

RU teacher assaulted

RU CORRESPONDENT

A planning committee (PC) member of the Folklore department of Rajshahi University (RU) was assaulted by section officers and local BNP leaders yesterday for rejecting the application of their party man for the post of a teacher in the department.

Witnesses said Prof Mobaroba Siddiqua was assaulted by Zakirul Islam, section officer and Mother thana BNP leader, and Rokonuzzaman Mamun, section officer and former JCD joint-convenor, at around 2:00pm when the academic committee meeting was going on with department chairman Prof Saifuzzaman in the chair.

They entered the chairman office without permission and threatened Prof Siddiqua for rejecting the application of their candidate Biswa Nath Kundo alias Peter during the primary scrutiny of the applications.

Sources said the application of

Biswa was rejected as he has no adequate folklore background in his academic career.

Meanwhile, the process of recruiting seven teachers for the Department of Islamic History and Culture is likely to begin today amid strong protest of the PC members.

Five of the seven-member committee on November 30 last opposed the recruitment saying the department has already 22 teachers.

They also alleged wide-scale nepotism and said the unnecessary recruitment would be made on political consideration.

Progressive Teachers' Association met with VC Prof Altaf Hossain and submitted a memorandum protesting the recruitment of additional teachers.

Bangladesh Chhatra League and Progressive Students Alliance also took out separate procession and held rally on the campus protesting the recruitment of additional teachers under political consideration.



Mohanagar Kancha Bazar Babosayee Samity (city kitchen market traders' association) stages a demonstration in the capital yesterday demanding removal of illegal kitchen and fish markets in the city.

HUNGER STRIKE POSTPONED

Govt to consider textile, jute workers' demands

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Textile, jute and yarn leaders and workers postponed their fast unto death yesterday following the assurance of labour ministry to consider their 10-point demands.

Bangladesh Sangjukta Chat, Suta o Bastrakal Sramik Federation (BSCSBSF) began the hunger strike on January 29 at Muktangan in the city to press home their demands.

Bangladesh Sangjukta Sramik Federation (BSSF) President Mokhesur Rahman entertained the leaders of the workers' body after they declared the postponement.

At a press briefing, the Federation leaders said State Minister for Labour and

Employment Amanullah Aman discussed the 10-point demands with BSSF leaders yesterday and assured them of considering them after consulting with the ministries of finance, jute and textile and workers leaders.

The outcomes of the consultations will be informed to the Federation soon, they told the journalists.

Meanwhile, the Federation announced a fresh programme of holding dialogue with workers of the garments, textile, jute and weaving industries and with the federations and trade unions in February and March to strengthen their movement.

The 10-point demands include declaration of Tk 3,000 as the

lowest wage for the workers in all the denationalised factories, stopping privatisation of the nationalised industries, introducing group insurance for the industrial workers, paying of pending wages and establishing equal facilities in the public and private industries.

They also demanded that the government reopen all the closed mills, cancel the anti-workers laws, formulate new laws for them, lend agricultural loan to the farmers free of interest, reduce the raw materials for agriculture and withdraw all false cases filed against the workers' leaders and reinstate them to their jobs.



Bastibasi (slum dwellers) Union forms a human chain at Muktangan in the city yesterday protesting alleged corruption by the North South Property.

