

10th National Parliamentary Election: The Biggest Rigged Election in the History of Bangladesh



The same frame captured at four different moments during the polling at Azimpur Girls School and College centre in Dhaka yesterday. This election marked a record low in turnout. ¹

¹ The Daily Star



In Rajshahi at Chinikol School center, photo shows a security guard with having not a single voter



Law enforcers lash out at a opposition activist while manhandling an old man during a clash with the opposition men in Gabtoli of Bogra

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On January 05, 2014, Bangladesh has witnessed a 'fraud' show with its people and democracy in the name of its 10th Parliamentary Election that has already been termed by observers and media as 'scandalous' election in Bangladesh and in the history of democracy all over the world. The 'fraud' show started even before announcement of Election Schedule by the Election Commission (EC). Only 12 out of 42 registered political parties these mainly linked with ruling Awami League party-led alliance did participate in this election. Out of 300 constituencies, in 153 constituencies there was only one candidate and they were declared as elected even before the election took place. Election on 147 constituencies has taken place on January 05.

This report specifies and analyses some events that took place during election day, and obviously, the simple statistics and facts lead everyone to make believe that this election was nothing but a 'fraud' show with people by ruling Awami League party-led government.

1. Unprecedented poor turnout rate:

Unprecedentedly, in large number of constituencies, empty vote box came back to EC as not a single voter casted vote. Media reports show, No vote casted in 31 polling centre including Barabari, Panchagram, Kulaghat, Mohendra Nagar, Harati etc. of Lalmonirhat Sadar Upazila constituency.² In Gomnati High School centre of Nilfamari-1 (Domar-Dimla) constituency total number of voter is 3732 of which only one male voter gave his vote.³ In this constituency less than 10% vote was casted. ⁴ But Election Commission report shows 24% vote casting in this constituency. No vote casted in Shajahanpur Upazila Madla Union Malipara Dakhil Madrasah centre of Bogra-7 constituency, a



Photos: officials waiting in empty vote centers as no voter comes

² <http://www.sheershanews.com/2014/01/05/20621#sthash.g4ZOxM21.dpuf>;
<http://www.sheershanews.com/2014/01/05/20621>

³ <http://www.sheershanews.com/2014/01/05/20637#sthash.RIHgILkK.dpuf>

⁴ <http://www.sheershanews.com/2014/01/05/20622#sthash.imzgAVmx.dpuf>

concerned presiding officer reported.⁵ The presiding officer said that there are 2159 voters in this centre. At the same time only 3 votes has been casted in the nearby polling centre named Ramchandrapur Boys High School.⁶



Picture showing no voters at Lalbag Rahmat Ullah School center at Capital Dhaka

In five centers of Rajdhani Model School and College at Gulshan in the Capital city Dhaka, only 376 voters casted their votes which amounts to 3% of the total 11689 voters. In center numbers 61, 62, 63, 64 and 65 only 122, 69, 27, 20, 136 votes were casted where total voter were 11689, 2095, 2082, 2402, 2301 and 2410 respectively.⁷

Advocate Nurul Islam Khan is a candidate in 10th National Election nominated from Bangladesh Khelafat e Majleesh. He himself did not come to his respected polling centre Charshakhchura to cast his own vote.⁸

In many constituencies voters were not well-known with the candidates except the Awami League one.⁹ In Uttar Sodha Govt. Primary School centre of Chittagong-15 (Shatkania-Lohagara) constituency only 15 votes was casted. In another centre in the same constituency only one vote was casted for all day long.¹⁰ In Horinmara Govt. Primary School



Till 11am on the Election day, only a single vote casted at NUrul Ala Nur Kamil Madrasah center at Panchagar

⁵ <http://www.sheershanews.com/2014/01/05/20622#sthash.imzgAVmx.dpuf>

⁶ <http://www.sheershanews.com/2014/01/05/20622#sthash.imzgAVmx.dpuf>

⁷ <http://mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=+NTg1OQ%3D%3D&s=MQ%3D%3D>

⁸ <http://www.sheershanews.com/2014/01/05/20624#sthash.z5eCxSH1.dpuf>

⁹ <http://risingbd.com/detailsnews.php?nssl=097bf611b4bd8f82ad46290f9478a666&nttl=0501201431917#.UtDU2Pu8dn6>

¹⁰ <http://www.sheershanews.com/2014/01/05/20603#sthash.tgdIXLyh.dpuf>

centre of Ukhia-Teknaph (Cox's Bazar) out of 1595 no vote was casted. In Khoyrati Para Govt. Primary School centre 87 votes, in Tuturbil Govt. Primary School centre 37 votes, in Rajpalong Sinior Madrasah centre 296 votes and Uttor Pukuria Govt. Primary School centre 11 votes were casted out of respectively 1683, 2378, 2932, 1910 voters, concerned presiding officers reported.¹¹



No voter at Sucharan School center at Rajshahi district

Two Jamaat activists were killed in Rangpur-4 constituency in political violence based on the 10th national election. Consequently, no vote was casted in at least 45 polling centers out of 90 centers in this constituency. Though the concerned returning officer informed Parimal Mazumdar, a journalist of the TV channel, but the fact proved false.¹² Similarly, in many other poling centers no vote was casted at all.¹³

¹¹ <http://www.sheershanews.com/2014/01/05/20642#sthash.ds8TK4aD.dpuf>
<http://www.banglanews24.com/detailsnews.php?nssl=1354970fd847e2186c6833cbbe163a14&nttl=05012014254371>

¹² <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/latestnews/2014/01/05/7901>

¹³ <http://www.newsevent24.com/2014/01/05/%e0%a7%ac%e0%a7%aa-%e0%a6%95%e0%a7%87%e0%a6%a8%e0%a7%8d%e0%a6%a6%e0%a7%8d%e0%a6%b0%e0%a7%87-%e0%a6%8f%e0%a6%95%e0%a6%9f%e0%a6%bf%e0%a6%93-%e0%a6%ad%e0%a7%8b%e0%a6%9f-%e0%a6%aa%e0%a7%9c%e0%a7%87/#sthash.FeLRZl0a.dpuf>

2. Media Live Reports on Election Day:

Throughout the election day, TV news report showed deserted polling stations. Reporters also uncovered visible electoral irregularities, which were aired live on TV. Indeed clips from such reports have spread like wildfire on social media. The following are summaries of a selection of the footage (with English Subtitles) and some reports. As more footage is subtitled into English, they will be added to the list below.

Early in the day NTV reporter interviewed a representative of an independent election observer organisation, who said he monitored 10 polling stations over one hour, and only 3 votes had been cast.

In this ETV report, the reporter talks through footage saying several polling stations in Dhaka are empty. However, suddenly a queue starts to appear in one station. On questioning, the young men reveal that they are not voters, but have been asked to queue by some political elder 'brothers'.



A center in Sylhet Jointapur

Again, ETV reports that in Sahara Khatun's (a former Awami League Minister in current government) constituency voter fraud is apparent; on being asked by the reporter for papers, some apparent voters try to escape. However, polling officers, police and other officials seem indifferent, and turn a blind eye to lack of Identification papers.

MyTV Live first interviews the Awami league hopeful in that area. Behind him is a queue of woman who state they have been asked to stand in the queue again, and when questioned why they are queuing to vote again, one woman says she has been asked to do her duty.

Channel 24 interviews polling officers at one station who say that they have had only 1 vote in 3 hours.

New Age Bangladesh reports that 'Home Affairs Minister Tuku's son and personal staff allegedly stuffed boxes with stamped ballot papers at four centres in two places in Pabna...Witnesses said that a group of ruling Awami League activists had assaulted polling officials and stamped 475 ballots...'

UNB reports 'Dhaka, Jan 5 (UNB) – A polling officer at the city's St Joseph Technical School centre of Dhaka -6 constituency, alleged that about 100 unknown people entered his centre at about 3:30 pm on Sunday and snatched ballot papers from the polling officers ...“These strangers forced us to show it to be more than 51 percent,” he told reporters at the Jatiya Press Club...police refusal to help compelled the presiding and polling officers to make a compromise with the strangers to show the voter turnout to be 1,500-plus from the actual 627...'

Ekattor TV report in Khulna shows massive irregularities, with police and officials merely standing by without taking actions. Again shows low turnout in that district.



A center at Banani, Dhaka

3. Observers Comments:

Munira Khan, Chair of Fair Election Monitoring Alliance (FEMA), a domestic election monitoring body, claimed less than 10% vote casting on January 05 Election. Advocate A K Azad, a Director of National Human Rights Commission, claimed the vote casting didn't cross over 10%. He said that there was very low rate voter turnout in most of the voting centers. In most of the voting centers voter turnout was from zero to 10% rate. In Election

Day voter turnout rate was only 3.27% till 12 pm.¹⁴ The daily Prothom Alo, a widely published daily in the country, reported, on analyzing 19 vote centers in Dhaka, that in those centers voter turnout rate was 25.55%.

Voter turnout situation cannot be understood by sighting the situations of that of the capital. Activities of the law enforcing agencies were more in comparison with the outside areas. For this reason in Dhaka City voter turnout rate is higher than that of the other areas. Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, the convener of election commission coordination subcommittee of Awami League, demands that voter turnout rate is low due to foggy weather in some areas.¹⁵

In some constituencies, though contested between Awami League nominated candidate and their revolt candidate, less than 20 to 25% vote were casted. In most of the centers in the capital 30 to 40 political activists stand in a queue, though no voter was present therein, whenever any electric media reporter arrive there with camera.¹⁶

An interesting event proves how low rate of voter turnout was in the polling centers! In Dhaka old city Lalbag Govt. Primary School centre voter turnout was very low. In fact there was no voter and no queue. Therefore, presiding officer of this centre utilized this leisure time by shaving his beard!¹⁷ This event occurred at 2pm on the Election Day.

4. Irrational vote Casting Rate in Comparison with 9th National Election:

In Gopalganj-2 constituency 90.36% vote casted 10th national election where only one party and their alliance took part and the major opposition alliance did boycott. This is the highest vote casting rate in this election. In 9th national election this rate was 82.77 in this constituency. Similarly, in Gopalganj-1 and Gopalganj-3 constituency vote casting rate was 89.74% and 89.95% where the previous rate was 84.24% and 87.54% respectively.

In the previous election (9th national election) 82.77% vote casted in the same constituency where all parties took part. On the other hand, the lowest vote casting rate is 10.88% in Dhaka-15 constituency. In the previous election this rate was 78.05%.¹⁸

¹⁴ <http://www.thereport24.com/?page=details&article=37.10483>

¹⁵ <http://www.thereport24.com/?page=details&article=37.10483>;

<http://www.rtnn.net/newsdetail/detail/1/1/76082#.UtDUyfu8dn6>

¹⁶ <http://www.dailynayadiganta.com/details.php?nayadiganta=NzgyNw%3D%3D&s=MjIM%3D>

¹⁷ <http://www.newsevent24.com/2014/01/05/%e0%a6%ad%e0%a7%8b%e0%a6%9f%e0%a7%87%e0%a6%b0-%e0%a6%85%e0%a6%ac%e0%a6%b8%e0%a6%b0%e0%a7%87-%e0%a6%a6%e0%a6%he%e0%a6%81%e0%a7%9r%e0%a6%hf->

In Rajshahi at Chinikol School center, photo shows a guard with having not a single voter [dpuf](#)

<http://www.thereport24.com/?page=details&article=37.10483>

Constituency	Number of vote casted	Number of voters registered	Percentage	Percentage in 9 th National Election
Bogra 4	35692	283253	13	92.5
Chittaong 11	66022	484979	14	87.58
Dhaka 4	32559	228517	14.53	81.32
Jhenaidh 3	48190	317770	15.38	93.76
Shatkira 2	50274	314277	16.59	91
Rangpur 3	81039	455620	18	82
Dhaka 16	61716	342355	18.35	76.67
Maulvibazaar 2	56112	281093	20.29	85.95
Chittagong 13	185357	272787	68.93	88.03
Lalmonhirat 1	191746	276639	70.48	91.79
Bhola 3	180734	254702	71.52	86.96
Gopalganj 1	246467	276549	89.78	84.24
Gopalganj 3	189615	211839	90	87.54
Gopalganj 2	241675	269152	90	82.77

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5. False voter: Vote in every 6 seconds!

There is allegation against the ruling party that they ordered the Election Commission to ensure more voter turnout than 1996' election on 15th February that is more than 26.57%.²⁰

In Kishorgonj-3 (Korimgonj-Tarail) constituency, observing at least 25 centers including Jaforabad High School, Kiraton High School, Shakura Govt. Primary School, Namotpur Govt. Primary School, Vatia High School of Korimgonj and Ghoshpara High School of Tarail, it reveals that by 1.00 pm maximum 10% vote were casted. But peculiarly in two centers (Kajla Alim Madrasah and Kajla Govt. Primary School) nearby the home of Mujibul Haque Chunnu in Tarail, 90% votes casted by 1.00 pm. In these two voting centers total amount of voter are 2119 and 3559 respectively. By 1.10 pm 2300 votes are casted in Kajla Govt. Primary School that reveals that one vote casted in every 6 seconds. Similarly in Kajla Alim Madrasah in every eight seconds one vote casted.²¹

¹⁹ <http://www.thereport24.com/?page=details&article=37.10701>

²⁰ <http://www.thereport24.com/?page=details&article=37.10483>

²¹ <http://www.newsevent24.com/2014/01/05/%e0%a6%aa%e0%a7%8d%e0%a6%b0%e0%a6%a4%e0%a6%bf-%e0%a6%9b%e0%a7%9f-%e0%a6%b8%e0%a7%87%e0%a6%95%e0%a7%87%e0%a6%a8%e0%a7%8d%e0%a6%a1%e0%a7%87-%e0%a6%8f%e0%a6%95%e0%a6%9f%e0%a6%bf-%e0%a6%ad%e0%a7%8b/#sthash.M5jdh8XE.dpuf>
<http://www.banglanews24.com/detailsnews.php?nssl=613a571b330ee1dfb00e3871e2a93207&nttl=05012014254342>

In Brahminbaria-3 constituency Jatiya Party nominated candidate Dr. Farid Ahmed could not give his vote in his centre Annada Govt. High School. While he went to



the centre *A center at Jointapur in Sylhet* to give his

vote he saw that someone has already given his vote. He declared to reject the election forthwith. His voter no. is 433.²²

100% vote casting claimed in Nowagaon vote centre of Nurpur Union of Hobigonj Sadar Upazila though some enlisted voters supposed certainly is dead by this time. It is claimed that out of 2600 voters all voter gave their votes.²³

Son of Home Affairs State Minister Shamsul Haque Tuku, a Awami League nominated candidate, himself gave 475 votes in Shatiakola Ibtedayi Madrasah centre of Pabna-1 (Shathiya-Bera) constituency. Similar allegation arises in two centers at Shathiya Shahidnagar Govt. High School 238 votes were given by Awami League activists.²⁴

In Belgachhi center of Chuadanga district, one journalist visited there and some people made a queue after watching him and asked him to take photo of them. They informed the journalist that they have been waiting for to have a photo-session.²⁵

²² : <http://www.sheershanews.com/2014/01/05/20619#sthash.l3NSG92q.dpuf>

²³ <http://www.newsevent24.com/2014/01/05/%e0%a6%8f%e0%a6%95%e0%a6%9f%e0%a6%bf-%e0%a6%95%e0%a7%87%e0%a6%a8%e0%a7%8d%e0%a6%a6%e0%a7%8d%e0%a6%b0%e0%a7%87-%e0%a6%b6%e0%a6%a4%e0%a6%ad%e0%a6%be%e0%a6%97-%e0%a6%ad%e0%a7%8b%e0%a6%9f-2/#sthash.vwMsrljQ.dpuf>

²⁴ <http://www.bd-pratidin.com/2014/01/05/36176#sthash.6ByvtfpU.dpuf>

²⁵ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/116491/>

6. Children are used for casting vote:

In 10th national election children are seen to be used to give false votes. In Jhalkathi-1 constituency most of the voters were children. At 9 am a boy named Md. Sobur Hosain is seen to give vote in Kanudash Kathi of Rajapur Upazila. He is a student of class 10. Like Md. Sobur Hosain many more students of under aged gave vote in several centers. Perceiving



the appearance of journalists Awami League activists got those students out of those centers.²⁶

Photo: Children showing black mark on their thumb. After voting, the voter is marked by permanent black ink that represents his vote has been casted.

One report shows, every children is awarded with 50 Bangladeshi Taka for casting one false vote.²⁷

²⁶ <http://www.sheershanews.com/2014/01/05/20567#sthash.E5mWVLJd.dpuf>

²⁷ http://www.enebnews24.com/common_body/details_innerpage.php?id=19910&pages=p8&box=805

7. Empty Vote Box in Many Centers:

<p>No vote casted in around 56 Centers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No vote casted in 31 centers of 5 Union Parishad at Lalmonirhat Sadar upzilla under Lalmonirhat district.• In 6 centers of Satkhira district no vote was casted. Around 8000 voters are there.• In Dinajpur-6 constituency, no vote casted in 10 centers.• In Bajrapur center under Kalijang of Jhinaidah district, no vote was casted. Total number of voter is 2542. In Purandapur center, among 3528 voters, not a single vote is casted.• In Malipara Dakhil Madrasah Center under Bogra-7 constituency, among 2159 voters, none came to cast a vote.²⁸• In Bisshonath of Sylhet, no vote casted in Ramdhana school center.²⁹• Other centers with empty vote are, Harinmara school center under Cox's Bazar-4 constituency, Kedarjang Model school center under Chuadanga-1 constituency, Helencha Madrasah center under Dinajpur, Khadail school center under Dinajpur, Kalyanpur center under Sirazganj district, Maria school center under Rajshahi, East Moheshchar center under Feni-3 constituency.³⁰	<p>1-63 votes casted in 16 centers.³¹</p>
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²⁸ <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2014/01/06/231308#.UtTbLvQW23s>

²⁹ http://www.enebd24.com/common_body/details_innerpage.php?id=19905&pages=p5&box=501

³⁰ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/116821/%E0%A7%A9%E0%A7%AF%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A8>

8. Death Counts 27 on Election Day:

27 were dead including 24 from the opposition parties whom were shoot to death by law enforcing agencies and rulling party members. In parbatipur of Dinajpur Police shoot to death one activist of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), and one activist of National Democratic Party. Police also shoot to death 2 Jammata-Shibir activists in Rangpur, 4 in Nilphamari, 2 BNP activists in Thakurgoan, one BNP activist in Naogoan, one Jammata Activist in Jessore, one BNP



রংপুরের পীরগাছায় নিহত জামায়াতের মিরাজুল ও শিবিরের হাদিউজ্জামান, ঠাকুরগাঁয়ে বিএনপিকর্মী হানিফ, নীলফামারীতে জামায়াতকর্মী মমতাজ ও ফেনীর যুবদলকর্মী



দিনাজপুরে নিহত জাগপা কর্মী মাসুদ ও পার্বতীপুরে নিহত আনসার সদস্য আবদুল ওয়াহেদ; চাঁদপুরের ফরিদগঞ্জে নিহত হাফেজ রুবেল হোসেন



activist in Chandpur, one Shibir activist in Chittagong and one Awami League activist in Lalmonirhat. Awami League activists killed 2 BNP activists in Thakurgoan and one Jammata Activist in Gaibandha.

<http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/116821/%E0%A7%A9%E0%A7%AF%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%AD%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%9C%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF>

³¹ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/116821/%E0%A7%A9%E0%A7%AF%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%AD%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%9C%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF>

Besides this one student, one truck driver and one street-crosser were murdered during Election Day. One Awami League leader in Pirojpur, one law enforcing agency member in Dinajpur and one presiding officer in Thakurgoan were also killed.³²

9. Fake Vote Video Links

This section gathers together a number of videos that witnessed 'fraud' election on January 05, 2014.

- Fake vote casting caught by hidden camera.
- Only 2 vote casted till 10 am at a center at Dhaka
- No casting seal allowed otherwise than over Nauka (Boat), the symbol of Awami League.
- Not a single vote casted till 10:45am at Maria govt. primary school in Rajshahi
- Candidates withdraw candidacy on allegation of election rigging
- Fake voter make queue with no voter ID card at Dhaka
- Agent of a neutral candidate forced to out from booth.
- Unprecedented situation at Satkhira vote centers
- 12 year old child casting vote!
- 2 votes in 6 hours at Uttara, Dhaka
- Polling Agent says only 10-15 votes casted!
- Fake voter caught by media
- Aljazeera News air Election day
- Fake voters make queue Awami Leader angry with media news
- Fake voter caught in hand while escaping

³² <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2014/01/06/231300#.UtTbAvQW23s>

10. Photo Gallery:



1. From Left: empty vote box at Chuadanda, Sylhet and security women at Thakurgoan



2. Empty voter centers in Nakla Sherpur, Sylhey Bisshonath and Sherpur from left.



3. Voter-less centers at Barisal, Bandarban and Nator respectively.



4. From left: Brahmanbaria, Sitakunda and Mymensingh



5. *Fatilchori, Satkhira and Sunamjang: voter-less centers*



7. *An Assistant Presiding Officer casting fake votes at a center in Banani, Dhaka*



8. *A center with no voters at Babujang, Barisal*



9. *No voter at a center in Chittagong*



10. A very few votes casted after whole day at a center of Dhaka



11. Persons casting fake votes at a center in Dhaka Tikatuli.



12. Bogra Fultola school center and a center at Rajshahi



A vote center in Dhaka without any voters



TOAST OF MEDIA: Photojournalists and a videographer mob a woman as she casts her vote in the capital's Azimpur Girls School and College polling centre where the presence of voters was a rarity as elsewhere in the country yesterday. The 10th parliamentary elections marked a record low in turnout

Conclusion:

On 5th January, 2014 in 17249 centers of 147 constituencies election held from 8am to 4pm. Among these in 205 centers', election result was postponed. Election Commission claimed 40.56% vote casting excluding postponed centers' results. In this opposition-less national election citizen's concentration was at the voter turnout. A considerable number of people doubt with the voter turnout percentage claimed by the Election Commission.

What happened on January 05 Election was happened forcefully. A simple reading of these incidents on Election Day proves that this election was nothing but a 'fraud' show with people of Bangladesh in the label of democracy.