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CITY UNIT NOT FORMED YET BNP frustrations mount as DCC elections near

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

Leaders and workers of the city unit of BNP are apparently getting frustrated that the party high command is yet to take any effective initiative about formation of a unit committee while Dhaka City Corporation election is nearing.

They fear that the party might be in rough waters if the DCC election takes place with the city BNP virtually split into two factions led by Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka and former mayor Mirza Abbas.

The BNP leadership could not announce formation of city unit committee in the last two years due to factional feuds within the unit.

Meanwhile, an election commission official said the DCC election might be held within two to three months.

On Thursday, in a joint meeting at the BNP central office party leaders urged the secretary general to announce the city committee without further delay.

In reply Delwar Hossain said they would take decision in this regard soon.

In a related development, the release of Mirza Abbas from jail has also created hopes among many of the party men that the city unit will have a committee now.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia had said earlier the issue would be settled after the release of Mirza Abbas.

A number of DCC ward councillors, who are active in city-based BNP politics, however said it will be tough to contest the election if it is held in December as there have been no

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Kumari Puja at Ram Krishna Mission in the capital was celebrated yesterday as part of Durga Puja, the largest religious festival of the Hindus.

PHOTO: STAR

Kumari Puja celebrated

BSS, Dhaka

Hundreds of Hindu devotees thronged Dhaka Ramkrishna Mission and Dhakeshwari National Temple for Kumari Puja yesterday.

The Goddess Durga is worshipped in various forms during the five-day Sharodiya Durgotsab and one of those forms is Kumari, the virgin form of the deity.

According to Ramkrishna, Divine Mother manifests herself more in Kumari, a pure-hearted girl.

Additional law enforcers have been deployed in all the temples to maintain law and order situation during the festival.

Mahaastami Bihit Puja was held at about 9:00 am at all mandaps (marquees) across the country simultaneously yesterday. Later, Mohaprasad (sweets) along with anjali (flowers) was distributed

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Woman torches herself

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A woman here succumbed to her burn injuries yesterday after she set herself on fire to commit suicide on Thursday.

Deceased Hasina Begum, 35, was the wife of Idu Mia of Munshipara under sadar upazila in the district.

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Housewife murdered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of unknown criminals strangled a housewife at a South Banasree residence of Khilgaon in the capital yesterday evening.

The deceased was identified as Sumi Begum, 38.

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1971 marchers recognised after 39 years

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"It just feels like the 1971," said Mohammad Abdus Samad, one of the 38 men who started marching from West Bengal to Delhi to raise public support for the War of Liberation in Bangladesh.

The Liberation War Museum authorities yesterday accorded a reception to these heroes of war on the museum premises. This league of extraordinary men was comprised of two men from 19 districts of the then East Pakistan, now Bangladesh.

In 39 years, this was the first time that as many as 30 members of the group gathered in one place. Two of the team members could not make it to the reception, as they are ill while six are now abroad.

Carrying a banner that read "Biswa Bibek Jagoron Podojatra" (March for global consciousness) these 38 men started marching from Baharampur of Murshidabad in West Bengal towards the Indian capital of Delhi on October 15, 1971.

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Fire at fertiliser factory

Production stopped
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Urea production in Ashuganj fertiliser factory has been stopped due to a fire caused by a technical glitch in the plant Thursday night.

According to factory sources, the fire broke out when oil and gas came in contact with the overheated engine through a leakage in the compressor tube around 9:00pm.

Fire fighters of the factory snuffed out the fire within a short time preventing damage to the factory, they added.

Md Osman Gani, managing director of the factory, said production will resume within 24 hours.

Engineers and technicians of the factory are working

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MURDERED UPAZILA CHAIRMAN OF NATORE Sanaullah had rivals within, beyond party

M ABUL KALAM AZAD and BULBUL AHMED, from Natore

Unlike other politicians in Boraigram, Sanaullah Noor Babu took up a different approach to become popular. He was aggressive and always tried to remain in the limelight in different ways. Overconfident of not becoming the target of his political rivals, he aimed at becoming a lawmaker in the next election.

All these apparently led to his death.

Investigation reveals Babu was inviting troubles from within and outside the party. He was only 39 but never counted his party seniors, while Awami League did not like his over-enthusiasm in local politics.

Recently, he became very much vocal against drug peddling and the law and order slide in Boraigram.

He arranged the Friday's procession against the consent of his party colleagues and defying AL warning. Babu, chairman of Boraigram upazila and president of Bonpara municipality BNP, led the procession despite potential violence by his rivals.

Babu had good understanding with expelled AL leader Zakir Hossain Zakir and believed that nothing serious would occur.

When the procession neared the AL men, Zakir warned him to leave, but Babu was determined to go, eyewitnesses said.

As the attackers were beating up his followers, Babu approached them and shouted, "Spare my men and beat me if you must."

Locals said Babu had helped Zakir when BNP cadres kidnapped his father Ainal Haq from their Bonpara house and tortured him to death in 2002. Boraigram BNP president Ekramul Alam and the then deputy minister

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OnlinePoll ✓

Do you think action should be taken against AL MP Abdul Qudus for siding the accused in Sanaullah murder case by assuring them of 'trouble-free' future?

Yes (66.5%)
 No (33.0%)
 No comments (0.5%)

Total votes: 825

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think BNP's preparation for tougher agitation to protect Khaleda Zia's cantonment house is justified?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing
October 16

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-50	5-25
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-38	5-41
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

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