

New body causes discord in Jamalpur BNP

MUHAMMAD ALI, Jamalpur

Internal conflict in Jamalpur district BNP has taken a new turn after the new convening committee of the district unit of the party was announced.

After the announcement on May 6, the gap between the two groups led by Bholu Malik and former deputy minister Serajul Hoque respectively has widened.

The group led by the former deputy minister is opposed to the new 92-member convening body while the Bholu Malik group has welcomed it.

Bholu Malik has been made Convenor of the new district committee. Shortly after the announcement in the town, leaders and activists of Malik group brought out procession and distributed sweets among themselves.

On the other hand, former convenor Serajul Hoque criticised the new committee.

In an instant reaction, Siddique Rahman, Convenor of the town unit, held a press conference at the residence of Serajul Hoque, who was not present at that time, and castigated the new committee.

A large number of leaders and activists took out several processions in the district headquarters in favour of the former deputy minister. The activi-

sts chanted slogans against the new committee.

A section of leaders and activists of BNP at a latest press conference held on May 12 in the town expressed frustration over on-going conflict in the party.

Terming the new committee undemocratic and autocratic, they called for cancellation of and formation of a one free from controversy.

They said if the bickering continues ahead of general election BNP will face setback in the results. Among others, the press conference was addressed by Advocate Abdul Khaleq and Advocate Wares Ali Mamun.

They also sought party chief's intervention in this regard.

In the latest development, Serajul Hoque along with his supporters on Monday tried to meet the BNP Chairperson, Khaleda Zia, at the party's Banani office in the capital to lodge their 'protest'. However, the BNP chief, who is also Leader of the Opposition in parliament, did not meet them.

Party insiders told this correspondent the strife among local leaders has frustrated the grass-roots level activists and supporters.

They also apprehended disagreement will cast adverse impact on the party's nomination process for the next parliamentary polls.

New lists of terrorists being prepared

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Police department is preparing new lists of terrorists in the six southern districts under Barisal division prior to the upcoming parliamentary elections.

A highly placed police source here said, we are preparing the lists free from political influences.

But it is doubtful, according to political observers, whether the new lists would be free from political influence or not.

Meanwhile, the recent reshuffle in the Police Department here, even in the thana level, kept the police

personnel in the constant fear of transfer.

On the other hand some leaders and workers of the main opposition BNP alleged that launching of police drive in the name of searching of warranty criminals may end in arrest of harassment of their activists.

It was also alleged that police in the meantime, raided some houses of the BNP and its front organisation leaders during this week.

A police source said, we are trying to bring the terrorists to book, whoever he may be or belonging to any political party. We will also nab

the warranty criminals. The lists are being prepared following the previous lists and new names will be included who are suspiciously moving in different places in and out of the Barisal town area.

Earlier, a list of at least 200 terrorists was prepared which was classified in four categories, according to their previous records.

Now a question arises from different quarters that whether these lists would include the political terrorists or not?

College student drowns

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

A student of Sirajganj University Government College feared drowned in the River Jamuna at about 7:30 pm on Sunday.

He was identified as Roni, 17, son of Abdul Hye, Assistant Engineer of Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC).

Eye witnesses and fire brigade sources said Roni, Shamim and Zahid, all students of Sirajganj University Government College were practising how to swim in the River Jamuna on Sunday evening.

Shamim and Zahid managed to swim ashore and were admitted to local clinics while Roni failed resulting in his instant death.

Meanwhile, local fire brigade sources sought the help of the fire fighting personnel of Bogra, Rangpur and Rajshahi.

Prices of essential items up

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

Prices of some essentials have shot up abnormally in the hats and bazaars of Netrakona district much to the suffering of the consumers.

Poor and low-income group of people are the worst sufferers. When contacted, traders of Bara bazaar area of the said that prices of essentials including rice, onion and soyabean oil have been enhanced in the wholesale centres without showing any reason.

Soyabean oil is now being sold at Tk 40 per kg which was sold at Tk 30 two weeks back, coarse rice is available at Tk 13 per kg and fine quality at Tk 18 per kg against Tk 11 and 15 respectively a week ago.

Besides, onion is being sold at Tk 12 per kg against its previous price of Tk 7.

general hospital where they succumbed at 10 PM. A case was filed with the police.

A report from Jhalakati says: An old woman was killed in a road accident at Rayapur on Barisal-Jhalakati Road recently.

Police said Karimunnesa alias Kuti, 70, was run over by a speeding truck while she was crossing the road.

The truck driver fled the scene. A case was filed.

Another report from Jhenidah adds: Two businessmen Abdul Malek of Balidapara village and Abu Taleb, 38, of Niphintapur in Kaliganj upazila died on the spot when a Jessore-bound pickup hit them at Kaliganj bus stand recently.

Police said two others Abdur Rashid and Abulk Jalil were injured in the accident. They were admitted to a local hospital.

A case was filed.

Another report from Manikganj says: Some 25 people were injured when a bus collided head-on with another on Dhaka-Aricha highway recently.

The truck driver fled the scene. A case was filed.

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