

Follow FF's quota in RU recruitment

Freedom fighters urge authorities

RU CORRESPONDENT

Freedom fighters in Rajshahi yesterday urged Rajshahi University authorities to make 30 per cent of staff recruitment from among wards and dependents of freedom fighters as per a government fixed quota and threatened of legal action for non-compliance.

The university authorities have been violating the rule, leaders of Rajshahi Muktiyoddah Sangsad alleged at a press conference at its office.

It was addressed by its district unit commander Nazrul Islam Khoka, city unit commander Nur Muhammad Penu, executive committee member Mustafizur Rahman and city unit member Shafiqul Islam.

They said though the university is an autonomous institution, its authorities never maintained the reserve quota.

Now, they are processing recruitment of around 700 officials and employees. In the advertisement, the university authorities did not mention anything regarding the reserve quota, they said.

Before advertisements, Muktiyoddah Sangsad leaders met and urged the authorities to maintain the quota and they gave assurance but it was not kept, they told the press conference.

If the quota was followed, around 150 sons and daughters of freedom fighters would get jobs in different RU departments during the series of appointments earlier, they said.

Rajshahi Medical College authorities also flouted the rule but they were compelled to abide by rules after a legal battle, they said.

If the rules are not followed in next RU Syndicate meeting, the Sangsad will go for legal action they said.

The freedom fighters also urged

authorities of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (RUET) to maintain the 30 per cent freedom fighters quota in recruitment.

When contacted later, Rajshahi University pro Vice-chancellor and recruitment committee chairman Prof Mamnunul Keramat admitted that the quota was not maintained earlier. "We will try to maintain the quota in future", he said.

Meanwhile, a source in the campus said, university authority has been implementing to legalise the controversial recruitment of 546 employees. The employees were recruited on the political consideration and in exchange of huge money.

Here the maintaining of freedom quota is absurd for the university authority.

Syndicate decision 'flouted' to promote Jamaat man

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rajshahi University authorities have appointed a 'controversial' pro-Jamaat man as chief of university's audit cell, violating a Syndicate decision.

Campus source said, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Altaf Hossain on November 8 appointed Enamul Haque as chief of newly created audit cell of the university. Earlier Enamul was working as a deputy director in establishment section in the university.

The Syndicate had suspended Enamul temporarily earlier for misappropriation of money.

Former pro-Jamaat VC Prof Yusuf Ali had appointed Enamul as assistant director of accounts in 1995.

As allegations of misappropriation of funds were brought against him, the Syndicate at its meeting on October 23, 1998 formed a probe team to investigate the matter.

He was found guilty by the team.

The Syndicate then at its 351st meeting recommended his transfer to a position where he would not have to deal with financial matters, the sources said. Enamul was then posted as section officer at Shaheed Shamuhoza Hall.

In 2001, Enamul was promoted and posted in the establishment section. On July 17 this year, the VC again promoted and made him his secretary.

When asked yesterday, Enamul Haque said he has been appointment chief of the audit cell. "The previous issue was settled", he said.

Vice-chancellor Prof Altaf Hossain told newsmen that Syndicate rules were not violated in appointing Enamul in his new post.

But several university teachers and leaders of officers' association alleged that his appointment violated Syndicate decision. The university administration has been made pro-Jamaat by this, they alleged.

Legacy of Samad-Suranjit rivalry shadows AL hopes in Sunamganj

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

Immediate past BNP lawmaker from Sunamganj -5 constituency (Chhatak and Doarabazar upazilas) Kolimuddin Ahmed Milon will face a strong competition in the coming polls from former Awami League lawmaker Muhibur Rahman Manik, who returned to the area after a year in prison in the much talked about bomb blast at his house, according to political analysts there.

But AL prospect in the area is shadowed by the legacy of rivalry between party stalwarts Sunamjit Sengupta and late Abdus Samad Azad.

Manik was jailed for 10 years by Sylhet Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal in October last year. The High Court acquitted him on August 13 this year.

There had been allegations that the bombs were being made to attack a procession of his rival faction in the party at Chhatak upazila headquarters.

Manik is a trusted follower of AL stalwart Suranjit Sengupta, whose rivalry with party stalwart Abdus Samad Azad is well known.

The rivalry between their followers continues even after the death of Abdus Samad.

Manik was given a grand reception on return to the hometown recently. Some AL central leaders including Presidium member Abdur Razzaque attended it.

Milon, general secretary of Sunamganj district BNP, who defeated Manik in 2001 election with a margin of 45,000 votes, is



Muhibur Rahman Manik

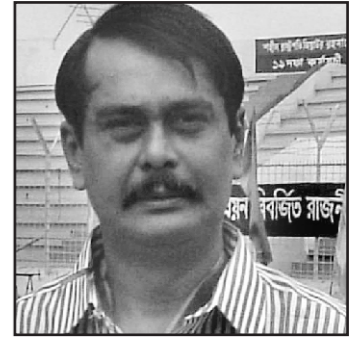
almost sure to get the 4-party alliance ticket this time, his close aides claimed.

This became clear during BNP chief Khaleda Zia's recent visit to Chhatak.

Some other aspirants for the 4-party alliance ticket have also started campaign. They include Moulana Shafiquddin, central joint secretary of Khelafat Majlish, a partner in Islami lokya Jute (IOJ), former central vice-president of BNP's student front Jayiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury and Engineer Munsil Ali.

Sporadic clashes between supporters Munsif and Milon took place in last two days in different areas of Chhatak and Doarabazar upazilas over removing posters of Munsif Ali. Six people were injured at Alampur in Dolarbazar yesterday on Tuesday.

On the other hand, Munsif Ali's aides claimed that he is campaigning after getting green signal from



Kolimuddin Ahmed Milon

party high-ups.

Though Manik's candidature is almost certain, he has also potential rivals for ticket, his close aides said.

They include Chhatak Pourashava Chairman Kalam Chowdhury and Dr Haris Ali, both known as followers Samad Azad, AL sources said.

An expatriate barrister, M Yahia, who ran third as an independent candidate in last two elections, is also trying for AL ticket, his close aides said.

AL aspirants feel, if Manik faces any legal trouble, there may be a fresh choice by the AL-led alliance.

On the other hand, former Jatiya Party (Ershad) lawmaker advocate Abdul Majid known as Majid Master is also in the field. He is hopeful of getting ticket, whether JP joins any alliance or not. Political observers said he will not be a factor for the two alliances if JP remains alone.

93 more polling centres proposed in Bogra

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Twelve upazila administration officials have sent a proposal to the District Election Office (DEO) for increasing 93 polling centres in 7 constituencies here, DEO sources said.

The proposal was sent recently following a request from the 4-party Alliance without consulting any political party including the 14-party

combine, they said.

Of the 93 centres, 28 are in Bogra-3 constituency, 20 in Bogra-4, 14 in Bogra-5, 11 in Bogra-6, 5 in Bogra 1, 4 in Bogra-7 and 7 centers in Bogra-2.

The proposal should be made on the basis of consensus of all political parties, but this was not done accordingly, DEO sources said.

In the last general election, there had been 665 polling centers in the district.

On contact, Awami League leaders in those areas said they are not aware about any such move, because they said the concerned officials did not contact them before sending the proposal to DEO.

But, administration officials of the 12 upazilas denied the allegations saying they had informed leaders of all political parties but what they said lack of response from their side.

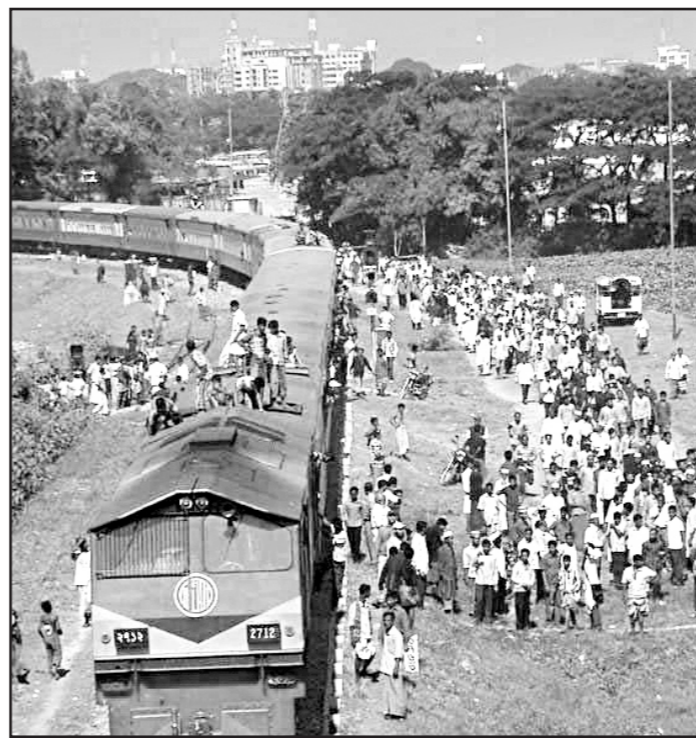


PHOTO: STAR

Inter-city Paharika express leaving Sylhet railway station yesterday under protection of 4-party activists.

AL, Jubo Dal men among 3 killed in Kushtia, Meherpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Three people were killed in separate incidents in Meherpur and Kushtia in last 8 days.

The victims include an Awami League (AL) activist, a Jubo Dal leader and a police informer.

Meherpur police said a gang of criminals stormed into the house of AL activist Abdus Salam, 29, at Hariadah village at about 12:00pm yesterday. They picked him up at gunpoint and slaughtered him at a nearby Hariadah water body.

AL blamed BNP for the killing, but police could not find out the reason behind the killing.

In Kushtia, body of a police informer was found near Gosaldanga intersection in Kumarkhali upazila yesterday night.

The body was identified as Bablu, 24, a rickshaw-puller and son of Banagali Mia. He remained missing since Sunday afternoon as unidentified criminals called him out of his Kalishankarpur house in the district town.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Kushtia General Hospital for autopsy. Police confirmed that Bablu worked as a police informer.

In another incident, Khoksa police recovered the body of Khoksa Jubo Dal joint secretary Yunus Ali from a shoal in the Padma yesterday

night after eight days.

Police said Yunus was missing from Khoksa bazaar since November 8.

Being informed from an unidentified telephone caller, police recovered the body. Earlier, he was strangled, police said. But, the motive behind the murder is yet to be known.

Attack on Cox's Bazar newsman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A local journalist has come under attack of a gang of criminals for allegedly writing reports on their criminal activities.

Criminals, equipped with sharp weapons, attacked Ansar Hossain, working for Amar Desh and BD News, at his Noniya Chara house in the town Monday night.

Ansar alleged the criminals attacked him in an attempt to kill him for writing reports on their activities. However, he managed to save his life.

A case was filed with Cox's Bazar Police Station in this regard.

12X3

13X3

4X2