

Controversial ex-students contesting JU senate election

Saiful Islam · JU Correspondent

A BUNCH of controversial former students of Jahangirnagar University are contesting the upcoming senate election.

Some of these candidates were convicted on different charges while some were rusticated from the university on charge of sexual harassment.

Mir Mehedi Hasan Titu, a former student of 21st batch of government and politics department, is competing from pro-Awami League panel lead by chemistry professor Sharif Enamul Kabir.

Titu was expelled from the university for two years on charge of assaulting the then assistant professor Rehnuma Ahmed of anthropology department on September 3 in 1999.

He was one the close associates of Manik, a Chhatra League leader who celebrated the century of rape of garment workers and students on the campus.

Manik was expelled following a massive anti-sexual harassment movement by the then university administration for only a year.

Sohel Parvez, another candidate from the panel, was once the president of the uni-

versity BCL committee.

This former economics was arrested with firearms by the Ashulia police on March 10 in 2014, but escaped trial using political links.

He also had allegations in the past of extortion and drug abuse.

International relations department professor Abdullha Hel Kafi, a former history student, who is competing from the another faction of pro-AL panel lead by professor MA Matin, was demoted from the post of associate professor to assistant professor, and was removed from the chairman post of the department for molesta-

tion of one of his female colleagues on 15 April 2010.

Mahmudul Alam Babu, a former student of chemistry department under 21st batch, is now contesting from pro-AL panel lead by MA Matin.

He was expelled from the BCL JU branch for pounding 18 students, who were engaged in anti-sexual harassment movement.

Ziaur Rahman Zia, who took part in the election from a pro-BNP panel lead by former vice-chancellor Khandakar Mustahidur Rahman, was sentenced in jail for seven months over the allegation of vandalism.

Philosophy department's

associate professor Rayhan Rhyne told New Age, 'I think voter will reject these controversial and convicted figures through their ballots.'

'The panel should be more careful to choose their candidates besides the university authority also careful about their nomination,' he added.

JU vice-chancellor Farzana Islam said, 'We have arranged the election after 19 years and that is why we have some limitations. On the other hand, we have no code of conduct for contesting elections. We will try to overcome these limitations in future elections.'