

Explosion kills 4 in Bangladesh's Eid congregation, gunbattle underway

07/07/2016 12:08 by admin

Dhaka: Almost a week after the gruesome Dhaka attack, a bomb explosion rocked Bangladesh's Kishoreganj district today killing four persons including a policeman and leaving several injured.

Representational

According to reports, a group of suspected radical Islamists hurled homemade bombs at a group of police officers guarding Eid prayers at Sholakia Eidgah of Kishoreganj district

A gunbattle is currently under way between Bangladeshi security forces and terrorists.

The private Somoy TV station broadcast footage of a gunfight between police and a group of attackers and reported the policeman had been hacked to death.

Police and local media said the explosion occurred at a school outside the prayer ground at Sholakia Eidgah of Kishoreganj district where at least 200,000 people were gathered.

Kishoreganj district is a part of the Dhaka division.

According to Dhaka Tribune, a hand bomb was thrown at policemen near Azim Uddin High School situated at a distance of around one kilometer from the Sholakia eidgah. The incident took place at 9:30 am in the morning.

The country's information minister said the target of the attack was a police convoy patrolling the religious gathering. The blast killed one police officer and one other person, Minister Hasanul Haq Inu said.

“Up to nine police constables have been injured in the attack,” Inu told Indian News Channel.

Some reports said the attack was targeted at a the imam or chief cleric at the prayer ground, who is known for his liberal views. He had reportedly started a signature campaign to condemn terrorism in the name of Islam.

One of the policemen has been identified as Zahirul Islam.

After the Dhaka terror, the Islamic State terror group had issued a chilling video on Wednesday threatening more attacks.

Last Friday, seven terrorists attacked Dhaka's popular Holey Artisan cafe last Friday, killing 22 people, including two policemen.

- More details awaited