



4-party nominee from Jamaat chargesheeted for corruption

Ex- MP Gazi Nazrul of Satkhira-5 also hid wealth info

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday submitted charge sheet against former Jamaat-e-Islami lawmaker Gazi Nazrul Islam in a case filed in connection with amassing wealth worth Tk 40.05 lakh illegally and concealing wealth information to the ACC.

The Jamaat leader, who was elected as a BNP-led four-party alliance candidate from Satkhira-5 constituency in 2001 election, also submitted nomination paper to contest from the newly demarcated Satkhira-4 constituency in the upcoming polls as four-party candidate.

Khulna ACC Deputy Director Monzur Morshed,

also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted the charge sheet before Satkhira Judicial Magistrate's Court mentioning that he amassed wealth worth Tk 40.05 lakh beyond his known sources of income and concealed wealth information.

Judge SM Zakaria of the Judicial Magistrate's Court received the charge sheet yesterday.

On July 4 this year, Monzur filed the case against him with Shyampur Police Station.

Following an ACC notice to submit his wealth information, the former Jamaat lawmaker submitted statement mentioning wealth amounting to Tk 32.74 on September 10 last year, ACC sources said.

Of which, the value of his



Gazi Nazrul Islam

immovable property was Tk 17.58 and that of movable property was Tk 15.16, the ACC sources said.

After investigation it is found that the former Jamaat lawmaker submitted his statement of property showing value Tk 21.39 less than

that of the real value, court sources said.

The former Jamaat lawmaker also concealed property worth Tk 18.65 in his statement, sources said.

After DD Monzur Morshed submitted his investigation report, the ACC approved it and asked him to submit the charge sheet against Nazrul.

The charge sheet was submitted after inquiry into the matter, Monzur Morshed told this correspondent.

Nazrul, whose name was on the second list of corruption suspects published by the ACC, was arrested by the joint forces on March 9 last year and released on bail on February 4 this year.

When contacted, Nazrul said the case filed against him is false and baseless.

SIRAJGANJ-2 AL None but Henry acceptable

GOLAM MOSTAFA IBON, Sirajganj

Sirajganj district Awami League has threatened of boycotting party candidate in the upcoming election if the candidature of Jannat Ara Henry alias Henry Talukder for Sirajganj-2 constituency (Sirajganj Sadar) is changed in the name of grand alliance. Henry was nominated by AL earlier.

At a party meeting held at district AL office yesterday, speakers said, the grand alliance will lose the seat if this is done, they said. District AL acting president Mostafizur Rahman presided over the meeting.

Henry is forest and environment affairs secretary of central Mohila Awami League. The meeting followed newspaper reports that she may be replaced by Jatiya Party (Ershad) leader Aminul Islam Jhantu after seat sharing among alliance partners.

After the meeting, a team of AL leaders along with Henry started for Dhaka to meet Sheikh Hasina.

Jamaat campaigns against BNP men in Bogra-4,5

AL's Manna to run independent in Bogra-2

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU, Bogra

Jamaat-e-Islami is campaigning for party nominee Nazir Ahmed in Bogra-4 (Khaloo-Nandigram) where the 4-party alliance has nominated Engineer Mostafa Ali Mukul in the upcoming polls.

Talking to this correspondent over cell phone yesterday, Bogra Jamaat Ameer Amir Shahab Uddin said, "Our party men have started full swing door to door campaign". He ignored Mostafa Ali Mukul's candidature, claiming that Jamaat has 70,000 voters out of 2,54,740 in the constituency.

In Bogra-2 (Shubgonj), the four-party alliance first nominated former lawmaker AKM Hafizur Rahman but replaced him with former student leader MR Islam Shadhin just before submission of nomination due to intra-party feud.

AL leader Mahmudur Rahman Manna submitted nomination as an independent candidate in the constituency after the grand alliance gave ticket to businessman Akram Hossain.

In Bogra-5 (Sherpur-Dhanut), the 4-party alliance declared businessman Shafiquzzaman Khakon, BNP leader Jan-e-Alam and BNP central leader and Sherpur town BNP president Mahabubur Rahman Hares as alliance candidates. Jamaat leader Rustom Ali also submitted



From left (clockwise): Akram Hossain, Mahmudur Rahman Manna, Mostafa Ali Mukul and AKM Hafizur Rahman.

nomination paper for the constituency ignoring alliance decision, said Shahab Uddin.

AL also failed to finally select a single candidate for Bogra-5 constituency. Still there are two hopefuls-Habib-ur-Rahman Habib and AL Bogra district secretary Majibur Rahman Majnu.



Faridpur district BNP forms a human chain, left, and observe hunger strike in front of Faridpur Press Club yesterday for alliance ticket to Kamal Ibne Yusuf instead of Jamaat leader Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojahid in Faridpur-3.



PHOTO: STAR

RAJSHAHI, NATORE SEATS Grassroots leaders ignored as 8 new faces get BNP ticket

Selection follows 'suggestion' of jailed, absconding leaders

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

The BNP has fielded eight new faces, including three alternative candidates, for constituencies in Rajshahi and Natore districts mainly upon recommendations of jailed and absconding leaders while sidelining grassroots party men.

Three of the new faces are relatives of former BNP stalwarts who are either in jail or staying abroad being convicted in cases for abetting militancy and three BNP nominees are still facing corruption charges.

Former BNP lawmaker Abu Hena, who had earlier criticised those BNP stalwarts for their role behind militancy, has been dropped.

Before recommending party leaders for nomination, local unit leaders did not hold any grassroots leaders' meeting that was made mandatory in the Representation of People Order (RPO).

Rather, the local units followed recommendations of the jailed and fleeing leaders and sent names of their chosen persons to the BNP's central committee for party tickets.

"The new electoral rules made us optimistic about scope for creation of new leadership in the party. But the selections have made the new rules ineffective," said a deprived BNP leader.

Among the new faces, former inspector general of police Enamul Haque was given party ticket for Rajshahi-1 (Tanore-Godagari) constituency.

Enamul is brother of former BNP minister Aminul Haque, who went abroad after 1/11 changeover last year and later convicted in a case for patronising militancy.

Several leaders of BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami told this correspondent that Aminul had called them on their cell phones from abroad and lobbied for Enamul's nomination.

City BNP former president lawyer Ekhlak Hossain was made the alternative candidate for this seat because Enamul might face electoral bar as his removal from gov-

ernment job of a law commission member is yet to pass three years.

Former Rajshahi mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu has been nominated for Rajshahi-2 (city area) although he is still in jail being arrested in connection with three corruption cases, a criminal case and a case for dodging taxes. He was, however, acquitted in an extortion case recently.

Former BNP lawmaker Kabir Hossain submitted his nomination paper for Rajshahi-3 (Pabna-Mohanpur) constituency.

Former BNP lawmaker Nazim is facing two cor-

ruption cases, a murder charge, one case for extortion and one for cheating.

He was acquitted in two criminal cases and one extortion case against him is stayed.

Mosaddek Hossain Bulbul who sought party ticket for this seat was overlooked as he emerged as a competitor of Minu through participating in the August 4 Rajshahi City Corporation polls.

District BNP President

Azizur Rahman, also a follower of Minu, submitted his nomination paper with the party ticket.

Former state minister Fazlur Rahman Patal, an accused in a corruption case, was chosen for Natore-1 (Lalpur-Bagatipara) seat.

In Natore-2 (Natore Sadar) constituency, Sabina Yasmin Chhobi was given the party ticket.

Chhobi is wife of former BNP deputy minister Ruhul Kuddus Talukdar Dulu, who

AL NOMINEE FOR MAGURA-1 Rivals slate Akbar's visit to Delhi

Vow to resist him in Sreepur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Against the backdrop of move by party rivals in Sreepur upazila to resist visit of Dr MS Akbar, Awami League (AL) nominee for Magura-1 (Sadar and Sreepur upazilas) constituency, the of former lawmaker left for New Delhi on Monday.

Sources close to Dr Akbar said he left for Delhi to accompany his daughter who will appear in an examination there for FRCS degree while party rivals at a meeting yesterday criticised Akbar's 'exit' at the crucial moment and reiterated their demand for cancellation of his nomination.

With Sreepur upazila AL Akbar Hossain Mian in the chair, the meeting was held under the banner of 'Akbar Resistance Committee' and Sreepur upazila AL leader Akheruzzaman Biswas.

"Through our agitation programmes we are trying to make our central high command understand that Dr Akbar has already lost his popularity among the party workers and local people," Sreepur upazila AL President Akbar Hossain Mian said.

Former general secretary of district AL, Molla Nabuot Ali also echoed the same.

Earlier on November 22, party rivals observed four-hour hunger strike and declared AL nominee Dr Akbar 'unwanted' in the constituency.



Sachilapur, Gangalia, Khamarpara, Wapda Square and at the upazila headquarters to resist Akbar's visit in the upazila," said convener of 'Akbar Resistance Committee' and Sreepur upazila AL leader Akheruzzaman Biswas.

"We are astonished to hear that Dr Akbar has left the country when BNP-led four-party alliance candidate here is working everyday," said a Sadar upazila AL leader preferring anonymity.

Earlier on Monday, rivals of Dr Akbar in Sreepur upazila formed six teams to resist the former lawmaker's visit in the area.

"We have already deployed six teams at Radhanagar,

SYLHET GRAND ALLIANCE Bargain on as JP gets only 3 seats

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

Although the Jatiya party wanted 6 out of 19 seats in the Sylhet division from the AL in the grand alliance, things had been settled for 3 only by now, Jatiya party sources informed. These are, Sylhet-3, Sunamganj-4 and Habiganj-3.

"But yet we are talking on the others," said the JP president member Atiqur Rahman Atique who is also a candidate for the Sylhet-3 seat, yesterday afternoon. "We wanted 8 in the division first although, we pressed for 6, of which 3 had already been settled," he added.

"The JP has a good base in Sylhet division, so there will be some problems with the seat sharing, Atique added, "We will try to adjust things with the party men just for the sake of alliance." The 6 seats JP wanted are, Sylhet-3, Sylhet-4, Sylhet-5, Sunamganj-4, Habiganj-3 and Moulvibazar-2.

With this, the AL grassroots are a little worried as they had already sacrificed in at least 3 important constituencies, despite having good candidates of their own. AL's Mahmud Us Samad Chowdhury, who had filed nomination for Sylhet-3 told the Daily Star yesterday afternoon, "It will be hard to accommodate things if the

seat is given to the JP, although yet I am to get any instruction in this regard from the party high ups," he added.

Mahmud Us Samad lost to BNP's Shafi Ahmed Chowdhury in 2001. JP is pressing their best for this seat.

However, the JP leaders claim, AL will have to sacrifice in only a few for the greater interests as well as to ensure a big win in all the seats. At such a situation Sylhet district and city JP threatened if the Sylhet-3 is not given to JP, there will be a serious impact in the whole division.

Besides, JP had already been offered Sunamganj-4 (Sadar and Biswambharpur) with JP's former minister Major (retired) Iqbal's wife-Mumtaz Iqbal, who also fought in 2001. In 2001 AL fielded former lawmaker Dewan Shamsul Abedin, who lost to BNP's Fazlul Haque Aspia.

This time AL has fielded its acting district president Matiur Rahman while Abedin is also an independent runner.

JP had also been offered the Habiganj-3 where JP has fielded HM Ershad, But central organising secretary advocate Azizul Bari Kamal and AL's Advocate Abu Zahir also filed nomination.

Minu declares politics as his profession

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

Former Rajshahi mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu mentioned politics as his profession in the affidavit he submitted along with nomination papers for contesting from Rajshahi-2 constituency.

However, the former lawmaker who is in jail now did not mention any income from the profession.

He claimed that he earns Tk 25,000 annually from agriculture and his wife earns Tk 1.80 lakh from her profession as a college teacher.

But the central BNP organising secretary showed the value of the couple's movable property at Tk 63 lakh, excluding 43 ounces of gold ornaments. Their immovable

properties include 30 bighas of arable land, a 5 katha land and a three-storied building.

Minu also mentioned in his affidavit that he faces three corruption cases, one case for tax dodging and a criminal case.

Another BNP nominee, Enamul Haque in Rajshahi-1 constituency did not mention his government job from which he was removed nearly a year ago, apparently fearing cancellation of his nomination.

Enamul is brother of former BNP minister Aminul Haque who is now fleeing abroad being convicted in a case for abetting militancy.

Enamul served Bangladesh Law Commission as its member till 2007. He is a former inspector general of police.



Former BNP lawmaker Zahir Uddin Swapan leads a rally of supporters at Gouranadi Bus Stand yesterday as they are demanding his nomination from Barisal-1.

BNP tickets in Barisal spark protest Mosharref Hossain Shahjahan to run independent

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Grassroots BNP leaders in Muladi upazila under the district yesterday expressed sharp reaction over nomination of candidates, saying that the party high command fielded unpopular candidates in their constituencies depriving dedicated and acceptable leaders.

More than five hundred agitated BNP activists of Muladi upazila led by Abdus Shukkur Khan, convener, Prof. Shariatullah, Mohsin Reza, Kazi Kamal, joint conveners of the upzila BNP, forming human chain in the upazila town demanded cancellation of nomination to Begum Selima Rahman for Barisal-2

(Babuganj-Muladi). The participants of the programme opined that Begum Selima Rahman was from Babuganj while the number of voters in Muladi is 20% more than those of Babuganj.

However, they called for BNP nomination to Advocate Joydul Abedin, central BNP law affairs secretary and a man of Muladi instead of Begum Selima Rahman, central BNP leader and former BNP minister or Mosharraf Hossain Mongu who is from Barisal.

On the other hand Mosharref Hossain Shahjahan, former BNP lawmaker of Bhola-1 constitu-

ency (district headquarters) and minister became independent candidate for this term after denied nomination against Barrister Andalib Rahman Partha, son of BJP founder chairman late Nazim Rahman Monju.

Shahjahan issuing an open letter to party chairperson through press explained his status and begged apology from Khaleda Zia for submitting nomination as an independent candidate.

He told The Daily Star that being elected as lawmaker and local government representative since 1965, he could not neglect the opinion and responsibility of his voters and also could not avoid the feelings of conscience.