

## MAGURA-1 CONSTITUENCY

# 12 BNP aspirants unite against Nitai Roy

Meet Mannan in Dhaka, submit petitions to Khalada Zia, Tarique opposing his nomination

Hossain Seraj, Magura

Intra-party feud in Magura BNP has taken a new turn as rival party men are determined to oppose former minister Nitai Roy Chowdhury's nomination from Magura-1 constituency (comprising Magura Sadar and Sreepur upazilas).

After declaring him 'unwanted' in both Sreepur and Sadar upazilas, 12 nomination aspirants and presidents and secretaries of BNP's fronts in the district in their latest move met BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan at his residence in Dhaka on Sunday and urged him not to nominate Nitai Roy from Magura-1, saying he is not a voter from the constituency.

On the same day, they submitted three petitions to party chairperson Khaleda Zia, secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and joint-secretary general Tarique Rahman,

detailing the situation in the constituency and reaffirming their stand against Nitai Roy.

In the petitions, the nomination seekers however said, all of them would seek nomination but would work together for any nominee except Nitai Roy.

The petitions were signed by nomination seekers central Zia Parishad chairman Kabir Murad; former JCD (Jatiyotadadi Chhatra Dal) central leader Monwar Hossain Khan; former chairman of Magura municipality Iqbal Akhter Khan Kafur; Brig Gen (Rtd.) Masudur Rahman Khan; retired engineer AN Kamaluddin Mustafa; former district BNP secretary Advocate Ahmed Hossain; former president of Sadar upazila BNP Kazi Abdul Aala; district BNP joint-conveners Nazimuddin Ahmed, Mokaddes Hossain and Akhter Hossain; and party leaders Mohammad Ali and industrialist Zahidul Islam.

When contacted, Kabir Murad said, "We submitted the petitions to make our leaders understand that the party should nominate a popular and acceptable candidate to regain the seat because Nitai Roy is not a man from Magura-1 and he has lost confidence of people and party men".

Former minister in Ershad government and a central BNP leader now, advocate Nitai Roy Chowdhury was nominated from Magura-1 constituency in 2001 election as a 4-party alliance candidate. He is a voter from Magura-2 constituency (comprising Mohammadpur and Shalikh upazilas and four unions of Magura sadar upazila).

He was defeated by Awami League (AL) candidate MS Akbar as most BNP workers were frustrated at his nomination, said Akhter Hossain, ticket seeker.

Party men were in Magura-1



Nitai Roy Chowdhury

were not happy with him as he was not a voter from the area said another nomination aspirant Mohammad Ali.

Nitai Roy, now in Dhaka, could not be contacted despite repeated attempts over cell phone.

Party men in Magura Sadar and Sreepur upazilas are united to resist Nitai Roy's candidature, they claimed.

When contacted, Nitai Roy's close aide and former secretary of district BNP Ali Ahmed Biswas said, "We are always ready to obey the party decision. Proclamation of nomination by any aspirant is also violation of party discipline".

On March 5, rival party men in Sreepur upazila at a meeting declared Nitai Roy 'unwanted' in the area and burnt his effigy, party sources said.

On the same day, party men at a meeting at Nomanai Maidan in Magura Sadar declared Nitai Roy 'unwanted'.

"If Nitai is nominated again, people in Sreepur will resist his political activities, as they no more want to see him in the area", former president of Sreepur BNP Kamaluddin Master told this correspondent.

## Ex-BNP MP's punishment demanded

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Journalists here yesterday submitted a memorandum to the Chief Advisor (CA) through the Deputy Commissioner (DC) containing a demand for punishment to a former BNP lawmaker for threatening a journalist of a Bangla national daily with death.

Prothom Alo staff reporter Kalyan Banerjee got the threat from former BNP lawmaker Habibur Islam Habib for writing a report on his misdeeds on November 23.

Earlier, the journalists brought out a silent procession from Satkhira Press Club. Processionists paraded the main streets of the town which was followed by a rally in front of the DC office.

Condemning the threat, the speakers demanded immediate punishment to Habib.

Among others, Sheikh Abdul Wazed Kochi, Abdul Bari, Prof Abu Ahmed, Ataf Hossain, Ramkrishna Chakraborty, Ruhul Quddus, Kamruzzaman, Habibur Rahman, Kazi Dulal, Yarab Hossain and Mostafizur Rahman Ujjal addressed.

District Bhumihien Samity also brought out a procession and held a rally at Shaheed Abdur Razzak Park protesting the incident.



Journalists in Satkhira brought out a procession in the town yesterday protesting threats to colleagues allegedly made by a former lawmaker and his men.

PHOTO: STAR

## Rangpur JP faction protests Quader's expulsion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A faction of Jaitiya Party in Rangpur yesterday reacted to expulsion of Presidium member GM Quader from the party by its chairman HM Ershad.

JP organizing secretary Sayed Nur Ahmed Tulu and joint secretary of its district unit Azmol Hossen Lebu protested the expulsion, saying the action was taken without issuing any show-cause notice.

Party leaders and activists have the right to know why GM Quader was expelled without prior notice. Lebu said.

They said, majority of the party men in Rangpur appreciated Quader's stand as regards the caretaker government and his demand for reform of the Election Commission.

Talking to this correspondent, party sources Quader has asked 'like minded party colleagues' to form separate JP committees in every northern district.

## PCJSS council reaffirms 7-pt demand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

The three-day council of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) concluded here on Sunday with a call to its members and all hill people to strengthen agitation to realise its seven-point demand which include 'full implementation' of the CHT peace accord and preparation of a separate voter list with only permanent residents in the CHT.

Top leaders of the indigenous body told the convention that they would 'work closely with any non-communal, progressive and like-minded party' in the coming election, hinting that there could be an 'electoral alliance'.

PCJSS chief and CHT Regional Council chairman Jyotirindriya Bodhipriya Larma alias Shantu Larma was the chief guest at the concluding session, presided over by CHT Mohila Samity (a committee of indigenous women) vice-chairperson Unu Pru was in the chair.

The convention was also addressed by PCJSS vice-president Laxmi Prasad Chakma, secretary Satyabir Dewan, central committee member Goutam Kumar Chakma, ex-secretary Chandra Shekhar Chakma, Sudhsindu Chakma, organising secretary Shaktipada Tripura, publicity secretary Mongal Kumar Chakma, student and youth affairs secretary Ushatan Talukder and joint-secretary KS Mong Marma.

Vested quarters are still active to disrupt peace in the hills as the peace accord is yet to be implemented fully, Shantu Larma said and urged its activists to guard against anti-peace accord activists.

## 2 JCD men held with arms

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested two JCD leaders with arms in Moulvibazar town Sunday night.

Sirajul Islam, assistant organising secretary of Moulvibazar district JCD and its member Shoib Ahmed were arrested from Bahamordon village in the Sadar upazila during a raid, done acting on a tip-off, according to Capt. Shahajan of Rab-9.

A USA-made 3-2 bore revolver and four bullets were recovered from their possession. The Rab members also seized a motor cycle used by them.

They were being interrogated at Sylhet Rab office.



Eleven out of 12 BNP nomination aspirants at a recent press conference in Magura vowing to resist Nitai Roy in Magura-1 constituency in coming election.

PHOTO: STAR

## Galib's bail prayer rejected

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A special tribunal here yesterday rejected the bail prayer of Ahle Hadith Andolon Bangladesh (Ahab) chief Asadullah-Al-Galib, the main accused of Takierbazaar bomb blast case in Palashbari upazila.

Defence Lawyer Serajul Islam pleaded for Galib's bail arguing that he had been arrested one and a half years ago without any specific charge. So, Galib should be allowed bail, he argued. But, Additional Sessions Judge Sharifuddin Azad

rejected the bail prayer and fixed the next date of hearing on January 17, 2007.

The Investigation Officer (IO) of the case, Rabiul Islam who is a sub-inspector (SI) of Palashbari Police Station, was cross-examined yesterday.

Earlier, the tribunal examined three witnesses, Jaharul, Chand Mia and Idris Ali on Thursday.

Galib was present in the tribunal amid tight security. At that time, many Ahab supporters thronged the tribunal premises.

4X2

2X2

5X2

4.5X2

15X3