

Pro-BNP, Jamaat lawyers boycott courts for 2nd day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pro-BNP and Jamaat lawyers observed countrywide court-boycott programme for second day today demanding “restoration of democracy and rule of law, and stopping injustice in the name of trials”.

The lawyers abstained from attending court functions in 61 districts except the three districts in Chattogram Hill Tracts, Barrister Kayser Kamal, secretary general of Bangladesh Jatiotabadi Ainjibi Forum (BJAF), a body of pro-BNP lawyers, told The Daily Star.

They will continue their programme till January 7, he added.

As part of the programme, a section of lawyers staged sit-in at the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) premises from 9:00am-4:00pm with one hour's break yesterday.

Meanwhile, Attorney General AM Amin Uddin told reporters at his office that there was no impact of the boycott programme on the court functions.

All the courts including the Appellate Division and High Court Divisions of the SC have conducted judicial functions on Monday and yesterday he said.

On December 31, BJAF and Bangladesh Lawyers Council at separate press conferences announced that they will boycott all the courts across the country from January 1-7 in protest against what they said was a “dummy” elections and conviction of BNP men in “fabricated” cases.

Ayesha Khanam remembered

STAR REPORT

Yesterday was the death anniversary of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad president and freedom fighter Ayesha Khanam -- a guardian of the women's movement in Bangladesh, who dedicated her life to the rights of deprived, oppressed and disenfranchised women.

Marking the day, the Parishad organised a commemorative event at its headquarters in the capital's Segun Bagicha.

Parishad President Dr Fauzia Moslem and its General Secretary Maleka Banu, among others, spoke at the event.



Logs placed carelessly take up a good portion of the walkway beside Pragati Sarani, obstructing pedestrians. The photo was taken in Rampura yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

‘Of unkept promises and curtailed human rights’

PCJSS report on CHT Peace Accord paints grim picture

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The human rights situation in Chittagong Hill Tracts has become extremely fragile as the CHT Peace Accord has not been properly implemented, said Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS) in its annual report, released yesterday.

Repression by security and law enforcement agencies, arrests, jail sentences, killings, disappearances, false cases, land grabbing, eviction from homeland, expansion infiltration, minorisation of Juma people, communal attacks, and violence against women have become regular affairs in the CHT,

the report said.

On December 2, 1997, the then Awami League government and PCJSS signed the CHT peace accord to solve the CHT crisis through political and peaceful means.

26 years have passed since then, but the accord is yet to be properly implemented, the report highlighted.

The PCJSS annual report said the AL government has been in power for 15 years since 2009 but did not come forward to implement the basic clauses of the treaty.

The government has not taken any effective steps to implement the agreement; rather, it has been implementing anti-agreement and

anti-Juma activities.

The report claimed the CHT affairs ministry formed an “inter-ministerial committee” that spread propaganda, saying that 65 out of 72 clauses of the peace accord have been implemented.

“But the truth is only 25 of the 72 clauses have been implemented. The remaining 47 sections have either been completely unimplemented or partially implemented,” it added.

The report said the government is criminalising the Juma people who are demanding its implementation.

The report said 240 incidents of rights violations were reported in CHT last year, while 1,933 people were victims of rights violations.

Special focus

FROM PAGE 3

Besides, the law-and-order coordination cell of the public security division under the home ministry has received around 501 election-related complaints in 14 days since it started its journey on December 18.

Around 498 of those complaints were already addressed, SM Rezaul Mostofa Kamal, additional

officer went to the spot to take action, which included addressing the problem or arresting the responsible persons,” he added.

Anyone can file a complaint with the cell through the national emergency helpline number 999 till January 7 regarding the deterioration of law and order and violation of the election

AT A GLANCE

- 235 held in 213 cases from Dec 18 to Dec 30
- 100 polls-related violence left 3 killed, over 300 hurt
- Home ministry cell received 501 complaints in 14 days
- 498 election related complaints addressed
- Police on high alert to avert post-polls violence

secretary of the public security division of the home ministry, told The Daily Star.

Among the complaints, approximately 30 were serious incidents such as attacks on polling booths, tearing posters, or clashes, said Kamal, who also leads the coordination cell.

“We immediately informed the officer-in-charge of the issues, and a designated

code of conduct.

Deputy Inspector General (Operation) of PHQ Anowar Hossain yesterday said police treat every complaint seriously, conducting impartial investigations and treating all candidates equally.

Regarding law and order at the polling station, he said police will act as per the instructions of the presiding officers.

It was a result

FROM PAGE 3

against Dr Yunus by the government and the ruling party was exposed through this verdict,” said Saiful.

On Monday, a Labour Court sentenced Yunus and three top officials of Grameen Telecom to six months in jail, with a fine of Tk 25,000 each, in a case over labour law violation.

During the rally, Nagorik Oikya convener Mahmudur

Rahman Manna said, “We ask you [the government] to cancel this election, dissolve parliament and form a caretaker government... if you don't do this, you can be sure that people won't remain calm.”

Zonayed Saki, chief coordinator of Ganosamhati, said people have no interest in the election as they have no option to elect their representatives.

Swing voters hold the key

FROM PAGE 3

affected the party's image,” he said.

Contacted, Shamim echoed him. “I want to work on it [development of Mymensingh],” he added.

Meanwhile, Shanto said those supporting Shamim have gone against the party's symbol.

“Mymensingh Sadar has been a stronghold of Awami League for decades and the people of the constituency always vote for the boat. This time, they would also make the Awami League nominee win,” he said.

In addition to Shanto and Shamim, Delwar Hossain Khan Dulu, a

former BNP MP who was expelled from the party during 1/11, is also a familiar figure in the constituency and possesses a significant vote bank.

Jatiyo Party candidate Abu Musa Sarkar, the former chairman of Mymensingh Municipality, along with six other contenders from lesser-known parties, are also vying for the polls.

However, voters say it'll ultimately come down to a battle between Shanto and Shamim.

Our Mymensingh correspondent contributed to this report.

464 politicians

FROM PAGE 3

At least 190 cases were filed for defaming the prime minister, with law enforcement agencies filing 31 cases and supporters of the premier filing 159 cases, the study said.

The report also indicated that a total of 80 cases were filed for defamation of ministers, with the ministers themselves filing six cases and their supporters filing 66 cases.

Additionally, a total of 208 cases were filed for defaming politicians, and 894 cases were filed for posting statuses on social media.

The report added that most cases were filed under the four sections: 25, 29, 31, and 35.

The report stated that in most cases, there were delays in submitting charge sheets, and the state and those, who filed the cases used the DSA to serve their interests, suppressing dissidents and causing immense suffering to the accused and their family members.

The study recommended

that the government form an independent commission to verify the authenticity of cases filed under the DSA and compensate those who were tried despite being innocent.

Faruq Faisel, the executive director at Ain O Salish Kendra, said they have been demanding the abolition of the law, considering it a black law.

“Following our demand, the law transitioned to the Cyber Security Act, which is no different from the DSA,” he said.

CGS Chairman Manjur Ahmed Chowdhury said the country is currently under authoritarian rule.

“Even the deceased are not spared; they are being implicated in cases,” he added.

The webinar was moderated by CGS Executive Director Zillur Rahman, where Rumki Farhana, a senior programme officer at Article 19, DSA Victim Networks member Didarul Islam Bhuiyan, and Rangpur-based lawyer Rayhan Kabir also spoke.

Hattrick for Nixon

FROM PAGE 3

information in the election affidavit. On Saturday, he lodged a complaint with the returning officer, urging the cancellation of Nixon's candidacy for allegedly distributing cash among voters.

Meanwhile, Nixon claimed that Zafar received commissions from a fertiliser factory and engaged in money laundering.

BNP SUPPORTERS, ZAKER PARTY BACKING NIXON

The activists and supporters of BNP, are rallying behind Nixon.

Abul Kalam Shamsuddin, a retired government employee, is a BNP supporter. Since BNP is boycotting the polls, he decided to extend support for Nixon.

Besides, Zaker Party, a group formed in Sadarpur, and an ally of AL, officially announced its support for Nixon on December 20.

According to the Election Commission, the total number of voters in this seat is 4,61,845.

Nixon secured 98,300 votes in 2014 and 1,44,000 votes in 2018, while Zafarullah received 72,248 votes in 2014 and 94,234 votes in 2018.

AL has nothing

FROM PAGE 3

government questionable.

“The government is not a party here and it didn't file the case. The workers of Grameen Telecom sued Dr Yunus as he didn't pay dues of the workers. And he was convicted in that case,” said Hasan, also the information and broadcasting minister.

“Many Nobel laureates of the world were convicted of criminal and civil offences and many of them have served in jail for a long time,” he said.

PRAYER
TIMING
JANUARY 3

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5:30 12:45 4:00 5:30 7:00

JAMAAT 6:05 1:15 4:15 5:35 7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Bangla Academy
Dhaka-1000

Memo No. Cronis-1442/2023-441/2/BA

Date: 01.01.2024

Invitation for e-Tender

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following works.

Sl	Tender ID	Name of the procurement	Last downloading date & time	Tender closing date & time
1	932334	Rental based electrification Supply and management activities on the occasion of Bangla Academy Amar Ekushey Boi Mela 2024	15.01.2024 18.30	16.01.2024 18.30

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP System Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender/e-Tenders, registration required in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). The fees for downloading the e-Tender Document/Documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@procure.gov.bd/ Contact Number: 01762625528-31).

Dr. K M Muzahidul Islam
Director
Dept. of Administration, Human Resource Development & Planning
Bangla Academy, Dhaka 1000
Phone: 02-58611231

GD-10

FOR SALE

Wheel loader, tipper truck, Forklift, Generator, bulldozer, Pile driver barge, Concrete Block-making mixer machine Etc. Location: Barisal. **CICO Bangladesh** Gulshan-2, Dhaka. **Mobile: 01818443196**

Advertisement of the vacant position

IFDC Bangladesh is looking for an interested and qualified candidates for the following positions of its Feed the Future Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Project funded by USAID. For detailed information please visit the Links mentioned beside the job titles in the IFDC job portal

Job Title	Application link
Senior Advisor (Private Sector, Market System)	https://jobs.silkroad.com/IFDC/Careers/jobs/1320?embedded=true

All applications should be submitted via the IFDC career portal as stated above on or before 16 January 2024.

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)
Road Division, Pirojpur
E-mail: pirdivisionrhd@gmail.com

Memo No. 35.01.7980.462.07.001.20-16

Date: 02/01/2024

Invitation for e-Tender (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal for the following works:

Tender ID & Package No.	931990, e-GP/01/PRD/PMP-Major/2023-2024
Name of tender	Construction of 12m Long RCC Culvert (with pile)(Talukdar Hat) at 10th Km (Ch: 09+800m) of Kawkhali-Chirapara-Vitabararia-Bhandaria (Z-8713) Road under Pirojpur Road Division during the year 2023-2024.
Tender last selling date and time	22-January-2024 & Time 16:00
Tender closing & opening date and time	23-January-2024 & Time 12:30

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). For more details please contact e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Tanvir Ahmed
ID No. 602308
Executive Engineer (C.C.), RHD
Road Division, Pirojpur

GD-09