

Ticket for Amini may be costly for BNP in B'baria

SHEIKH SHAHIDUL ISLAM, B'baria

Discontent is brewing in BNP rank and file in Brahmanbaria-1 and Brahmanbaria-2 constituencies over possibility of alliance ticket for Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ) leader Mufti Fazlul Haque Amini from the area.

Party men in both the constituencies at several meetings have expressed their resolve not to support any 'outsider' candidate with alliance nomination.

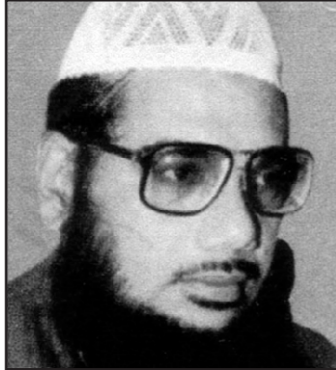
BNP leaders and workers in the two constituencies started expressing their reaction when it was known unofficially that IOJ chairman Mufti Fazlul Haque Amini MP may be given alliance ticket from Brahmanbaria-2 and State Minister for Land and Power advocate Abdus Sattar Bhuiyan may be asked to run in Brahmanbaria-1, party sources said. Sattar will face party contenders in Brahmanbaria-1.

In 2001 election, Abdus Sattar 'sacrificed' his Brahmanbaria-2 constituency for Amini and he (Amini) was elected. As a reward, Sattar was made a technocrat state minister, front ranking BNP leaders said.

In the interest of retaining the alliance, its high-ups have requested Sattar to allow Amini to contest from Brahmanbaria-2 in the coming election and seek nomination from Brahmanbaria-1 for himself.

But Sattar will have to face three contenders in Brahmanbaria-1 for the ticket, the sources said.

The three possible contenders for alliance ticket in Brahmanbaria-1 are former lawmaker Sayed



Fazlul Haque Amini

Murshed Kamal who joined BNP from Jatiya Party (Ershad), BNP leader industrialist Sayed AK Ekramuzzaman and Nasirnagar upazila BNP secretary SM Shafi Mahmud.

Amini's lobbying for alliance ticket has created rivalry between BNP and IOJ in Brahmanbaria-2 and between BNP in Brahmanbaria-1, they said.

Recently, BNP's Sarail upazila unit held a public meeting with its president Abdur Rahman in chair where Abdus Sattar, president of Brahmanbaria district BNP, was the chief guest.

Addressing in the meeting, Sattar said Mufti Amini was elected from Brahmanbaria-2 in 2001 election with BNP votes.

"This (constituency) was my confirmed but I sacrificed it in the interest of the alliance", he told the meeting. Sattar was elected from Brahmanbaria-2 three times earlier.

Abdur Rahman told the meeting that Amini was not a man from Sarail. "He is a seasonal bird. He



Abdus Sattar

won the election with BNP votes". "After the election, he (Amini) did not maintain contact with local BNP leaders", Abdur Rahman alleged.

At the meeting, BNP leaders and workers vowed that they will no more support Amini as alliance nominee from Brahmanbaria 2.

On the other hand, a day after the BNP public meeting, IOJ leaders held a grand meeting at Darul Akram Al Islamic Madrasa in Brahmanbaria to chalk out a polls strategy.

At least 200 IOJ leaders were present in the meeting in which they formed several committees to conduct campaign in all 15 unions in Brahmanbaria-2 constituency.

In the meeting, they also criticised Sattar, saying that he was conspiring against the alliance.

In 1996 election, Abdus Sattar won from Brahmanbaria-2 as a BNP candidate with 53,932 votes while Mufti Fazlul Haque Amini got 12,567 votes and lost his security money.

On the other hand, Nasirnagar upazila (Brahmanbaria-1) BNP

leaders and workers vowed to resist any 'outsider' candidate in the area. Sattar does not hail from Brahmanbaria-1 though he was elected from there in 1979 as an independent candidate.

But in the coming election, most of the BNP in Brahmanbaria-1 constituency want a candidate who is a man of the area, party sources said.

On the party's founding day, Nasirnagar BNP held a meeting with its upazila unit president Md. Iqbal Chowdhury in chair.

It was addressed by, among other, BNP aspirants Sayed Murshed Kamal and Sayed AK Ekramuzzaman, upazila BNP secretary Qumruzaman Mamun and local party leaders MA Hannan, Ahidul Khan and Momidul Kader Kachi.

Due to internal feud in BNP in Brahmanbaria-1, Awami League (AL) candidate Md. Saydul Haque won the seat in 1996 and 2001.

Awami League candidate Md. Saydul Haque had won the seat in 1974 but it went to Abdus Sattar in 1979.

Political circles said Awami League may have good chances in Brahmanbaria-1 and Brahmanbaria-2 in the coming election if the intra-party feud in BNP and its conflict with IOJ can not be resolved.

2 'robbers' lynched in Tangail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Two armed robbers were lynched by a mob at Gramjoka Blijjoka village in Mogra union in Sadar upazila Thursday night.

Police and villagers said a gang of robbers numbering 15 stormed into the house of Mizanur Rahman, an NGO employee, at about 1:00am. Robbers looted cash and valuables including gold ornaments worth Tk 2 lakh from the house.

When the house owner shouted for help during robbery, villagers from nearby rushed to the spot and surrounded the robbers. But the robbers attacked them resulting in injuries to 10 villagers. Four of the injured villagers were immediately rushed to Tangail General Hospital for treatment.

However, villagers caught two of the robbers and beat them to death on the spot.

But, the identity of the dead could not be known till filing of this report yesterday afternoon.

On contact, local Union Parishad (UP) chairman Abdul Hamid told this correspondent the dead robbers hailed from Gazipur district.

Being informed, police rushed to the spot and recovered the bodies and sent those to Tangail General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Meanwhile, police recovered a hand bomb from the spot. One person named Selim, 30, was arrested from the village in connection with the incident.

RU brought to its knees in 5 yrs

'White paper' by Progotishil Sikhkhak Samaj claims

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Progotishil Sikhkhak Samaj (PSS), a pro-liberation teachers' body in Rajshahi University, yesterday published a 'white paper' on alleged corruption and irregularities by the university authorities during the tenure of the four-party alliance government.

PSS convenor Prof Abdus Sobhan read out the eight-page 'white paper' at a press conference held at the Jubery Bhaban.

He alleged that image of the internationally reputed university has been shattered by 'corruption, nepotism and politicisation' by its authorities in last five years.

A number of senior teachers who are members of PSS steering committee were present at the press conference. They included Dr Saiful Islam, Dr Abdus Sobhan, Dr Zehadul Karim and Prof Moloy Bhoomik.

Violation of rules in the academic field started with the 'illegal replace-

ment' of RU Senate-elected vice-chancellor Prof M Saidur Rahman Khan with Prof Faisul Islam Faruki in November 13, 2001, the white paper said.

"The present VC, Prof Altaf Hossain, purposefully amended the Business Studies Faculty Ordinance by a executive order to allow party cadres to appear at examinations", it said.

No Senate meeting was called in last five years, which is violation of university rules.

"The VC committed a moral crime by unlawfully recruiting teachers in Law and Justice, Chemistry, Marketing, Fisheries and Folklore departments, bypassing selection committees and without caring for newspaper advertisements and their qualification".

Defying the Planning Committee, teachers having one First Class or no First Class were appointed in Islamic History and Culture, Computer Science, Damatics and Music departments, keeping aside applicants with

four First Class degrees, the white paper said.

Two prominent teachers Prof Muhammad Yunus and Dr S Taher Ahmed— were killed by terrorists having links with a fundamentalist party but RU authorities helped the killers instead of assisting law enforcing agencies to probe the murders.

A police investigation found that a teacher of the department and RU Shibir president masterminded the murder, the white paper said.

Irregularities crossed all previous records when the VC illegally allowed RU Shibir president and principal accused in Taher murder case to appear at examinations with only 16 percent class attendance, which is much below the required percentage. The white paper claimed that RU VC Faruki and pro VC Prof Sahadat Hossain Mondol, with the backing of some ruling party leaders, appointed 546 employees who include alleged terrorists.

BNP feud takes a new turn in Magura

Quazi Kamal sues Nitai Roy

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Internal feud in Magura BNP has taken a new turn as lawmaker from Magura-2 constituency and convene of Magura district BNP Quazi Salemul Haq Kamal has filed a defamation suit against former minister and BNP central executive



Nitai Roy Chowdhury

committee member Nitai Roy Chowdhury.

Quazi Kamal filed the case with a magistrate court in Magura Sadar upazila on Tuesday accusing Nitai Roy for his 'baseless, false and defamatory comments' against him, made at a discussion meeting organised by the a rival faction of district BNP in observance of the party's founding anniversary on September 2.

The court issued an arrest war-

rant against Nitai Roy following filing of the case.

Nitai Roy appeared before the court on Thursday and obtained bail. In the defamation suit, Quazi Kamal alleged that at the meeting held on government college premises called Kamal as 'thief' and also accused him for abusing power



Quazi Salemul Haq Kamal

and amassing a huge amount of money by tender manipulation. These are completely baseless and defamatory and tarnished my image, he said.

When contacted over cellphone, Nitai Roy termed the case a 'game of politics'.

Magura district BNP is dogged by internal feud for long. It is divided into two groups, one led by Quazi Kamal and Akter Hossain and the other by Nitai Roy Chowdhury.

12X3

7X3

8X3

6x2