

Businessman

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forces charged batons to disperse the mob, added the sources.

The incident took place between 6:00pm and 8:30pm.

The man owns a shop in Mia Shopping Complex on Hazari Lane, which is known for its wholesale medicine and gold markets.

Police sources said a group of 20 to 25 people, incensed by his Facebook post, attacked and vandalised his shop.

Witnesses said local Hindu businessmen intervened to protect him by closing the shop.

A team from Bakshirhat police outpost arrived at the spot but struggled to control the situation. Additional police from Kotwali and army personnel later joined in to restore order, they said.

Following the incident, both the medicine and gold markets were closed to prevent further escalation.

A police official, speaking anonymously, told The Daily Star, "Describing the Facebook post as disrespectful, around 30 youths confronted the businessman at his shop, and eventually attacked him. Local Hindu businessmen intervened to protect him and alerted the police."

CHATTOTGRAM Metropolitan Police spokesperson Kazi Tarek Aziz told this newspaper that six officers were injured and admitted to Chattogram Medical College Hospital. One of them suffered burns.

CMP Additional Commissioner (Crime and Operations) Abdul Mannan confirmed the businessman was in police custody, adding, "The situation is now under control, and an investigation is ongoing."



Female labourers clearing weeds from a field in Chuknagar area of Khulna yesterday. Once cleared, farmers will plant various winter vegetables like cauliflowers and cabbages here. After working from the morning till noon, these women are paid Tk 250 per day.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

MORRELGANJ TO SHARANKHOLA

Parts of embankment damaged

PARTHA CHAKRABORTTY, Bagerhat

Barely a year after its handover, the "sustainable embankment" constructed from Morrelganj to Sharankhola under the Coastal Embankment Improvement Project in Bagerhat is already failing. Large sections of the embankment are eroding, prompting widespread concern among coastal residents who fear for their safety and livelihoods.

The embankment was built in response to urgent pleas from communities devastated by the 2007 Cyclone Sidr, which claimed 908 lives and caused billions in financial losses.

The 62-kilometre embankment was constructed at a cost of Tk 242 crore. In December 2023, the Water Development Board handed over the embankment.

Salam Sheikh, a resident of

Jilbunia village in Rayenda Union, said, "We lost everything to river erosion and Cyclone Sidr. This embankment was supposed to be our safeguard, but it's already falling apart with massive sinkholes and blocks collapsing into the river."

More than 200 sinkholes have



formed along the embankment between Rayenda and Bagi.

Locals suspect the deterioration is due to the use of substandard construction materials, with some claiming that sand was used in

place of more durable soil.

"You can't even drive along the embankment because of these sinkholes," said Dalim, a resident of Rayenda.

The situation has worsened since Cyclone Renal, which caused additional instability, said locals.

Krishnendu Bikash, sub-divisional engineer at the Bagerhat Water Development Board, said they are conducting surface repair works.

He also said a new project proposal for long-term stabilisation has been submitted.

Sudipta Kumar Singh, Sharankhola upazila nirbahi officer, said, "Our team inspected the damaged sections, and we've urged the WDB to implement emergency measures. Sharankhola is surrounded by rivers on three sides, so it's crucial we stabilise the embankment."

22 hurt in AL-BNP clash

Four hospitalised with gunshot wounds

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

At least 22 people were injured, including four with gunshot wounds, in a clash between supporters of the Awami League and BNP over establishing supremacy in the Char area of Raipura upazila, Narsingdi yesterday.

According to locals, about 30 people led by Abdus Salam, the local ward AL president who fled Mohinipur village after the AL government fell on August 5, attacked the house of Shamsu Mia, a union parishad member and BNP leader, in the village.

Armed with firearms, they attacked Shamsu's residence, triggering a clash between the two groups. The confrontation lasted around one and a half hours.

The four gunshot victims -- Shuvo Mia, 28, Parvez, 29, Kamal Mia, 40, and Mamun Mia, 30 -- were admitted to Brahmanbaria General Hospital. Among them, Shuvo sustained four gunshot wounds to his legs and one to his right wrist.

Locals say there has been a longstanding dispute between AL leader Abdus Salam and BNP leader Shamsu. Following the fall of the AL government, Shamsu,

who had been on the run for three years, returned to the area on August 5 with his supporters. Since then, Abdus Salam and his group had reportedly left the area.

Injured Shuvo, son of Shamsu, said, "Awami League leader Abdus Salam and his men attacked us with pistols and crude bombs without any provocation. They came from nearby villages on a few speedboats and two boats."

Contacted, Narsingdi Superintendent of Police Md Abdul Hannan told The Daily Star that he was unaware of any clash in the Char area. "I will look into the matter," he said.

Harassment of teacher

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MP Shahadat Hossain, BNP leader Akhtaruzzaman Bappi, and their associates are targeting Goswami with misinformation and intimidation tactics aimed at disrupting her initiatives.

The demonstration began at 11:00am, led by Principal Subhash Sarkar.

The protesters said Hossain and Bappi were harassing

Goswami by hiring criminals. A dismissed teacher of the institution, Abdus Samad, is also in on it, they added.

They claimed local NGOs are also helping the three as they feel threatened by Goswami's works.

The nexus is also trying to unlawfully remove Goswami from her teaching position, they said.

The protesters

include Azad Hossain Belal, convener of the Sathkira District Citizens' Committee; Abdul Hamid, principal; educationist Kishori Mohan Sarkar; Swapon Kumar Shil, general secretary of the Hindu-Buddhist Christian Unity Council's Sathkira branch; and Bishwanath Ghosh, general secretary of the Puja Celebration Committee.



Bangladesh ranks

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put in place to address this crisis," she added.

Rizwana urged stakeholders to actively contribute to a national action plan to identify and address the sources of lead contamination.

Unicef's Representative to Bangladesh, Rana Flowers, highlighted that children face lifelong, irreversible health impacts from lead exposure, affecting brain development and multiple organs.

She said in adults, lead poisoning is linked to cardiovascular disease and affects unborn babies during pregnancy. "Clear laws and private sector involvement can greatly reduce health and education costs, as well as the personal toll on women and children," she added.

Dr Mahbubur Rahman,

assistant professor at IEDCR, said accurate, comprehensive data on children's health, education, and sanitation is vital for identifying sources of heavy metal contamination and for crafting effective interventions.

"Robust national data can drive policy reforms, setting the foundation for a lead-free future in Bangladesh with safer industry practices and lead-free products," he said.

In June, the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and Unicef launched the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey Round 7 (2024-2025), funded by USAID.

This edition introduces new methods for collecting data on blood lead levels and other toxic metals, marking the first comprehensive attempt to assess toxic metal exposure in children.

Govt launches action plan

FROM PAGE 3

By prioritising cleaner air, the government reaffirms its commitment to environmental protection and the well-being of future generations, she added.

The adviser said government agencies, development partners, civil society, and the private sector must work together to ensure the effective execution of the plan.

In another event

at the Department of Environment, Rizwana inaugurated a new software to automate the environmental clearance process through an online platform.

In her remarks, she said with the introduction of this new software, the DoE is bringing a smart transformation to the clearance process, making it simpler for issuance and renewal.

area, which belongs to an expatriate.

"We are now trying to know who are financing them, which group was responsible, and what was the intention to gather too many firearms and bullets in the district," said SP Faruk. "The accused has been sent to court," he added.

[Our Noakhali correspondent also contributed to this report]

Five held with illegal arms

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Based on information from the arrestees, police conducted a drive and detained Md Bahar, 30, from Deoti Dakkhinpara village.

During interrogation, Bahar admitted to storing illegal arms and ammunition.

Later, police recovered the illegal weapons and ammunition from a two-story building in the

area, which belongs to an expatriate.

"We are now trying to know who are financing them, which group was responsible, and what was the intention to gather too many firearms and bullets in the district," said SP Faruk. "The accused has been sent to court," he added.

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Civil society

FROM PAGE 3

New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) with an emphasis on concessional, grant-based funding, and a balance between adaptation and mitigation finance.

Priority, they stressed, should go to LDCs, Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and other vulnerable nations, with a focus on gender-responsive funding.

NCQG is a global target set by countries to increase climate finance, providing funds to help vulnerable nations adapt to climate change and reduce emissions, replacing the previous \$100 billion annual goal.

Md Shamsudohha, CPRD's chief executive and alliance coordinator, said the NCQG should feature robust monitoring, reporting, and verification indicators, and called for dedicated funding for women and marginalised groups.

Talha Jamal, country director of Islamic Relief Bangladesh, praised CPRD's leadership in uniting CSOs for climate justice and urged government

representatives to heed civil society recommendations.

Shaheen Anam, executive director of the Manusher Jonno Foundation, called on Multilateral Development Banks to prioritise equitable financing for mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage, rather than relying on private financing which may impose debt burdens on vulnerable countries.

Other speakers included Sharif Jamil of Waterkeeper Alliance, Hasin Jahan of WaterAid Bangladesh, AKM Saiful Islam from BUET, and Adnan Ibne Abdul Kader, Climate and Water Governance Specialist at WaterAid, all stressing the need for COP 29 to adopt fair, accessible financing mechanisms that respect human rights and address climate-induced rights violations.

PRAYER
TIMING

NOVEMBER 6

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4:55 12:45 4:00 5:30 7:15

JAMAAT 5:30 1:15 4:15 5:34 7:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

কারখানার জমি সহ বিভিন্ন বিক্রয়

ঢাকার মিরপুরের রূপনগর শিল্প এলাকায় (শিয়াল বাড়ী) ৭.৫ কাঠা নিষ্কটক জমি সাড়ে ৬তলা মজবুৎ বিভিন্ন সহ সামনে পেছনে ৩০ ফুট প্রস্থ রাস্তা, জরুরী ভিত্তিতে সুলভ দামে বিক্রি হবে।

মোঃ মুনীর হোসেন সিদ্দিকী

মোবাইল : ০১৭১৩-০৩৯৬৬৭

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL BANGLADESH
Social movement against corruption

Invitation for Tender (IFT)
Printing and Supply of Desk Calendar and Notebook
(IFT Ref no: TIB/Proc/IFT/2024/64 Date: 06 November 2024)

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) is hereby inviting all bona fide traders or suppliers for participating in tender process to print and supply of Desk Calendar and Notebook as per the specification mentioned in the tender document.

Interested vendors are requested to download IFT document from the following link of TIB website or collect hard copy from Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), House 5, MIDAS Centre, 4th Floor, Road 16 (new) 27 (Old), Dhanmondi, Dhaka 1209. All other terms and conditions are mentioned in the tender documents. For any clarifications or queries, please contact at ariful@ti-bangladesh.org. Hard copy of Tender documents must be submitted to the above address on or before 3:00 PM, 20 November 2024.

Download Link: ti-bangladesh.org/articles/tender/all