

'Ignored' BNP leaders come up as Saifur era wanes in Moulvibazar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

With Saifur era virtually on the wane in Moulvibazar BNP senior and dedicated party leaders sidelined by him during his tenure are coming up in the leadership, party insiders said.

A major section of senior leaders now want former lawmaker and former president of district BNP Begum Khaleda Robbany as new president of the party unit. She was president of district BNP for 11 years earlier.

Her supporters also want her as next BNP candidate from Moulvibazar-3 constituency, from where Saifur's son Naser Rahman was elected in a by-election in 2001, which was boycotted by Awami League.

Name of Muazzem Hussain Matuk, another senior leader ignored by Saifur, is also being discussed in the party as an alternative candidate in the next parliamentary election, party sources said.

Muazzem Hussain, who was suspended from the party by Saifur's son Naser, told this correspondent that they were working to 'restore the party image' in Moulvibazar under the leadership of Begum Khaleda Robbany.

"We have started our activity to strengthen our party in Moulvibazar", Matuk said.

On Wednesday, senior BNP leaders of Moulvibazar held an informal meeting at the house of Khaleda Robbani. The meeting



Khaleda Robbany

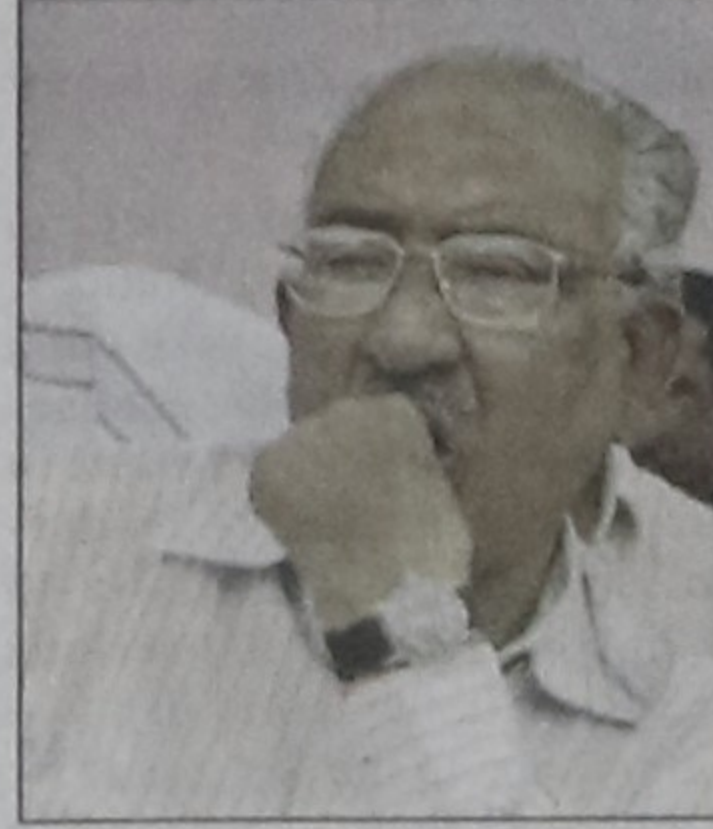
attended by eight of around 12 front ranking district leaders discussed organizational matters.

Some party men later told this correspondent that, among other issues, they informally discussed reorganising the district committee.

Talking to this correspondent, Khaleda Robbany admitted that party leaders and workers are contacting her from different areas of the district.

With a sense of grievance, she recalled 'hard days' of the party and said, "We organised the movement (against Ershad's dictatorship) to establish democracy. None came to see us then. None even agreed to take the post of president during that period", he said.

"After 2001 election, none talked to me to select party leadership. Rule of a family started in



Saifur Rahman

Moulvibazar", she said.

After long time, leadership of Moulvibazar district BNP is going in the hands of 'senior and tested leaders', some mid-level leaders said. Supporters of Saifur and (his son) Naser have no mental strength to hold the leadership, they said.

Saifur left the country to save himself from corruption case, a senior BNP leader said seeking anonymity.

They said Saifur's take over as acting chairman of a faction of BNP distanced him from party rank and file. Party men here did not give him the mandate to become so-called acting Chairman of a BNP faction and they 'rejected' him for his reform stance.

After become acting chairman, he tried to contact local leaders over phone, but was not properly

responded to, even by some of his loyalists. This was beyond his imagination, some senior leaders told this correspondent.

Saifur was elected to parliament from three seats, two in Sylhet and one in his home district Moulvibazar. To give scope to his elder son Naser Rahman to go to parliament, he vacated his Moulvibazar-3 seat and nominated his son for the by-election in 2001, ignoring other competent and senior leaders, party men claimed.

Naser easily won the race as the by-election was boycotted by major political parties including Awami League.

After the election, Saifur made his son president of Moulvibazar district BNP by dropping senior leader advocate Ebadur Rahman Chaudhury. Naser Rahman thus became all in all in Moulvibazar.

His second son Shafur Rahman Babu also became allegedly involved in corruption and is out of the country now, they said.

The BNP leaders alleged that Saifur ignored most of the senior leaders during 2001-2006. Saifur enjoyed when, as minister, he was received by hundreds of motorbikes and other vehicles at the border point of Moulvibazar whenever he came, they said.

A number of Naser loyalists are now hiding for alleged corruption. Naser and his wife have been convicted in two cases and more corruption cases are pending against him, sources said.

BSF kills one in Kurigram

A CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) killed a Bangladeshi cattle trader at bordering Gaytapara village under Raumaripuzila in the district on Thursday morning.

Naybur Rahman, 45, of village Natun Shaulmari under Raumaripuzila, died on the spot as BSF shot him near a border pillar at Gaytapara village at about 4:30am on the day, BDR and local sources said. BSF also took away the body.

BDR sent a protest letter to BSF and requested return of the body. But BSF did not return the body as of yesterday evening.

117 polling centres listed in SCC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

As part of preparatory works for Sylhet City Corporation elections expected to be held in July, election officials have sent a list of 117 polling centres to all concerned including the ward commissioners and assistant registration officers.

The draft list of 117 polling centres was earlier sent to the Election Commission, Deputy Election Commissioner, Sylhet division-Khondaker Mizanur Rahman said yesterday afternoon.

"In view of the rise in the number of voters and areas under the city corporation, we have increased the number of polling centres to 117 while there were 79 centres in the last SCC polls of 2003," he said, adding, "We will receive appeals on those, if any, till May 19 and those will be disposed off by May 25."

The number of voters on the final list stood at 2,56,000 this time against 1,82,000 in the first city corporation elections held in 2003.



Gopal Bhog variety of juicy summer fruit mango is selling at Tk 60 to 70 a kg in Rajshahi markets. The photo was taken yesterday.

IMPROPER INVESTIGATION IN MURDER CASE Court acquits 3 accused, orders action against IO

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A court has acquitted all the three accused in Prashanta murder case in Kaliganj upazila due to negligence of the investigation officer (IO), court sources said.

The acquitted are Niranjan Kumar Ghosh, Khagendra Nath Ghosh and Dipak Kumar Ghosh.

The court also ordered higher police authorities to take action against sub-inspector (SI) Abdus Samad of Kaliganj police station who was IO of the case.

Judge Ashish Ranjan Das of the

District and Sessions Judge Court passed the order on Thursday.

Court sources said, crippled Prashanta Kumar Ghosh, 22, son of Hari Pada Ghosh of Dhandia village in Kaliganj upazila was killed by miscreants during sleep at a shallow machine room near his village home on February 7, 2002.

SI Enayet of Kaliganj police station filed the case on March 8 the same year.

SI Abdus Samad submitted charge sheet against the three on May 4, 2003. In the charge sheet, the IO said the murder was a sequel

to dispute over 10 decimals of land. The accused might have killed Prashanta but the IO failed to name witnesses.

The court said the IO submitted the charge sheet on suspicion. The court observed IO of any case cannot submit charge sheet on suspicion. But in this case the IO submitted charge sheet on suspicion which proved his negligence in duties in investigating the case.

For IO's negligence in investigation the court failed to bring the culprits to book, the judge observed while passing judgment.

4 CBA leaders, engraft charge-sheeted for graft

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has submitted charge sheets against four CBA leaders of Zia Fertiliser Factory and Ashuganj upazila engineer to the Court of Chief, Judicial, Magistrate, in Brahmanbaria for graft and misuse of power.

The accused are CBA leaders Kazi Kujibur Rahman Farid Uddin Ahmed, Muzammel Haque Khandaker and Gasur Rahman and Ashuganj upazila engineer ABM Shahidul Haque.

Neonatal deaths rise at RMCH 138 babies die in three months

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

As many as 238 babies and children died at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) in three months till March.

Of them, 30 died of low birth weight, 107 of birth asphyxia and 101 from other diseases. They were aged up to 30 days.

Hospital records show diseases like birth asphyxia, pre-maturity and low birth weight, malnutrition, pneumonia, neonatal tetanus, typhoid, convulsion, organo phosphorous compound poisoning,

protein energy malnutrition, septicemia, pulmonary TB, pericardial effusion, diarrhoea, hepatitis, encephalitis, meningitis, jaundice, bleeding per rectum, anaemia, multi-gravida, and various infectious diseases were causes of the deaths.

More than 54 per cent of the babies died from birth asphyxia, followed by low birth weight.

But RMCH authorities did almost nothing to check the neonatal deaths. Even, it is lacking essential equipment to provide proper treatment.

The authorities are yet to take any steps to create more facilities. There is no separate ward at the hospital for critical patients.

Dr M Belal Uddin of pediatrics department at RMCH however pointed out lack of awareness among mothers and regular check up, patients' late coming to hospital and early conceiving as some other important reasons for death of babies.

"Babies are deprived of nutrition in anti-natal stage and some-

times do not get breast feed due to malnutrition of mothers. Patients do not come to hospital until they are forced, mainly due to poverty and lack of awareness", he said.

Dr Tahmidur Rahman, another pediatrics physician at RMCH said, "RMCH is a tertiary hospital in the region. Patients usually come here at the last moment, which requires good facilities that are lacking undoubtedly".

Prof Dr A B Siddiqui, chairman of pediatric department, said there is no shortage of skilled manpower at three units of pediatric wards (ward no. 10, 24 and 27) at RMCH.

But other than a few oxygen cylinders and suction machine, none of the equipment is available at the hospital, making it difficult for doctors to cope with a heavy rush of new born babies, they said.

Besides problems of safe water and electricity, there is shortage of beds at the two pediatric wards which accommodate patients three times their capacity.

Paddy with shrimp cultivation

BRRIs new salt tolerant paddy yields encouraging result in coastal area

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A salt tolerant Boro paddy, evolved by Satkhira regional office of Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRi), has opened up a new horizon for farmers in coastal region. They can also grow rice in shrimp enclosures.

The new BRRi Dhan-47, evolved after six year's research, was released for farmers last year. This year, about three tonnes of seeds were distributed among 240 farmers in Debhata, Kaliganj, Assasuni, Shyamnagar, Tala and Sadar upazilas in Satkhira; 50 Sidre affected farmers in Morelganj and Shrankhola upazilas in Bagerhat and 10 farmers each in Paikgachha and Koira upazilas of Khulna for free, he said.

The paddy was sown in about 150 hectares in saline water of shrimp enclosures in Satkhira and Khulna coastal belt, which were

earlier used only for shrimp cultivation.

The yield was 6 to 7 tonnes per hectare.

BRRi Director Abdus Salam led the scientists' team which evolved the paddy, which can also be cultivated in sweet water belt.

"Salt tolerance of the new variety is about 6 to 7 ds (deci-scimen). It can be grown in areas where salinity will not exceed 6 to 7 ds (deci-scimen)", said BRRi Senior Scientific Officer Dr Tahmid Hossain Ansari.

BADC has also collected the seed for multiplication.

The yield is very encouraging and we hope the paddy will greatly benefit coastal farmers who were hitherto compelled to go for shrimp cultivation, said Guru Pada Karmakar, acting deputy director of Satkhira Agriculture Extension Department (AED).



Many people in Sidr-hit Charmonai area in Barisal now cultivate mono-sex varieties of fish in net enclosures in flowing water of Kirtankhola River.

Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute

Savar, Dhaka

Invitation for Re-Tender

No. Kamosuchi-1/2008/768

Date: 14.5.08

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the bonafide suppliers/local agents/importers for supply of Lab. Equipments/Instruments.

1	Project name	'Development & Testing of Livestock Technology for Employment and Poverty Alleviation' Project, BLRI, Savar, Dhaka.
2	Source of fund	GOB.
3	Tender name	Supply of Laboratory Equipments/Instruments.
4	Time of delivery	Fifteen (15) days from the date of notification of award (work order).
5	Eligibility of tenderers	Registered Bangladeshi suppliers/local agents/importers.
6	Price of tender document	Tk. 500.00 (five hundred) only (non-refundable).
7	Amount of tender security	Tk. 10,000/- (ten thousand) only.
8	Name and address of the office selling tender document	Accounts Section, Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute, Savar, Dhaka.
9	Name and address of the office receiving tender document	The office of the Executive Engineer, Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute, Savar, Dhaka.
10	Name and address of the office opening tender document	Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute, Savar, Dhaka.
11	Last date and time for selling tender document	June 01, 2008 up to 4.00pm.
12	Last date and time for tender submission	June 02, 2008 up to 2.00pm.
13	Date and time for tender opening	June 02, 2008 at 2.30pm.
14	Brief description of goods	The related descriptions for supply of goods would be available in tender documents.
15	Special instructions	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders prior to acceptance without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Dr Jahangir Alam Khan
Director General (CC)

GD-2358

শ্রমিকঃ

১।	কামার	১	২৪৫০-	নূনতম ৮ম শ্রেণী পাশসহ ৩ বৎসরের বাস্তব অভিজ্ঞতা। সংশ্লিষ্ট পদে ট্রেড কোর্স পাশকারীদেরকে অগ্রাধিকার দেওয়া হবে।	৩০ বৎসর
২।	ওভারহেড ফ্রেন ড্রাইভার	১	৩৮৯০/-		
৩।	মেশিনম্যান	২			
৪।	কার্পেটার	১			
৫।	লেটার পেইন্টার কাম-পেইন্টার	১			
৬।	রং পেইন্টার	১			
৭।	পাইপ ফিটার	২			
৮।	প্রাচীর	১			
৯।	মেশিনিস্ট	১			
১০।	টার্গার	১			
১১।	ইলেকট্রিশিয়ান (এ/সি এন্ড রেক্রিজারেশন)	১			
১২।	রেডিও ইলেকট্রিশিয়ান	১			
১৩।	শ্রমিক (গ্রেড-১)	১			
১৪।	অটো টেকনিশিয়ান	১			
সর্বমোট =			১৬		

- ২। বিশেষ অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে বয়সসীমা শিথিলযোগ্য।
৩। চাকুরীর প্রার্থীদেরকে যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করিতে হবে।
৪। আবেদনকারীকে অবশ্যই বাংলাদেশের নাগরিক হইতে হবে।
৫। অগ্রাধী প্রার্থী/প্রার্থীদের সদ্য তোলা ০৩ (তিন) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের সত্যায়িত ছবি, পূর্ণ জীবন বৃত্তান্ত, নাগরিকত্ব, শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্র, প্রশংসা পত্র সমূহের ফটোকপি এবং ম্যানেজিং ডাইরেক্টর, খুলনা শিপইয়ার্ড লিমিটেড, খুলনা এর অনুকূলে ১০০/- টাকার ব্যাংক ড্রাফটসহ আবেদনপত্র আগামী ১০ জুন ২০০৮ এর মধ্যে ম্যানেজিং ডাইরেক্টর, খুলনা শিপইয়ার্ড লিমিটেড, বাংলাদেশ নৌ বাহিনী, খুলনা বরাবরে পৌঁছাইতে হবে।

ম্যানেজিং ডাইরেক্টর

GD-2301