



## Donation, loan dominate polls expense in Barisal

### Say candidates' affidavit to EC

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Most of the candidates in Barisal district are depending on loans and donations to contest in the December 29 election although quite a few of them showed properties worth cores of taka.

According to the affidavit submitted by the candidates with their nomination papers, the candidates declared that donations and loans offered by their relatives and well wishers will be used, along with their own funds, to bear their election expenditures, Election Commission sources said.

However they did not disclose the procedure of collecting funds for repayment of their loans after election.

**BARISAL-1:** Awami League-led grand alliance candidate for Barisal-1 constituency and district AL office secretary, advocate Talukdar Md Yunus will spend Tk 7 lakh.

Tk 4 lakh of it will be received as loan from others.

Independent candidate former BNP lawmaker Zahiruddin Swapan said he will spend Tk 9 lakh, collecting Tk 1 lakh from his wife and rest Tk 8 lakh as loans from different sources.

Jatiya Party leader Sunil Gupta, also former lawmaker and minister, will spend Tk 10.35 lakh -- only Tk 50 thousand will be spent from his

own fund, Tk 7 lakh will be donated by his sons, daughters, in-laws and the rest by others.

**BARISAL-2:** Four-party alliance candidate Sarfuddin Santu will spend Tk 8 lakh, grand alliance candidate Manirul Islam Tk 11.27 lakh, while independent candidate former BNP whip Shahidul Huq Jamal will spend Tk 10 lakh from their own sources.

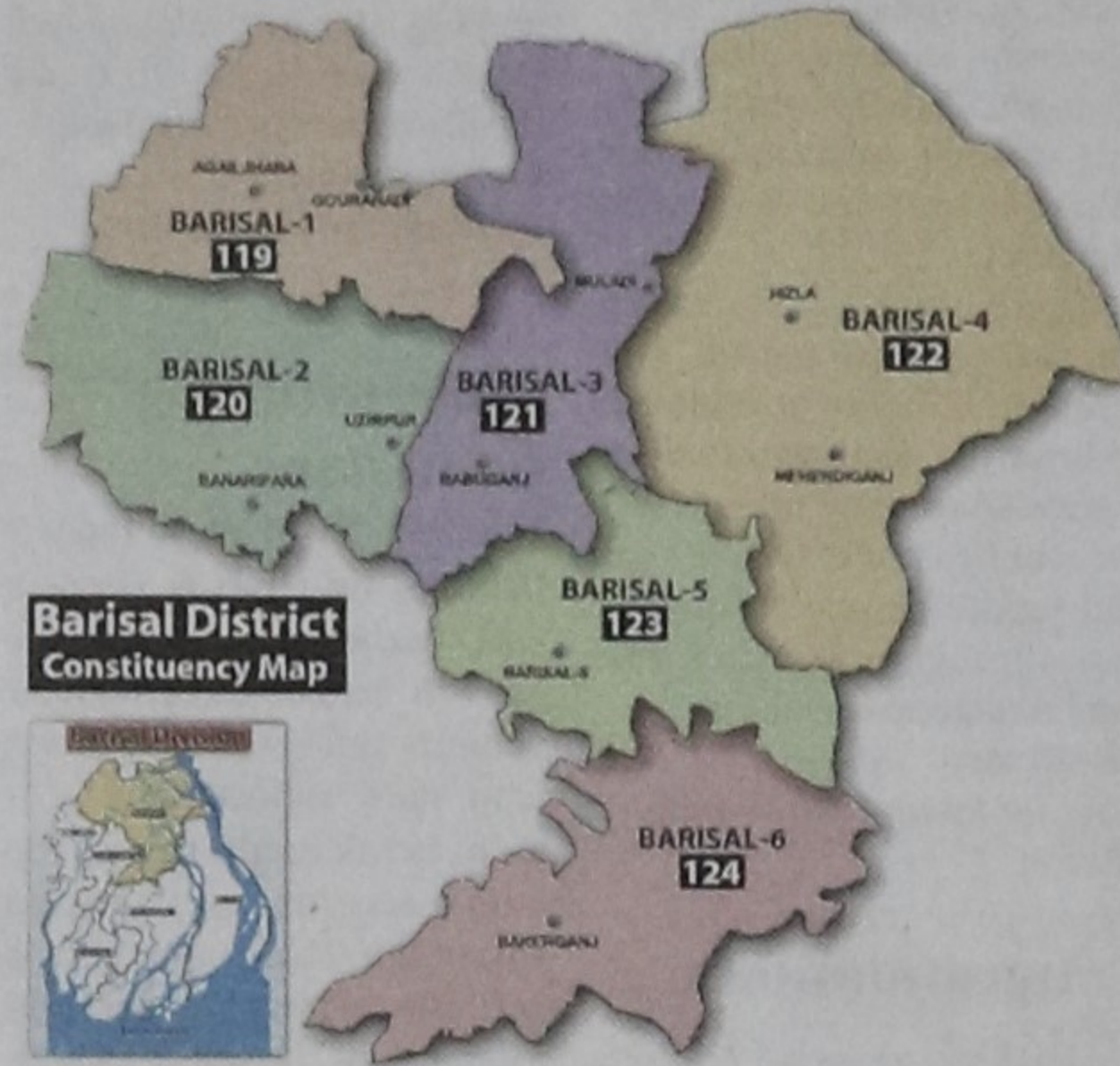
Independent candidate Saima Jallil, wife of late freedom fighter Major MA Jallil, said Tk 9 lakh will be donated by relatives to bear her election expenditure.

**BARISAL-3:** Four-party alliance candidate central BNP joint secretary and former minister, Selima Rahman showed only one thousand taka as monthly income, but will spend Tk 9.12 lakh from her own sources for the election.

AL leader advocate Afzalul Karim will spend Tk 8.4 lakh including Tk 1.4 lakh from own fund and Tk 7 lakh from loans and donations.

**BARISAL-4:** 'four-party alliance' candidate Mezbahuddin Farhad will spend Tk 12 lakh -- Tk 5 lakh from own money and 7 lakh from donations and loans from relatives and other sources.

Grand alliance nominee AL leader Maidul Islam will spend Tk 11.81 lakh from



Source: The Mappa Ltd

own sources.

**BARISAL-5:** In this constituency, only four-party alliance candidate advocate Mojibor Rahman Sarwar, district BNP president and former BCC mayor and lawmaker, will spend the total amount of Tk 14.5 lakh as election expenditure from his own sources.

AL-led grand alliance candidate Col Zahid Faruk Shamim will spend Tk 10 lakh including donations of Tk 5 lakh from Oposon Chemical Industries and 2 lakh from a retired army officer.

AL leader independent candidate Mahbubuddin Bir

Bikram will spend Tk 14 lakh including Tk 4 lakh to be taken from his wife.

**BARISAL-6:** Abul Hossain Khan, former BNP lawmaker and four-party alliance nominee, will spend Tk 9 lakh from his own sources.

Jatiya Party Secretary General ABM Ruhul Amin Howladar will spend Tk 15 lakh including 5 lakh from his own sources and the rest from his relatives.

AL leader Maj Gen (rtd) Hafiz Mallik will spend Tk 9.65 lakh including only Tk 15,000 from his pocket fund while the rest Tk 9.5 lakh will be collected from his relatives.

## Discord in Kapasia BNP over party nomination

A CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Commotion has been created in Kapasia BNP over the nomination of Abdul Majid as four party candidate from the constituency.

BNP central executive committee member Dr Sanaullah said, "I don't know whether Mr Abdul Majid is a primary member of BNP. He (ASM Hannan Shah) has made him a candidate only to tackle Jamaluddin.

Dr Sanaullah expressing discontent at BNP nomination for Gazipur-4 (Kapasia) constituency said this.

Many grassroots BNP leaders of Kapasia are also unhappy over the nomination of Mohammad Abdul Majid. They said, "Majid is nobody of BNP. He is a man of Jatiya Party and is detached from common people."

Several senior leaders of Gazipur and Kapasia BNP said, as the candidacy of BNP chairperson's adviser Hannan Shah was finalised in a Dhaka constituency BNP high command gave a letter to Jamaluddin Ahmed nominating him for Gazipur-4 seat. Jamaluddin is known as opposed to Hannan Shah in Kapasia politics.

One day after Kapasia BNP former president Jamaluddin was given BNP ticket another ticket was issued to Abdul Majid. Later the party retained Majid's candidacy and the returning officer cancelled Jamaluddin's nomination.

## GAIBANDHA-1 Party rivals declare JP nominee 'unwanted'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A chaotic situation is prevailing over Jatiya Party nomination for Gaibandha-1 constituency, as the party finally decided to field new face Col (rtd) Abdul Kader Khan, changing their earlier decision in favour of former lawmaker JP Joint Secretary General Wahiduzzaman Sarker to run from the seat.

Supporters of Wahiduzzaman Sarker in a recent meeting at Belka High School ground declared Col Kader 'unwanted' in Sunderganj and started campaigning against the rival.

Wahiduzzaman as JP nominee won the seat in 1996 election and ran second in 2001, being defeated by Jamaat leader Moulana Abdul Aziz who contested as four-party alliance candidate.

## TANGAIL-1, 4, 8

## Winning to be tough for 'clean' BNP nominees

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

Despite 'clean and gentlemen' images to the people, BNP nominees in Tangail-1 (Modhupur-Dhanbari), Tangail-4 (Kalihati) and Tangail-8 (Sakhipur-Basail) constituencies may find it tough to win the December 29 parliament election as they have to fight against strong rival candidates.

In Tangail-1 (Modhupur-Dhanbari), BNP nominated industrialist Fakir Mahbub Anam Swapan to contest against AL-led grand alliance candidate former lawmaker Dr Abdul Razzak Bhola.

BNP-led four-party candidate Swapan got the third position in 2001 election getting 40,972 votes while AL candidate Bhola won the seat with 98,413 votes. However, 'rebel' BNP candidate Abdul Gafur Montu ended up securing 53,509 votes.

Swapan, an automobile engineer educationally, is not facing any rival candidate from inside the party but still the polls race this time is going to be a tough one as his rival AL-



Fakir Mahbub Anam

Lutfar Rahman Matin

Ahmed Azam Khan

led grand alliance candidate Abdul Razzak Bhola got more than the total number of votes bagged by 'two BNP candidates' in the last election.

In Tangail-4 (Kalihati), BNP nominated industrialist Lutfar Rahman Matin for the constituency as replacement of Shajahan Siraj, who has been absconding after convictions in corruption cases under Emergency Power Rules.

Former BGMEA vice president Matin will have to fight strong AL-led grand alliance candidate Abdul Latif Siddiqui who lost the last election to Shajahan Siraj with a margin of 5,138 votes.

Besides, Matin will have to manage somewhat scattered party workers who will be required to do a good result

in the constituency, party sources said.

In Tangail-8 (Sakhipur-Basail), advocate Ahmed Azam Khan, lawyer of BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia, has got party ticket to contest against Krishak Shramik Janata League President former lawmaker Abdul Kader Siddiqui Bir Uttam this time also.

Ahmed Azam contested from the constituency in 2001 election and ran as third position holder getting 51,135 votes. Winner Kader Siddiqui got 80,558 votes while AL candidate Salam Khan bagged 54,501 votes.

Besides Kader Siddiqui, Ahmed Azam will have to face strong AL-led grand alliance candidate Shawkat Momen Shajahan this time.

## Election campaign marks Eid day in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

On Eid day Monday the candidates for upcoming parliamentary elections spent time not with their family members but exchanging greetings with voters of their respective constituencies.

All of them attended Eid congregations and offered feteiha at the graveyards in their respective constituencies, which they rarely did in the past.

AL candidates Mizanur Rahman Mizan of Khulna-2 (Sadar-Sonadanga), Molla Jalaluddin of Khulna-4 (Rupsha-Digholia-Terokhedha) and Advocate Sohrab Ali Sana of Khulna-6 (Koira-Paigachha) who are sure of remaining in the polls battle launched their campaigns directly from Eidgah maidan by visiting houses of voters on Eid day to seek doa for their victory against rivals.

Similar was the approach of four-party alliance candi-

dates of all the six seats who exchanged Eid greetings with voters.

None of the candidates of AL and four-party alliance was at all concerned with the matter relating to purchase of sacrificial animal. Other members of their families did the job.

"We preferred contacting voters instead of wasting our valuable time for buying sacrificial animal. We got it done by our wives or relatives," said Nazrul Islam Manju of BNP and Mizanur Rahman of AL both contesting from Khulna-2 constituency.

Begum Manujan Sultan of AL and Kazi Sikander Ali Dalim of BNP contesting from Khulna-3 also exchanged greetings with voters of the industrial belt. Both the candidates are having tough time without getting any positive response from financially handicapped workers of seven Jute Mills that fall within their constituencies.

The two Jamaat candidates

contesting from Khulna-5 (Dumuria-Phulatala) and Khulna-6 constituencies under the banner of four party alliance moved only with their party workers to exchange Eid greetings.

City Ameer of Jamaat and ex-lawmaker Mian Golam Parwar again contesting from Khulna-5 was not accompanied by BNP leaders. Because, Dumuria Phulatala has already withdrawn support from him due to his dubious role during last five years allegedly for his connection with underground parties. But Mian Golam Parwar has denied this allegation.

Veteran Awami League leader Molla Jalaluddin and industrialist Sharif Shah Kamal Taj of BNP contesting from Khulna-4 offered Eid prayer in their home upazilas Digholia and Terokhedha respectively.

Taj, a new face in BNP politics reportedly enjoys blessing from certain central leaders, as he is one of the richest candidates in four-party alliance.

## AL, BNP nominees in Pabna-4 corruption suspects

### ACC probing allegations against the two

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Presidents of Pabna district committees of the AL and the BNP, both earlier arrested by the joint forces as corruption suspects, are contesting the coming parliament election in the same constituency.

Pabna district AL president and former lawmaker Shamsur Rahman Sharif Dilu and Pabna district BNP president and former MP Sirajul Islam Sardar are contesting from Pabna-4 seat.

Both the candidates are corruption suspects, the Anti Corruption Commission officials informed. The ACC is investigating about allegations of corruption against them, ACC Pabna office sources said.

"The Anti corruption commission has been investigating 6 front ranking political leaders in the district including the district unit presidents of both AL and BNP. As per the ACC order, ACC Pabna office is investigating about allegations against Pabna district AL Shamsur Rahman Sharif Dilu and the president of Pabna district BNP Sirajul Islam Sardar," said Md. Abdul Goffar, the Deputy Director (DD) of ACC, Pabna.

"ACC, Pabna after completing its investigation has sent the report to the Commission early November," the DD of ACC told.

The joint forces had arrested both the leaders on suspicion of corruption on April 10, 2007, sources added. According to the sources, the joint force arrested 9 front ranking politi-



Shamsur Rahman Sharif Sirajul Islam Sardar

cians including them on April 10, 2007. Dilu and Sardar were detained for 30 days in the first phase.

Later Dilu was released after 30 days but Sirajul Islam faced fresh detention. He was detained for 7 months.

From the affidavit given by them it is found that Sirajul Islam Sardar is accused in a case in Telegraph Act while he was acquitted in 3 other cases. Shamsur Rahman Sharif Dilu informed that he was accused in a case in Telegraph Act but was acquitted. He also mentioned that he is not accused in any case now.

According to the affidavit of Sirajul Islam Sardar, it is learnt that a CR case against him under the Telegraph Act is now under trial in Pabna-2 cognizance court. Also he mentioned three other cases in the affidavit and informed that he got acquitted in the cases earlier. One of the cases was under the Emergency Power Rules (EPR) 2007 and another criminal case.

## PABNA-5 CONSTITUENCY

## Maulana Subhan to take most polls expense from party men

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Senior Jamaat leader and four party candidate in Pabna-5 constituency Maulana Abdus Subhan in his nomination paper mentioned that his estimated election expenditure would be Tk 14.5 lakh and that Tk nine lakh would be collected from others while he would spend only Tk one lakh from own source.

Maulana Subhan the affidavit attached to his nomination paper said that his yearly income is Tk 59,000 from his business and agriculture. In

the affidavit he also said he owns two houses.

According to the sources, the nomination paper mentioned that his party would bear Tk 1.5 lakh of his election expenditure. His sons and relatives would contribute Tk 3 lakh to his poll budget. But most of the election expenditure would be borne by different individuals, mostly his party men.

According to the sources, at least Tk 9 lakh of his election expenses would come from the party men. Names of 60 donors were mentioned in the nomination paper, official

sources informed. In the affidavit it was mentioned that he earned Tk 1,59,242 yearly when he was an MP.

In the affidavit Subhan also attached his property statement. The statement showed that he owns 4.6 acres of agricultural land worth about Tk 2,40,000 and a cash of Tk 15,000. His furniture is worth about Tk 10,000. He has a Jeep valued at about Tk 13,10,000.

In the affidavit Maulana Subhan also mentioned that he has two residential houses worth about Tk 12,65,000 and Tk 1,00,000.

## Gaibandha char voters want job, river erosion check

KM REZAUL HOQUE, Gaibandha

Helpless erosion victims of four disaster-prone upazilas of Gaibandha district are reluctant to cast vote this time as commitment to stop widespread erosion by River Jamuna and creating job opportunity for them remained unfulfilled in the past.

"Earlier many of the candidates came before election and sought vote with commitment to change the fate of shoal people. But sorry to say, none of them were available

after the election," said several fishermen who took shelter on Brahmaputra Flood Control Embankment at Baguria in Gaibandha Sadar upazila.

Many other erosion victims who live on the embankment, hardly got any help from lawmakers.

"Even during the disaster period, we never saw any MP beside us," said erosion victim Qudus, now a rickshaw-van puller.

During a visit to the areas, this correspondent saw that many voters, being affected by erosion, took shelter on aban-

doned embankment after erecting makeshift sheds there.

"We are yet to know the MP. We never saw him in the past time. Simply we cast vote as per instruction by local UP member," said Sakhina, a housewife of Kachir Char.

Some other women voters said they could not cast vote as they could not afford the cost for traveling three to five kilometre to reach the polling center.

There is not much work opportunity for landless people in Gaibandha district.

Rangpur Sugar Mills at Mohimaganj in Gobindganj upazila employs a limited number of workers during the crushing season.

A large number of jobless people, mostly farm labourers, landless peasants and marginal farmers, migrate to other places from shoal areas in search of work round the year.

"We shall vote for the candidate who will give us job opportunity so that we need not migrate to other places, leaving the family uncared, said Shamsheer Ali, a farm labourer.

## Prominent among who withdraw

STAR REPORT

A large number candidates, mostly 'rebels' and reformists' of different parties withdrew their nomination papers across the country yesterday, the last date for withdrawal.

Quite a few leaders of Liberal Democratic Party and independent candidates also withdrew their nomination papers.

Among the well-known persons who withdrew are: BNP 'reformist' and former education minister Dr Osman Farruk from Kishoreganj, LDP Secretary General Prof Jahanara Begum from Rajbari, former speaker and LDP candidate Sheikh Razzak Ali from Khulna, former minister and LDP leader Moni Swapan Dewan from Rangamati, BNP reformist Mosharef Hossain Shahjahan from Bhola, Awami League (AL) rebel candidate Panchanan Biswas from Khulna and BNP reformist Mosharraf Hossain Mongu from Barisal.

Jamaat leader Mir Kashem Ali and Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) President Monjurul Ahsan Khan also withdrew their nominations from Dhaka.

**Jamalpur:** Five candidates out of 29 yesterday withdrew their nomination papers in Jamalpur. They include: AL rebel candidate Ishiaque Hossain Didar who submitted nomination as independent candidate in Jamalpur-1, former state minister Maulana M Nurul Islam -- also an independent in Jamalpur-4, and AL rebel and independent candidate Engineer M Mozaffar Hossain.

**Pabna:** Four candidates including two JP and one LDP men withdrew their nomina-

tions in Pubna district. LDP candidate Ismat Jerin Khan withdrew her nomination paper in Pabna-2 constituency (Sujanagar-Bera).

**Rajbari:** Five candidates withdrew their nomination in two constituencies in Rajbari. LDP Secretary General Prof Jahanara Begum withdrew her nominations from both Rajbari-1 and 2 constituencies.

**Rangamati:** Two candidates including LDP leader Moni Swapan Dewan withdrew their nominations.

**Bandarban:** JP nominee Kew Swe Aong withdrew his nomination paper in the seat.

**Khagrachhari:** Four candidates withdrew their nomination papers in Khagrachhari.

**Natore:** Six candidates including leaders of Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh (BDB), Jamaat-e-Islami, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) and independent candidates withdrew their nominations.

**Chandpur:** Nine candidates out of 49 withdrew their nominations in five constituencies in Chandpur district.

**Satkhira:** Three contestants -- one each from AL, BNP and Workers Party -- withdrew their candidature as per party direction. Former AL lawmaker AK Fazlul Haque withdrew his nomination from Satkhira-4 (Shyamnagar and eight unions in Kalganj upazila).

**Faridpur:** Four candidates in Faridpur withdrew their nominations. They are: AL rebel candidate Begum Saleha Mosharraf from Faridpur-4, JP candidate Joyal Abedin Bakul from Faridpur-2, LDP candidate Liakat Hosen Hiru and Tarikat Federation candidate Iqbal Hosen Khan from Faridpur-4.

**Cox's Bazar:** Four candidates including two Jamaat and two BNP rebels withdrew nominations from four constituencies in Cox's Bazar.

**Kurigram:** Seven candidates from all constituencies of Kurigram district withdrew their nomination papers. Of them, three candidates are of AL, one of Khelafat Majlish and three independent. AL leaders Golam Mostafa of Kurigram-1 (Bhurungamari & Nageswari), Jafor Ali of Kurigram-2 (Sadar, Fulbari & three unions of Rajarhat), and Nasima Banu of Kurigram-3 (Ulipur) & four unions of Rajarhat) withdrew their nominations.

**Mymensingh:** 12 persons including Gono Forum, JP, Jamaat, Workers Party and independent candidates withdrew their candidature. Now 61 candidates are running in 11 constituencies of the district.

**Bogra:** Nine candidates including two Jamaat leaders Nazir Ahmed from Bogra-4 and Rostom Ali from Bogra-5 withdrew their nomination papers. Besides, AL reformist candidate Mahmudur Rahman Manna from Bogra-2 (Shibganj) withdrew his nomination papers. Former lawmaker and AL candidate Kamrun Nahar Putul also withdrew her nomination papers for Bogra-7 (Gabtoli) constituency.

**Gopalganj:** JP candidate Gour Chandra Biswas, who filed nomination paper in Gopalganj-3 against AL President Sheikh Hasina, withdrew his nomination.

**Brahmanbaria:** Two candidates out of 43 withdrew their nomination papers. They include JP leader M Amzad Hossain who withdrew his

nomination in Brahmanbaria-6 constituency.

**Chapainawabganj:** Five candidates including Jamaat leader M Nazrul Islam and JP leader Nazrul Islam from Chapainawabganj-1 withdrew their nomination papers.

**Barisal Division:** Nomination papers of 16 candidates were withdrawn in Barisal division including 13 in Barisal, two in Barguna and one in Bhola.

Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon withdrew his nomination in Barisal-2 while independent candidate Mosharraf Hossain Mongu who won four time from BNP withdrew nomination from Barisal-3.

BNP rebel leader Brig Anwar Hossain Chowdhury who submitted as independent withdrew nomination while another BNP rebel and former state minister Mosharef Hossain Shahjahan withdrew his nomination from Bhola-1.

**Thakurgaon:** Seven candidates of different political parties withdrew their candidature. Among them, AL leader Imdadul Haque withdrew his nomination.

**Rajshahi:** At least 13 aspirants withdrew their candidature in six constituencies in Rajshahi. AL leader Prof Abdul Khaleque withdrew confirming the electoral race between grand alliance's Fazole Hossain Badsha and BNP's Mizanur Rahman Minu in Rajshahi-2 constituency.

AL leader Rahenul Haque withdrew in Rajshahi-6 constituency while Jamaat candidates Ataur Rahman and Abdul Ahad withdrew in Rajshahi-2 and Rajshahi-4