arrested

· STAR REPORT

· With the election this Sunday, three more 'BNP candidates skidded off the race yesterday as the High Court disqualified them on the . ground that the government did not accept · their resignation as upazila chairmen.

Meanwhile, a Jamaat leader, contesting the polls on BNP's ticket, was arrested in Dhaka on charge of carrying out subversive activities.

An HC bench of Justice JBM Hassan and Justice Khairul Alam passed the orders on Manjur Elahi in Narsingdi-3, Faruk Ahmed Kabir in Gaibandha-4 and Abdul Aziz in Natore-4.

According to the Representation of the SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

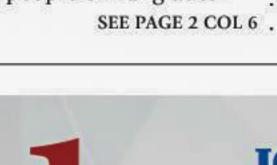


The Daily Star has prepared a four-part infographic on the candidates of major parties for the Dec 30 polls as well as winners and runners-up in their constituencies in 2001 and 2008 polls. Today, we are running the

SEE PAGE 10

third part of the series on

Chattogram and Sylhet divisions.



Position

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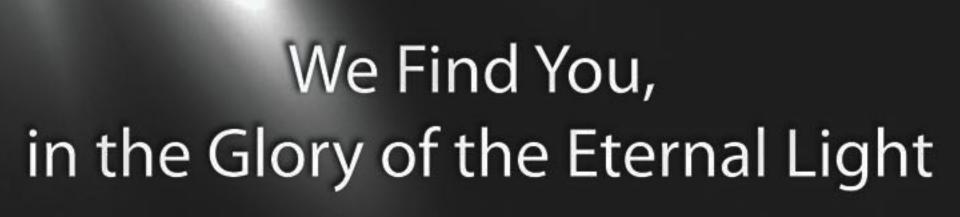
Mr. Md. Arfan Ali, President & Managing Director of Bank Asia Limited is receiving Trophy from Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, MP, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Finance, GoB in the 18th ICAB National Award for Best Presented Annual Reports 2017 (Private Sector Banks). Mr. Mohammad Ibrahim Khalil FCA, CFO of the Bank is also seen in the photograph.



H Bank Asia

Bank Asia has also received award for Corporate

Governance Disclosure and Integrated Reporting



Your beautiful memories are our greatest treasures, the memories surround us with love and inspiration. We love you, always.



Aaron H. Chowdhury (Danny) 29th June 1981 - 27th December 2002

Anita Chowdhury (Dida), Bula & Tapan Chowdhury (Parents), Anika Chowdhury (Sister) And all loving members of the family