

Magura AL feud rolls into court

Rivals seek court order to stop functioning of 'illegal' district committee, sue ex-MP Akbar and dist unit president

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Intra-party feud in Magura Awami League intensified yesterday as rival party men in Sreepur upazila unit sued seven leaders of the district committee including its president Al Hossain and former lawmaker and district unit general secretary Dr. MS Akbar.

Sreepur upazila AL president Akbar Hossain Mian and its executive committee member Molla Nabuot Ali jointly filed the case with Assistant Judge's Court (Magura Sadar) terming the existing seven-member district committee illegal and prayed for an injunction on functioning of the 'so-called' committee.

In the case the plaintiffs alleged that the committee members resorted to 'swindling' and 'cheating' in forming it and prayed for declaring it 'illegal' as it defied party constitution.

During submission in favour of the plaintiffs, advocate Snkar Das sought injunction on functioning of the 'so-called' committee, saying it is illegal and not in conformity with the party constitution.

Assistant Judge Sultana Razia however issued show cause notices on seven leaders including former

AL lawmaker Dr. Akbar and district AL president Al Hossain with a directive to submit documents within seven days to prove its legality in leading the party in the district.

The then Awami League general secretary Abdul Jalil at a council meeting on April 4, 2005 announced an eight-member district committee with a directive to form a full-fledged committee within 90 days, party sources said.

However, they failed to form a full-fledged committee even after 31 months of the council. In the meantime, joint-secretary no.2 of the committee, Sreepur municipality chairman Abdul Gafur, quit the party alleging lack of discipline.

Internal feud in Sreepur AL increased recently over former lawmaker Dr. Akbar's nomination from Magura-1 constituency (comprising Magura Sadar and Sreepur upazila) in the next general election. The rival factions are locked in mudslinging over the issue, party sources said.

One faction led by Sreepur upazila AL president Akbar Hossain Mian and its former general secretary Molla Nabuot Ali declared former lawmaker Dr. Akbar 'unwanted' at several meetings in the upazila, accusing him of



Dr. MS Akbar

having alleged link with Jamaat and BNP men. Leaders of the faction also vowed to resist him in the constituency.

The other faction led by Sreepur AL general secretary Nurul Hossain Molla at a press conference at Magura Press Club recently extended their support to former lawmaker Dr. Akbar. The press conference organised under the banner of Sreepur upazila AL was also attended by district AL president Md. Altaf Hossain.

After Nurul Hossain's press conference, aggrieved rival party at an extended meeting at Sreepur Girls School auditorium on October 31 removed Nurul Hossain

Molla from the post of general secretary and made joint-secretary no.1 Rostam Ali Mondol acting secretary.

The internal conflict 'became public when rival party men at a press conference on October 17 at Sreepur upazila public library auditorium declared former lawmaker Dr. Akbar 'unwanted' in the upazila. Later, they also held a meeting at Dariapur bazaar on October 21 to oppose Akbar's nomination.

They held several meetings in different areas of the constituency declaring Dr. Akbar 'unwanted' and vowed to resist him in the constituency.

When asked, Akbar Hossain Mian said, "We have filed the case accusing leaders of the so-called district committee as we consider it illegal. We have also adopted a resolution to place it before our central leaders so that they do not nominate Dr. Akbar again".

Former lawmaker Dr. Akbar could not be reached as he is reportedly in Dhaka and his cell phone was found switched off.

Contacted, Altaf Hossain declined to make any comment. "I shall say regarding the matter later".

Delimitation brightens AL's prospect in Tangail-6

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

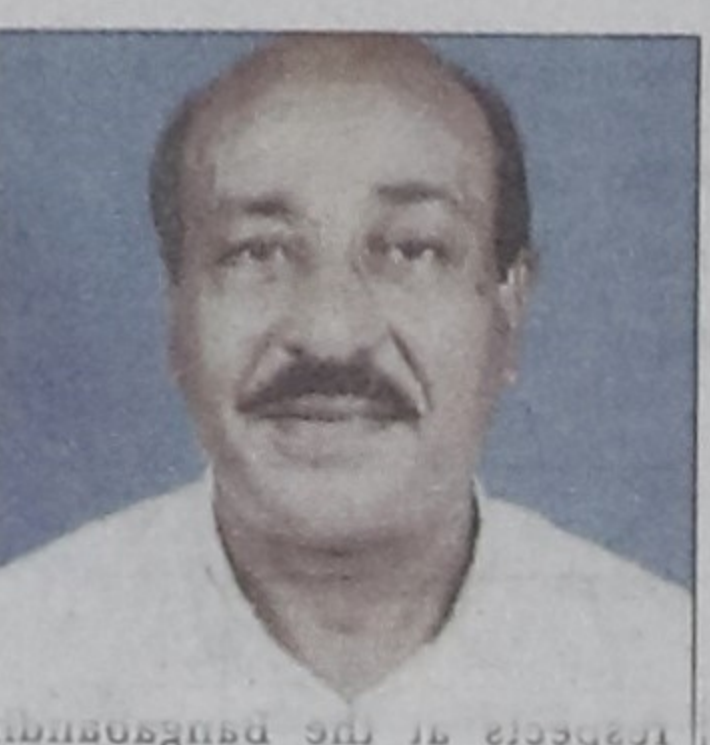
Victory eludes Awami League (AL) for long in Tangail-6 (Nagarpur-Delduar) constituency, once its stronghold, due to intra-party feud.

Awami League could not bag the seat since after 1973 election though it has good organisational strength. The issue is being discussed in party rank and file but front ranking district leaders are

unimpressed, insiders said. AL's prospect in Tangail-6 has brightened following the delimitation as Delduar has been separated from Tangail-5 and added to Tangail-6. AL's prospective candidate freedom fighter Khondokar Abdul Baten has a large number of followers and supporters in Delduar, local political circles said.

The party is divided into many factions over candidature for the coming election also, they said. AL candidates were defeated by BNP in last two elections because of intra-party feud.

Failing to narrow down rivalry between party leaders, AL Presidium member and veteran



Khondokar Baten

leader Abdul Mannan contested from the constituency in 1991 election but he lost to BNP's Khondokar Abu Taher with a margin of 14,909 votes.

After the 1991 election, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) leader Freedom Fighter Khondokar Abdul Baten joined AL along with his followers in 1992. Some local (Nagarpur) AL leaders and activists were disappointed over his joining and started opposing Baten. Baten ran in 1996 election as an AL candidate but was defeated by BNP's Gautam Chakroborty. The vote

difference was however narrowed down to 1,950.

Baten got the party ticket again in 2001, but was defeated by 4-party alliance candidate Gautam Chakroborty with a margin of 1,878 votes.

Many AL party leaders blamed the then Nagarpur upazila party president Golam Mohammad Khan Tareque for the defeat. Denied of party ticket, he contested the election as an independent candidate and got only 16,462 votes.

Several AL leaders declared their candidature from the constituency in the planned election of January 22, 2007 which was postponed.

Party sources said Khondokar Baten is known as an honest politician to the party men as well as people. Now that Delduar upazila has been added to Tangail-6, his prospects have become brighter, they said. AL lost in 1996 and 2001 elections due to inter-party feud.

When contacted, Khondokar Baten said he was defeated by BNP candidate in last two elections with little margins due to hostility by some party men.

Civil society leaders demand Monindra Lal's release

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Civil society leaders at a view exchange meeting in Khagrachhari yesterday urged the government to take action for release of former Khagrachhari Hill District Council (KHDC) chairman Monindra Lal Tripura.

At the meeting jointly organised by KHDC and district police at Khagrachhari Town Hall, they criticised police for 'harassing' innocent indigenous people over Monindra Lal's arrest.

They demanded immediate release of Monindra Lal Tripura and proper investigation by a high-level committee.

Additional Superintendent of Police Osman Gani said, "Monindra Lal Tripura was arrested following confessional statement given by other accused. Only court will decide whether he is guilty or not. Police cannot do anything in this regard".

Acting KHDC Chairman Rubity Karbari attended as chief guest at the meeting presided over by Additional Superintendent of Police Osman Gani.

Acting Sadar Zone Commander Major Iftekar Ahmed, Additional Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) Masud Ahmed also attended the meeting.

Tk 1 cr school not started in 3 yrs

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A well-furnished high school set up on 1.32 acres of land donated by local people is yet to start its academic activities in three years.

Valuable furniture, sports items and computer worth about Tk 25 lakh, which have been kept locked in the school-rooms for three years, are getting damaged by insects.

The two-storied building at North Sahakathi village, about 10 km from district headquarters, was built in 2005-06 fiscal year under the Secondary Education Sector Improvement Project at a cost of Tk 90 lakh, said sources at Education Engineering

Department.

The then commerce minister, also local lawmaker, Altaf Hossain Chowdhury laid its foundation stone on February 11 in 2005.

After completion of the building, the Ministry of Education delivered 93 chairs, 90 pairs of benches, 12 black boards, almirahs, sports goods, computer etc worth Tk 25 lakh. Electrical wiring was also completed although there is no electricity line in the village.

A five-member body headed by Sadar upazila UNO was formed to conduct school activities.

Despite publishing advertisement for appointment of teachers and other staff for the school for three times, required per-



PHOTO: STAR

COSTLY NEGLIGENCE: This well-furnished school building at North Sahakathi village in Patuakhali Sadar upazila has not been opened for schooling in three years.

sons could not be appointed due to interference by a local BNP leader and administrative tangles.

Following disagreement among the offices of the UNO, the director general of the Department of Secondary and Higher Education, and the DHSE deputy director in Barisal, the institution has failed to start its academic activities.

When contacted, District Education Officer Anwar Hossain said, "UNO, who is the chairman of the school body, can easily take proper step to run the school. I am ready to give necessary help from my office if needed".

Md Khorshed Alam, who has recently joined as UNO of Patuakhali Sadar upazila, said, "I shall try best to run the school. I hope that we will be able to start its academic activities from January next".

"We donated the land so that our children get opportunity to study in the school but in vain," said Rafiq Khan, a land donor for the school.

JS POLLS

Satkhira AL opposes ticket for alliance partners

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Difference among the partners of Awami League (AL)-led 'grand alliance' has taken a new turn as district AL leaders at a press conference yesterday opposed candidature of alliance partners in four constituencies in the district for December 18 parliamentary election.

Earlier, rift surfaced between the AL and its allies as aspirants from the component parties of the 'grand alliance' including Jatiya Party (JP-Ershad), Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and Workers Party (WP) started election campaign.

Aspirants from its allies cannot demand the seats as they lack grassroots level committees or workers in the constituencies, AL leaders said at the press conference held at Satkhira Press club.

They urged central AL leaders to nominate competent and honest AL men for all the four constituencies in the district.

They also warned of tougher programmes if 'weak candidates' from its allies are nominated instead of 'competent and honest' local AL leaders.

Satkhira district AL organising Secretary Firoz Ahmed read out a written statement at the press conference.

District AL president Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Workers Party (WP) leader Mustafa Lutfulah and LDP leader Syed Didar Bakht are seeking nomination from Satkhira-1 to contest the next election while JP leaders Abdul Jabbar and Golam Reza are aspirants for nomination from Satkhira-2 and Satkhira-4 constituencies, he said.

More probe into Kibria murder needed, says IO

Trial resumes today in Sylhet special tribunal

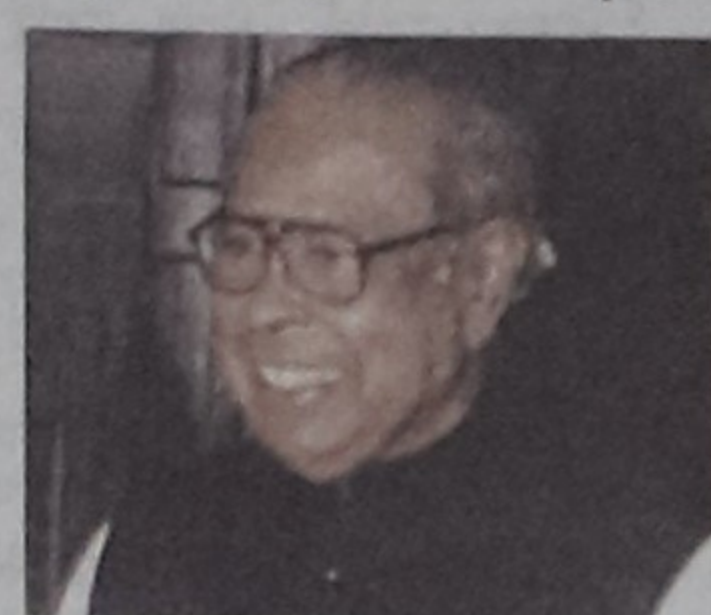
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Trial of Awami League leader SAMS Kibria murder case will resume at Sylhet Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal today.

The trial remained suspended for 9 months as there was no tribunal judge. High Court order staying trial of the two cases-one under Explosives Act and the other for the killings--was vacated weeks ago.

Special Public Prosecutor of Sylhet Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal, Fokhrudin Ahmed, said on Tuesday that trial of the murder case will resume Thursday.

CID ASP Md. Rafiqul Islam is investigating the case filed for murders. Kibria and four others were killed in a grenade attack at Kibria's public meeting at Baiderbazar in Habiganj Sadar upazila on January 27, 2005.



SAMS Kibria

Talking to this correspondent yesterday, IO Rafiqul Islam said he has collected 'some important information' about involvement of some more people in the sensational killings. There is need of further investigation into the case, he added.

He said he has prayed for remand of five accused including Mufti Abdul Hinnan, leader of Islamist militant

organization Huji. A supplementary charge sheet will be filed he said but did not give details.

The decision for further investigations was taken after Huji link in the killings was found, he said.

Earlier, CID Senior ASP Munshi Atique filed charge sheet in the case on March 20 2005 against 10 people.

Chief of Zia Gobeshona Parishad and Vice President of Habiganj district BNP Abdul Quaiyum was made the principal accused. The other accused are, Zainal Abedin, Jamir Ali, Momin Ali, Tajul Islam, Shahed Ali, Chhondur Miah, Selim ahmed, Enayet Ali and Muhibur Rahman.

Among them eight including Abdul Quaiyum were in jail while two others are yet to be arrested. Quaiyum, granted bail weeks ago, claimed he was implicated in the case by certain quarters.

Pabna centres to buy cow milk after test

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Milk collection centres in Santhia Upazila Nirbahi Officer Md. Abdur Razzak told this correspondent yesterday over phone.

"We also instructed the private milk collection centres to give information about the culprits who will come to the centre with spurious milk. We will send formal orders to private milk collection centres within one or two days," he said.

"There is no expert technician in most of the milk collection centres for laboratory test of the milk," Dr Md. Monsurul Alam, upazila health and family planning officer

told this correspondent yesterday. A mobile court on November 3 fined five milk collection centres and milk traders at Demra Bazar of Faridpur upazila.

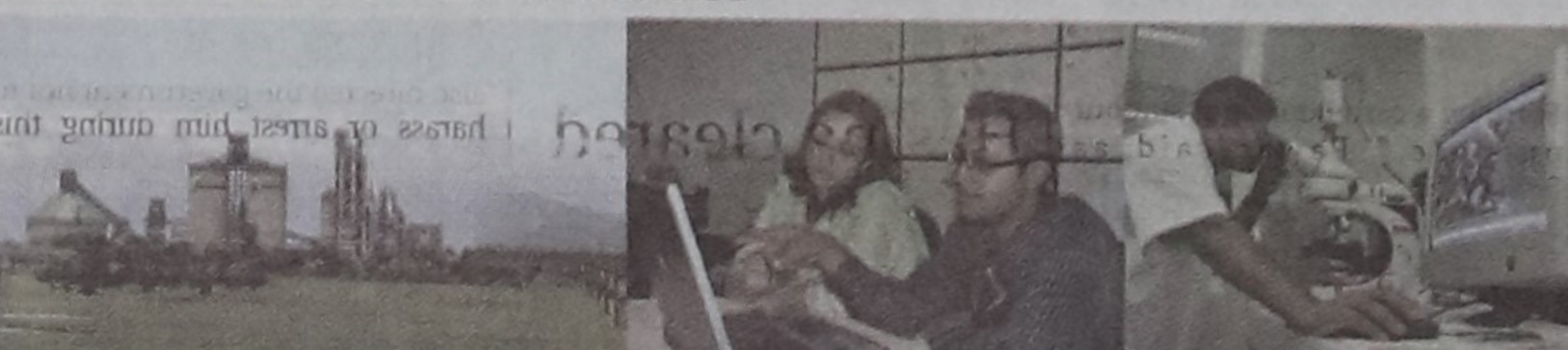
BSTI has engaged an officer in Bera, Santhia, Faridpur zone of the district official source told.

Our Sirajganj Correspondent adds: Supply of cow milk to different milk product manufacturing factories, milk collection and processing centres has reduced in Sirajganj district during the last few days, raising the price by Tk2 to Tk3 per litre.

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Requirements:

- Business degree with MBA from a reputed University.
- 3 to 5 years experience in a corporate environment preferably in Strategy, Commercial or Finance field.
- Strong communication & interpersonal skills.
- Good knowledge in MS Office.

DEPARTMENT: BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

ASSISTANT MANAGER - STRATEGY: Based at the Head Office in Dhaka but may require some traveling to various parts of Bangladesh. S/he will report to the Business Development Director and will be responsible for conducting feasibility studies, financial forecasting and project evaluation and liaise with various local authorities. S/he may also be involved in negotiations and discussions with various suppliers, potential partners during project evaluations.

Requirements:

- Business degree with MBA from a reputed University.
- Minimum 3 years experience either in an accounting, consulting firms or in the construction industry.
- Good knowledge of local laws, business practices and contacts with local authorities. Experience in the cement industry would be an advantage.
- Independent and hardworking with excellent analytical and problem solving skills, with ability to think 'outside the box'.
- Good computing skills with advanced knowledge of Excel and PowerPoint.
- Candidate must be able to communicate fluently in Bangla and English with good presentation skills.

DEPARTMENT: PLANT

ENGINEER - ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS: The position is based at the Plant, Chhatak, Sunamganj and the incumbent will be a member of the Maintenance (Methods) team responsible for predictive and preventive maintenance. S/he will be responsible for spares planning, preparation of maintenance job plan and initiate appropriate corrective measures related to Electrical, Instrumentation, PLC systems, and auxiliaries of the entire plant.

Requirements:

- Bachelor Degree in Engineering (Electrical / Electrical & Electronics) with 3-4 years experience in a process industry.
- The person should have excellent knowledge of maintenance in electrical equipments like switch gears, AC motors and transformers etc.
- S/he should also possess good knowledge in instrumentation and control systems (including PLCs, DCS) weigh feeders, UPS, Gas analyzers, various transmitters, variable speed AC drives used in process industry preferably cement manufacturing and good knowledge in safety.
- Excellent communication skill and ability to work in a team.

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Requirements:

- BBA with major in HRM or Bachelor Degree in any discipline with Post Graduation in HR Management.
- Excellent communication skill in Bangla and English.
- A team player, possess "CAN DO" attitude and ability to stretch.

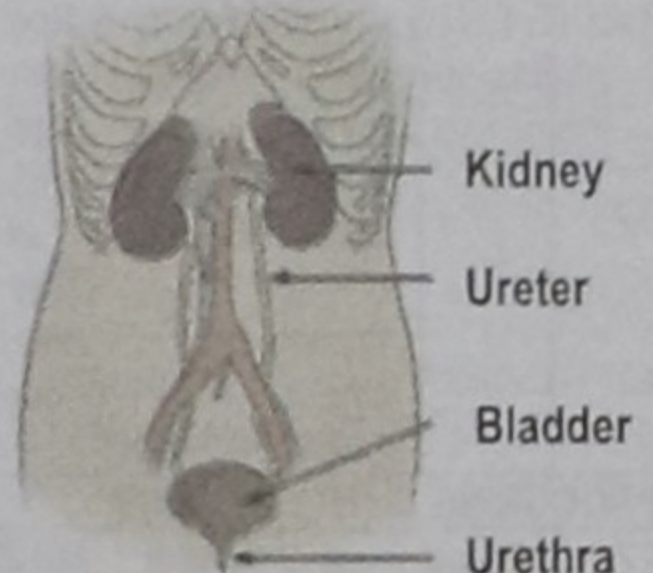
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