

CLASH WITH RAB Injured BNP leader dies in Ctg hospital

Party calls daylong
hartal in Cox’s Bazar
for today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cox’s Bazar

A Cox’s Bazar BNP leader died at Chattogram Medical College Hospital yesterday after being injured in a clash between a Rab team and villagers in Ukhiya on Sunday night.

Deceased Jagir Hossain was the organising secretary of ward-1 Jaliapalang union BNP in Ukhiya upazila, said BNP sources.

Police said “BNP supporters” attacked a Rab team on Sunday night when it went to Painnyasia village in the union to arrest suspects in sabotage cases.

At one stage, the Rab team opened fire at the attackers in self-defense, they added.

Meanwhile, district BNP yesterday called a daylong hartal in Cox’s Bazar for today protesting the death of its leader, said Hasan Siddique, associate office secretary of the district BNP.

Sultan Mahmud Chowdhury, general secretary of Ukhiya upazila BNP, said police filed a “ghost case” against 35 BNP leaders and activists, including him.

“A Rab team went to my village on Sunday and started arresting people. The Rab men also raided my home in my absence. The Rab opened fire on the people who protested arrests of locals without any arrest warrants,” he said.

Sultan said they sent three injured to the CMCH where Jagir died of his injuries.

“The Rab filed a case in connection with the incident accusing 42 people, including the deceased and I,” Sultan added.

Mohammad Ali, OC of Ukhiya Police Station, said the Rab yesterday morning filed a case over attack on its team.

Lt Col AH Sajjad Hossain, commanding officer of Rab-15, told reporters yesterday that a group of criminals, who committed acts of sabotage, attacked a Rab patrol team in Ukhiya’s Painnyasia village on Sunday night.

He claimed that some Rab members were injured in the attack.

Sajjad said he had no information about any local being injured in the incident.

The allegation of a person’s death in the incident was being investigated, added the Rab official.

Sultan said the body was taken to Ukhiya last night for burial today.

He said the two other injured were released from the CMCH.



A Palestinian man carries a victim of an Israeli bombardment in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

BNP, Jamaat enforce 2-day countrywide blockade

Bus set on fire in Malibagh; Rizvi claims
496 party activists held in 24hrs till
yesterday evening

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After a one-day pause, BNP-Jamaat is going to enforce a fresh 48-hour nationwide blockade of roads, railways, and waterways starting 6:00am today amid the ongoing arrest spree of BNP leaders and activists.

A bus was set on fire in the capital’s Malibagh area last night.

Receiving the information at 11:03pm, two fire engines rushed to the spot and were trying to douse the fire, said Talha Bin Zassim, an officer at Fire Service Media Cell.

“The bus parked on the road,” he said.

The BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami separately declared the third blockade on Monday, the last day of the second 48-hour blockade.

Earlier, the parties also enforced a 72-hour blockade starting October 31, demanding the resignation of the government and the upcoming general election under a non-party administration.

Between October 31 and November 6, arsonists torched at least 65 buses, lorries, covered vans, CNG-three wheelers and motorcycles.

Besides, they also set fire to one Awami League upazila office, two commercial showrooms, and a police box, according to Fire Service and Civil Defence.

Meanwhile, law enforcers arrested 8,951 opposition party men, including several top leaders and activists, and filed 148 cases across the country between October 28 and yesterday afternoon, BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi claimed at a virtual press briefing yesterday.

He added that 496 party leaders and workers were detained and 16 cases were filed against 1,728 named and many unnamed party activists in the 24 hours till yesterday evening.

According to DMP, in the ten days starting on October 28, it arrested 1,636 persons and filed 112 cases for acts of violence and breaking the law. Of them, 82 were arrested on Monday, and 10 cases were lodged the same day.

Yesterday, the Police Headquarters declared a bounty of Tk 20,000 for helping police arrest an arsonist with proper evidence. The announcement came a day after DMP commissioner made a similar announcement.

EU team to arrive Nov 15 to assess labour reforms

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A three-member European Union delegation will be visiting Bangladesh on November 15-17 to assess the progress of Bangladesh’s labour sector reforms.

The team, which will be led by EU External Service Action Service’s Deputy Managing Director (Asia Pacific Division) Paola Pampaloni, is expected to meet top officials of the ministries of foreign affairs, commerce, and labour as well as labour leaders, said foreign ministry officials.

The visit comes against the backdrop of RMG workers’ recent demonstrations for pay hikes amid the sharp rise in prices of essential commodities. Besides, political violence has also gripped the country since October 28 ahead of the next national election.

The EU imported products worth 24 billion Euro in 2022 and has become the largest export market for Bangladesh. The EU has been providing Bangladesh duty-free access to its market, while also helping improve the safety in the RMG sector since the Rana Plaza collapse in 2013.

It has also extended the GSP facility to Bangladesh until 2029, which goes beyond the LDC graduation year of 2026.

After 2029, the GSP facility will not be there, but the EU has another scheme for duty-free market access, which is GSP Plus.

Bangladesh will have to go through additional and stricter conditions, including the improvement of human rights, democracy, environment and labour rights, to avail of the facility, EU embassy officials in Dhaka said earlier.

Workers reject Tk 12,500, warn of tough demos

FROM PAGE 1

sidelines of the press briefing of the state minister, said the owners did not budge from their proposal of Tk 12,500. He said he sought Tk 20,393 and even went down to Tk 13,000, but the owners did not agree.

Towhidur Rahman, president of the Bangladesh Apparel Workers’ Federation, said the prime minister’s intervention is needed in setting the new minimum wage.

He demanded ration cards, not the family cards of the TCB, for the garment workers.

State Minister Monnujan said the new salary was fixed under the direction of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Chairman of the board Liaquat Ali Mollah said the representatives of the owners and workers all agreed on Tk 12,500.

Of the new amount, Tk 6,700 is basic salary, Tk 3,350 rent, Tk 750 medical allowance, Tk 450 transport allowance, and Tk 1,250 food allowance.

Tigers’ closing act to be sans Shakib

FROM PAGE 1

It appears that the 36-year-old had played his last ODI World Cup game after five appearances in the prestigious tournament, marking an end of an era for Bangladesh cricket. In his place, keeper-batter Anamul Haque Bijoy is set to join the team in Pune today.

The Sri Lanka win has apparently motivated Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) to finally display some professionalism when it came to revealing Shakib’s injury status.

“Shakib was struck on his left index finger early in his innings [on Monday] but continued to bat with

supportive taping and painkillers. He underwent an emergency X-ray in Delhi after the game which confirmed the fracture on the left PIP joint,” national team physio, Bayjedul Islam Khan, was quoted as saying in a BCB press release.

Previously the team management had kept everyone in the dark after Shakib sustained a thigh injury during Bangladesh’s third World Cup game against New Zealand in Chennai.

Bangladesh team director Khaled Mahmud later revealed, albeit unofficially, that Shakib had a quad tear but he did not provide exact

injury details. That Shakib was to be rested for the India clash was now known until Najmul Hossain Shanto appeared for the toss in the India match in Pune.

The team management took a similar approach in dealing with Taskin Ahmed’s shoulder issue. The pacer had felt discomfort since the start of the World Cup and was later rested for the India and South Africa fixtures.

Meanwhile, Liton returned to Dhaka to be with his wife as they are expecting their first child. The opening batter is due to join the team in Pune before their Australia

clash.

Even though their World Cup campaign had been wrecked prematurely, the win over Sri Lanka moved Bangladesh seventh in table and kept them in contention to qualify for the 2025 Champions Trophy, to be hosted in Pakistan, as one of the top eight teams in the ongoing World Cup.

With Pakistan having already ensured a top-seven finish, Bangladesh will aim to beat the five-time champions to keep their Champions Trophy qualification fate in their own hands.

Diplomats keen on finding

FROM PAGE 12

On Nov 5, EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell encouraged all parties to refrain from violence and stressed on finding a peaceful way to a participatory election.

After the meeting with the Chief Election Commissioner, Kazi Habibul Awal on October 31, US Ambassador Peter Haas said he hopes all sides can engage in a dialogue without preconditions for de-escalating tensions and finding a pathway to free, fair and peaceful elections.

Later, he also met Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen and Awami League leader Saber Hossain Chowdhury.

Between October 30 and November 2, UK High Commissioner Sarah Cooke met Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan, and leaders of the AL, BNP and Jatiya Party.

Indian High Commissioner Pranay Verma met Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina on November 3.

The government, however, said the election will be participatory if the people participate in it.

BNP leader Rumeen Farhana recently claimed that the role of BNP in the violence is almost zero, and blamed the ruling party and police for it.

She said dialogue cannot happen if the government sticks to the position that the elections will be held under the current government.

JP lawmaker Shamim Haider Patwary said the foreigners want a negotiated inclusive election. If it does not happen, their relations with Bangladesh will be strained. Economic pressure may follow, he said.

“The foreign countries want to see how sincere the government is about the dialogue. If it goes for a one-sided election, the consequences will not be good,” he added.

Magical Maxwell

FROM PAGE 1

cutting down on running between the wickets to manage the pain and relying more on big hits.

In total, Maxwell hit 21 fours and 10 sixes during his knock - many of them on one leg and the last six sealed the victory and also brought up his double century.

“Horrific, I feel shocking,” said Maxwell. “It was quite hot when we were fielding, I haven’t done a whole lot of high intensity exercise in the heat. It got a hold of me today, I was lucky to stick it out until the end.”

Cummins remained unbeaten on 12 from 68 balls but more importantly added 202 for the unbroken eighth wicket partnership.

Afghanistan held numerous meetings on the ground but were unable to find a way to dislodge Maxwell, who was dropped on 33 by Mujeeb Ur Rahman off Noor Ahmad’s bowling.

Maxwell was also adjudged out leg before wicket in the same over against Noor but the batsman managed to successfully overturn the umpire’s decision on appeal.

“Really disappointed. Cricket is

TORCHING TRUCK

Feni Jubo League leader lands in jail

A CORRESPONDENT, Feni

A Feni Jubo League leader landed in jail on Monday in a case filed over torching a truck on Thursday during the three-day blockade enforced by the BNP-Jamaat.

The arrestee, Nurul Uddin Tipu, 35, is a vice-president of Dhalia Union Jubo League, and also a member of Feni Jubo League, Feni Sadar upazila Jubo League President Nurul Abbas told The Daily Star.

Mohammad Shahidul Islam Chowdhury, officer-in-charge of Feni Sadar Model Police Station, said a truck from a sugar factory in Chattogram was set on fire by some criminals on the Dhaka-Chatogram highway in Feni on Thursday.

Tipu was arrested from Dhalia on Sunday afternoon. A Feni court sent him to jail after he was produced before it, he said.

According to the case statement, criminals threw brick chunks at the truck. The vehicle caught fire after criminals hurled petrol bombs at it.

The truck owner, Ujjal Baidya of Dewan Bazar area in Chattogram’s Bakalia, filed a case against 15-20 unidentified people under the Special Powers Act with Feni Sadar Model Police Station on Thursday night.

He said the truck was damaged in the fire, causing him a loss of Tk 1.5 lakh.

The primary investigation found that Tipu was involved in the incident, the OC said.

Feni Sadar upazila Jubo League President Abbas said, “I heard about the arrest, but I’m not aware of the charges brought against the arrestee.”

SI closed after man posts pics in cop vest

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

Sub-Inspector Shahidul Islam of Bogura’s Dhumat Police Station was closed yesterday in connection with a local man posting photos of himself wearing a bulletproof police vest on social media recently.

Swechhasebak League leader Sajedul Islam Shagor, 27, posted photos of himself wearing the vest on social media, which went viral.

The SI was attached to the Bogura Police Lines after verifying claims of duty negligence, Rabiul Islam, officer-in-charge of the police station, told our local correspondent.

3 children drown

UNB, Jashore/B’baria

Three children died by drowning in Jashore and Brahmanbaria yesterday and the day before.

In Jashore, a seven-year-old girl drowned in a pond near her house in Chowgachha upazila yesterday.

Rojoni Khatun, daughter of Rejaul Islam of Polua village of Pashapol union, was watching her parents catch fish in the pond. She was helping to keep the fish in a bowl, said her father.

At one point, she fell into the pond. Her parents rescued her with the help of locals and rushed her to the Chougachha Upazila Health Complex, where the duty doctor declared her dead.

In Brahmanbaria, two children drowned while swimming in a pond near their house at Jatrapur village under Ashuganj upazila on Monday afternoon. The deceased were identified as Sobui, 7, son of Abdus Salam Mia, and his cousin Surjo, 9, son of Rubel.