

101-member LDP body formed in Khagrachhari

Dissidents include BNP presidents in 7 out of 8 upazilas in district

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

A 101-member convening committee of Khagrachhari district Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) was formed here yesterday with dissident BNP leader and municipal chairman Abul Kasem as its convener and former Matiranga upazila BNP president Nasir Uddin Chowdhury as secretary.

Abul Kashem, who was president of Khagrachhari district BNP, chaired the convention, held at the newly set up temporary office of LDP at Khagrachhari Bazar.

The committee includes seven dissident upazila BNP presidents and former president of district Jubo Dal, youth front of BNP.

They are Anup Mohazon of Mohalchhari, Zafar Ahamed Chowdhury of Dighinala, Abul Kashem of Tabalchhari, Nasir Uddin Chowdhury of Matiranga, Amin Sarif of Panchhari, Rafiqul Islam of Sadar upazila, Robiul Islam of Manikchhari—all former upazila BNP presidents and former district Jubo Dal president Harun-or-Rashid, party sources said. The seven former upazila BNP presidents are joint conveners of district LDP.

Abul Kashem is also incumbent



LDP convener Abul Kashem addressing yesterday's convention

chairman of Taindong Union Parishad in Tabalchhari.

Talking to The Daily Star during the convention, LPD convener Abul Kasem said they will stage a showdown in the second week of next month in Khagrachhari, in which its central leaders will attend. The date will be fixed in consultation with central leaders, he added.

Abul Kashem also said LDP will field a candidate in Khargachhari constituency in the coming election.

Speaking on the occasion, most the former BNP leaders alleged that they left their party protesting corruption by the immediate past four-party alliance government. They joined LDP as its leaders said

they will fight corruption, they said.

They said the alliance government could not fulfil its commitments made for development of Khagrachhari. Moreover, a section of BNP leaders sheltered by powerful quarters were involved in corruption, which tarnished the image of the party.

They were involved in crimes, tender manipulation, misappropriation of development funds, grabbing government land and filed false cases against opponents in the party, journalists and innocent people, the new LDP leaders alleged.

Cancellation of the CHT peace accord was one of the pledges made by BNP in Khagrachhari before 2001 election, but the government did not do anything in this regard during its five-year rule, they claimed.

BNP had also promised to rehabilitate three lakh people of cluster villagers, (who were gathered in 82 cluster villages for their security in 1980) on their 'own lands'. But a single family was rehabilitated in five years, they alleged.

They bitterly criticised a BNP leader and former lawmaker from Khagrachhari. He and his muscle-

men misappropriated corers of taka from different organisations including 26 government departments under the district council, LGED, pourashava and CHT Development Board, they alleged and demanded probe into the irregularities.

Besides government land, the former lawmaker grabbed 10 decimal land of a poor man named Naderuzzaman, they alleged.

His men realised money from people in the name of giving jobs, they alleged, saying their activities also defamed other BNP leaders and activists.

Over 20 activists of different political parties were killed, 21 women violated, 14 journalists tortured, about 5000 Awami League men driven out of their homes and over 3770 false cases were filed against them in last five years by a section of BNP leaders, they alleged.

The former lawmaker and his followers suspended 121 BNP leaders and activists from the party, they claimed.

After the convention, the LDP men, joined by people brought out a procession in the district town.

2 more Satkhira journos get death threat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Two more journalists got death threats from a former BNP lawmaker and an alleged criminal here yesterday and day before yesterday.

Jugantar journalist Subhas Chowdhury and Janmabumi reporter Mozaffar Rahman got death threats from former BNP lawmaker Habibul Islam Habib and Kala Jahangir, an alleged criminal, for writing reports against their misdeeds recently.

Local journalists condemned the threats at a meeting held at Satkhira Press Club yesterday. The meeting was chaired by club president Manirul Islam Mini.

Speakers demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the culprits. They decided to bring out a procession in the town on Monday from where they will submit a memorandum to the Chief Advisor through the Deputy Commissioner to press home their demands.

BCL leader killed by JCD

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leader was chopped to death by an armed gang of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at Kuakata in Kalapara upazila Friday night.

The victim is Latachapli union BCL organising secretary Nuruzzaman.

Faruq, another BCL activist who accompanied the victim was seriously injured in the attack.

Police and witnesses said Nuruzzaman was hacked when he was going to attend a marriage ceremony.

Local people rushed them to Kalapara Health Complex where doctors declared Nuruzzaman dead.



The newly formed LDP brought out a procession in Khagrachhari town yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

29 more polling centres proposed in Khagrachhari

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Administration officials in eight upazilas have sent a proposal to the District Election Office (DEO) for

setting up 29 more polling centres in 298 constituencies in the district, DEO sources said.

The proposal was sent recently following a request of the 4-party Alliance without consulting any political party including the 14-party combine, they said.

Of the 29 centers, 11 are in Khagrachhari Sadar, eight in Matiranga, two in Ramgour, three in Mohalchhari and five in Dighinala upazila.

The proposal should have been sent on the basis of consensus of all political parties, but this was not done accordingly, DEO sources

said.

In the last general election, there were 157 polling centres in the district.

On contact, District Awami League secretary Zahedul Alam said they are not aware about such move. They said the concerned officials did not contact them before sending the proposal to DEO. It was sent to ensure victory of BNP, he claimed.

However, the concerned administration officials denied the allegations saying they had informed leaders of all political parties but they failed to respond to the call.

26 Jamaat men sued in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

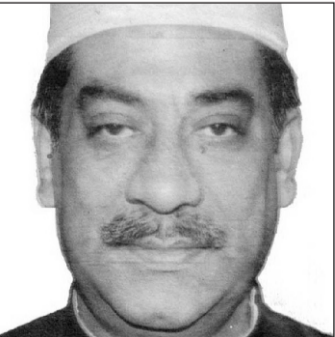
Police of Dakshin Surma police station have recorded a case against 26 activists of Jamaat-e-Islami on charge of attacking the recent peaceful blockade of 14-party alliance in the city.

The case was filed on Friday, nine days after the incident that left 20 people injured including the president and the secretary of Dakshin Surma thana Awami League.

Moulana Lokman Ahmed, a member of Majlish-e-Shura of Sylhet district unit of Jamat is the principal accused in the case filed by one Ismail Hossain of Telirai village.

He alleged that 20 people were injured and 10 motorbikes were burnt in the planned attack on the 14-party programme at Chandipul near Dhaka-Sylhet highway on November 15.

A general diary was lodged on that day as police declined to record a case, the complainant said yesterday.



Abul Hasanat returns Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Abul Hasanat Abdullah, Barisal district Awami League president and cousin of AL chief Sheikh Hasina and former Chief Whip, returned Barisal yesterday after five years.

Soon after return, he rushed to Charmonai to express condolence at the death of Charmonair Pir Syed Fazlul Harim. He died yesterday. He also visited the house of journalist and district Sechchasebok League president Munir Hossain, who also died yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

Protesting leakage of question papers, MBBS admission seekers brought out a procession in Barisal city yesterday demanding cancellation of test results.

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