

BNP candidate crisis in CHT

Feud intensifies as bigwigs in jail or inactive

SHANTIMOY CHAKMA, Rangamati

BNP is facing severe leadership crisis in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) as three top leaders in Khagrachhari, Bandarban and Rangamati hill districts are either in jail or inactive.

In absence of 'competent' candidates in the three hill districts to contest in the coming national elections, quite a few district level leaders of BNP are seeking party nomination, adding to the intra-party feud, party sources said.

Former deputy minister for CHT Affairs Ministry and Rangamati BNP leader Moni Swapan Dewan joined Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in 2006, former Khagrachhari BNP lawmaker Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan is in jail and convicted in cases for graft and other crimes while former Bandarban BNP chief and former Bandarban District Council chairman Mayma Ching is now inactive.

As BNP has failed to create popular leadership in Rangamati during the last couple of decades, district BNP has to look for a suitable candidate from new faces shortly before national elections.

Moni Swapan Dewan, who joined BNP before the past eight parliamentary election, contested in Rangamati constituency and won the 2001 election defeating former lawmaker and Rangamati

district Awami League (AL) President Dipankar Talukder.

Now several leaders of Rangamati BNP including former district joint judge Dipen Dewan, district BNP president Nazim Uddin Ahmed, his son and district Chhatra Dal President Md Mamunur Rashid Mamun and pourasava BNP President Md Shah Alam are trying to get party nomination for the upcoming election.

District BNP Secretary Zahir Ahmed has been convicted in a graft case.

Khagrachhari BNP is also facing severe intra-party feud, especially after 1/11.

Internal conflict intensified after scrapping of the newly formed 11-member district convening committee in the face of opposition from rivals.

Former BNP lawmaker and influential party leader Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan cannot contest in Khagrachhari constituency in the coming national election as he has been convicted in several cases for graft and other crimes.

Khagrachhari BNP is now divided into three factions, making its fate uncertain in the coming election as each group is determined to field its candidate.

Former district BNP President Mohammed Abul Kashem, elder



Wadud Bhuiyan



Mamyia Ching

brother of Wadud Bhuiyan, Belayet Hossain and Khagrachhari Pura BNP secretary Mohammed Rafique and a few others leaders have started lobbying with the party high ups for nomination and most leaders are now in Dhaka, party insiders said.

In Bandarban BNP, there is a long-standing internal conflict as district chairperson Mayma Ching and senior vice-president Sachingprue Zer are leading two persons.

The rift in Bandarban BNP intensified after the formation of a new 55-member convening committee after dissolution of the 101-member full-pledged district committee.

Former district unit secretary

advocate Kazi Mohtul Hossain Jama and Sachingprue Zer are leading the newly formed convening committee.

Many top ranking leaders including former district BNP chairperson Mayma Ching, senior vice-president Osman Goni, vice-president Lusai Moug Marma, student affairs secretary Moshir Rahman and member Arif Uddin were left out from the new convening committee, worsening the feud.

Zer's faction is conducting campaign as a party candidate for the election while the leaders and activists loyal to Mayma Ching are opposing the bid.

Bandarban BNP has so far failed to build a leadership acceptable to all communities in the area.

SAIFUR'S DETENTION Mixed reaction in Moulvibazar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Sending BNP stalwart Saifur Rahman to jail was the talk of the town yesterday in Moulvibazar, his home district.

BNP men and members of the public expressed a mixed reaction - some expressing their disappointment and others saying he himself created the situation.

Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal, BNP's youth front, bought out a motorcycle procession in the town in the afternoon protesting sending Raifur Rahman to jail.

After the procession, Jubo Dal leaders at a brief rally demanded release of Saifur immediately and threatened of tougher agitation for non-compliance.

This correspondent also talked to cross-sections of people to know their reaction on sending Saifur to jail. Some people blamed Saifur for 'creating this situation for himself'.

Saifur's younger brother Rafiqul Islam Mani Miah said Saifur is seriously sick. He has been sent to jail in a false case, he said. Saifur's daughter-in-law Rozina Naser (wife of his elder son Naser Rahman) said, "He (Saifur) sacrificed his life for the country and the people. But in his old age he has been sent to jail".

Md Fayzul Karim Mayun, general secretary of district BNP and Mayor of Moulvibazar Pourasava said, "He Saifur is an aged person and suffering of various diseases. It is not proper to reject his bail prayer". Some other BNP leaders demanded his release.

Few BNP leaders seeking anonymity said, it was not proper for Saifur Rahman to be involved in controversy at this age.

Showdown by Ilyas in Sylhet to counter Saifur's visit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Although it was virtually a showdown by Ilyas-led faction of BNP in Sylhet, the organisers claimed the rally and procession were arranged to press the party's 7-point demand.

However, the rival faction known as Saifur followers stayed away from the yesterday's programme, the first by BNP since the 1/11 changeover.

Over 5,000 party activists from different upazilas and the city joined a rally held at the Registry Maidan.

District BNP convenor and former lawmaker M Ilyas Ali chaired the rally, also addressed by two former lawmakers from Sylhet - Shafi Ahmed Chowdhury and Dilder Hossain Selim.

Three front ranking BNP leaders known as trusted men of Saifur also joined the rally. They were former district BNP president MA Haque,

vice-president Nurul Haque and former city BNP chief Aheza Reza Chowdhury.

Later, a procession was brought out in the city.

Addressing the rally, Ilyas claimed that BNP would bag all the six seats in Sylhet district in the upcoming parliamentary election.

Yesterday's rally and procession was aimed at giving a reply to activities by followers of former finance minister and BNP stalwart M Saifur in the city, BNP sources said.

Saifur was on a brief visit to the city last Friday. It was his first programme in the city since the 1/11 changeover.

During the visit he addressed an informal gathering of party men at a hotel and exchanged views with newsmen.

Saifur also offered fatiha at the shrines of Hajrat Shahjalal (RA) and Hajrat Shahporan (RA).

He told party men and news-

men that he was getting ready to contest from Sylhet-1 (Sadar) constituency, if nominated. Jamaat leaders also met Saifur and requested him to contest from Sylhet-1 again.

A day after Saifur's visit, a group of party men known as Saifur followers met the BNP chief and the secretary general in the capital on Saturday.

The leaders included city BNP Secretary Nasim Hossain, Dr. Shahriar Hossain Chowdhury and former lawmaker Abul Kahar Chowdhury, who demanded nomination for Saifur in Sylhet-1, party sources said.

On the other hand, the anti-Saifur faction has been demanding a change in BNP candidature in Sylhet-1. They raised the demand that Khaleda Zia contest from Sylhet-1 because of Saifur's ill health and his pro-reformist role months ago, the sources said.



Supporters of former lawmaker and BNP leader Ilyas Ali stage a showdown in Sylhet city yesterday to counter party stalwart Saifur Rahman's visit there.



Muktijodha Santan Command Rajshahi University unit brings out a rally on RU campus yesterday demanding trial of war criminals.

TUSSLE FOR TICKET Bagerhat mayor resigns from AL

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Mayor of Bagerhat Pourashava Khan Habibur Rahman who is organising secretary of district Awami League resigned from the party on Sunday.

President of Bagerhat district Awami League and former state minister Dr. Mozammel Hossain admitting receipt of the resignation letter said, the party central committee will take the decision to accept or not.

Khan Habibur Rahman in his resignation letter said his involvement with party hampers his work as mayor.

But insiders said Khan Habibur Rahman is having strained relations with Bagerhat district AL secretary, Sheikh Kamruzzaman Tuku over nomination from Bagerhat-2 constituency in the upcoming national election.

Both the AL leaders are nomination aspirants from this seat.

Bar war criminals from polls Speakers tell Rajshahi meet

RU CORRESPONDENT

Several hundred people including freedom fighters, teachers, students, officials and cultural activists held a rally and formed a human chain on Rajshahi University premises yesterday demanding declaration of war criminals ineligible for the upcoming parliament election.

RU unit of Muktijodha Santan Command, a platform of the children of freedom fighters, organised the human chain and urged people to boycott the war criminals in the national election.

Participants waved banners and placards demanding trial of war criminals in special tribunals.

War criminals and anti-liberation forces have no right to go to parliament, as they do not believe in the spirit of Liberation War and constitution, speakers said at a protest meeting on the premises of central library.

They demanded trial of war criminals to establish justice and consolidate democracy and the spirit of Liberation War.

"We should take oath to reject them (war criminals) in general elections and resist their going to parliament," said Prof Muklesur Rahman, president of RU unit of Bangabandhu Parishad.

War criminals and anti-liberation force are involved in a deep-rooted conspiracy against our glorious Liberation War and freedom fighters, speakers said.

Rehabilitate Jamuna erosion victims, build embankment

Rally in Sirajganj town demands

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Hundreds of people in Sirajganj Sadar upazila yesterday held a rally at the Independence Square in Bazaar Station intersection

demanding rehabilitation of the Jamuna erosion victims.

They also demanded building of a permanent dam from Ranigram Hard Point to Jamuna Bridge to protect Sirajganj from the gorge of

the river.

Sirajganj Pourasabha ward councillor Nazrul Islam was in the chair. Speakers said every year the Jamuna devours hundreds of homesteads and a vast tract of croplands but the authorities do not take any initiative to check the river erosion.

They blamed on Water Development Board (BWDB) personnel for looting and misappropriating crores of taka each year in name of controlling river erosion.

They also urged the authorities to take immediate steps for dredging the Jamuna. It will help ensure smooth flow of the river and protect the neighbourhood from erosion, they said.

Earlier, they brought out a big procession. Processionists paraded the main streets of the district town and submitted a memorandum to Sirajganj Deputy Commissioner Ashraf Ali containing their demands.

People from all walks of life including students, teachers, politicians, businessmen, cultural activists and different NGO personnel participated.



Hundreds of erosion victims joined by cross sections of people bring out a rally in Sirajganj town yesterday demanding construction of protection embankment from Ranigram Hard Point to Jamuna bridge.

Controversially recruited staffs assault RU VC

RU CORRESPONDENT

The 'controversially appointed' fourth-class employees of Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday assaulted RU acting Vice-Chancellor Prof Maminul Keramat on the university campus for failing to regularise their jobs.

About 200 agitating fourth-class employees blocked the main gate of the university's administrative building demanding regularisation of their job at around 7:30am.

They staged a sit-in in front of the administrative building demanding resignation of the VC.

The VC along with a few law enforcers reached the spot at around 8:00am and tried to enter the administrative building through the main gate.

An altercation between the VC and agitating employees occurred as the employees blocked his way demanding regularisation of their jobs within 24 hours.

At one stage, some agitating employees assaulted the VC.

On information, additional policemen rushed to the scene and rescued the VC from the agitating employees.

Later, the employees held a sit-in and a rally in front of the VC office.

They urged the chief adviser and the University Grants Commission (UGC) chairman to take necessary steps to regularise their jobs.

The employees also threatened to foil the upcoming admission test if the university authorities fail to regularise their jobs.

Earlier, they had brought out a protest procession on the campus. A large number of policemen had been deployed in front of the VC office to avert any untoward incident.

When contacted, the acting VC Prof Keramat said the university authorities are looking into the matter and the issue will be settled as per the university rules.

The university authorities appointed 544 third and fourth-class employees against 255 vacant posts in 2004 in gross violation of the university rules. Jobs of about 300 employees were regularised during the rule of the BNP-Jamaat coalition.

AL wants Hasina again in Narail-1 JSD's Nurul Ambia, WP's Bimol Biswas also contenders

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Narail Awami League (AL) leaders will cordially accept Sheikh Hasina's candidacy again from Narail-1 constituency (five unions of Narail Sadar and Kalia upazila) in the upcoming general election but will not accept any other alliance candidate.

Front ranking leaders of local AL are holding meetings at different levels in a bid to resist any alliance candidate other than Hasina.

Kalia upazila AL made the demand at a meeting held yesterday at its office. With Upazila AL secretary Kabirul Islam Mukti in the chair, speakers vowed to resist any alliance candidate other than Hasina, party sources said.

They said Narail-1 constituency is a stronghold of AL and the party chief Sheikh Hasina won the seat in of 2001 the election by defeating

BNP candidate Dharendra Nath Saha by about 17,000 votes.

Earlier, Dharendra Nath was elected from the constituency twice -- in 1991 and 1996 as an AL candidate.

He (Dharendra Nath) quit the party and joined BNP when Sheikh Hasina decided to be an alliance candidate from there in 2001 polls and lost to her.

"If our beloved leader Sheikh Hasina contests from the seat, it will be a blessing for us", Narail district AL president advocate Suvas told The Daily Star yesterday.

Echoing the same sentiment, party secretary advocate Mohammad Ali said, "The then AL leader Sharif Khasruzzaman who won Narail-2 constituency twice in 1991 and 1996 instantly joined BNP when Islami Oikya Jote (IO) central leader Mufi Shahidul Islam was nominated as the grand alliance candidate in the

planned election of January 22, 2007 which was postponed later".

Khasruzzaman however secured nomination from 4-party alliance.

Mayor of Kalia municipality and general secretary of Kalia upazila AL Kabirul Islam Mukti said "We are not 'only' demanding nomination of our party candidate in the constituency, we have already started holding meetings and mobilising support at grass roots level to resist alliance candidate other than that of Awami League, if nominated".

JSD central vice-president Sharif Nurul Ambia and Workers Party central secretary Bimol Biswas are in the field now, local political leaders said. They are also seeking nomination from 14-party alliance.

When contacted over cell phone, Bimol Biswas said, "I shall seek nomination as a 14-party alliance candidate through my party to contest the upcoming election".

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়
বন্যপ্রাণী ব্যবস্থাপনা ও প্রকৃতি সংরক্ষণ বিভাগ, সিলেট
সদর দপ্তর-মৌলভীবাজার
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি
১। দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং ও তারিখ
২। প্রকল্পের নাম
৩। তহবিলের উৎস
৪। দরপত্রের নাম
৫। দরপত্রাদাতার যোগ্যতা
৬। দরপত্রের সিডিউল প্রাপ্তির স্থান
৭। দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী অফিসের নাম
৮। দরপত্রের সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়
৯। দরপত্র দাখিলের শেষ সময় ও তারিখ
১০। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান
১১। কার্য সম্পাদনের সময়
১২। কার্য সম্পাদনের স্থান
১৩। বিশেষ শর্তাবলী
১। দরপত্র সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় শর্তাবলী নিম্নাঙ্ককারীর দপ্তরে অফিস চলাকালীন সময় (সরকারি চুক্তির দিন ব্যতীত) জানিতে ও দেখিতে পাওয়া যাবে।
২। নিম্নাঙ্ককারীকে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
৩। দরপত্রাদাতা নিজে বা তার প্রতিনিধির মাধ্যমে জালিকাঙ্কন ও অস্বাভাবিক মূল্য সমন্বয় প্রদর্শনপূর্বক নিজে পাতে আবেদনপত্রের মাধ্যমে প্রস্পেক্টিভ দরপত্রের সিডিউল ক্রয় করিতে পারিবেন।
৪। দরপত্র বিবেচনায় "পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন-২০০৮" অনুসরণ করা হইবে।
কাজের প্রণং নং, কাজের বিবরণ, কাজের পরিমাণ, কাজের স্থান, প্রতি সেট সিডিউলের মূল্য, বাসনার টাকার পরিমাণ, কার্য সম্পাদনের সময়
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১। টুরিষ্ট শপ ট্যাংগেট, টিকেট কাউন্টার ১ (একটি) (গ্রান, স্পেসিফিকেশন ও মূল্যানুমান অনুসারে) লাউয়াছড়া ন্যাশনাল পার্ক এলাকা, কমলাগঞ্জ, মৌলভীবাজার ৫০০/- ২০,৯০০/- কার্যসেধ প্রদানের তারিখ হইতে ৩০ (মাস) দিন।
২। টুরিষ্ট শপ ট্যাংগেট, টিকেট কাউন্টার ১ (একটি) (গ্রান, স্পেসিফিকেশন ও মূল্যানুমান অনুসারে) সাতছড়ি ন্যাশনাল পার্ক এলাকা, চুনারাঘাট, মৌলভীবাজার ৫০০/- ২০,৯০০/-
মোঃ মাইনুভুর রহমান
বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তা
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