

Rowta violence up escalating; 10 killed, shoot at sight ordered



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Atleast ten people were killed, more than 40 others have been injured in the communal clash that broke out between Bodos and Bangladeshi immigrants at Rowta in lower Assam's Udalguri areas. Security forces have been deployed in the area but by the evening the situation has already spanned out of control.

The flare-up broke out on Friday morning and by the evening it was spreading to the adjacent areas Ikarabari, Sonapur, Lalding, Shivpur, Shyambari and Bothaipara under the Rowta Police station forcing thousands of people in the area to leave their house. As many as ten villages have been torched belonging to both the communities. According to information, these people are camping in the schools and colleges.

The clashes broke out in Simaluguri village where two Bodo villagers were seriously injured and admitted to Tezpur Civil Hospital. Senior police officials rushed to the villages and brought the situation under control but tension again escalated in the district after an unidentified body, belonging to the minority community, was recovered in the afternoon from the campus of the Deputy Commissioner's office.

The injured have been rushed to the nearby hospitals in Mongodoi and Tezpur. More security personnel are being deployed in the district to thwart escalating violence.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister has ordered the local administration to deal the issue firmly. The administration has already clamped curfew and issued shoot at sight order.

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