

21 Points Agenda by United Front.

The **United Front** was framed on December 4th, 1953, it was a political alliance of 4 major of political parties in East Bengal which contested the Provincial Election. The Alliance consisted of Awami Muslim League, Krishak Praja Party, Ganatantri Dal (Democratic Party) and Nazam-e-Islam. United Front was led by three major Bengali leaders; A K Fazlul Haq, H. S. Suhrawardy and Maulana Bhashani. The election resulted in a crushing defeat for the Muslim League. United Front score victory and gaining 223 Seats in the 309 Member Assembly. The Awami League emerged as the majority party, with 143 Seats. A. K. Fazlul Haq of the Krishak Praja Party (KPP) became Chief Minister in East Pakistan.

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UF an alliance of the opposition political parties, to contest elections of the East Bengal Legislative Assembly in 1954 against the then party in power, Muslim league. The United Front was composed of four political parties of East Bengal;

1. **Awami Muslim League.**
2. **Krishak Sramik Party.**
3. **Nazam-e-Islam.**
4. **Ganatantri Dal.**

The United Front was formed on December 4th, 1953 by the initiative of AK Fazlul Haq of Krishak Sramik Party, Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani and Mr. H.S. Suhrawardy of Awami Muslim League. It was the manifesto adopted by the United Front:

1. **To adopt Bangle as the State Languages of Pakistan.**
2. **To abolish without compensation Zamindari and all rent receiving interest in land, and to distribute the surplus lands amongst the cultivators; to reduce rent to a fair level and abolish the certificate system of realizing rent;**
3. **Nationalize the Jute trade and bring it under the direct control of the**

- government of East Bengal, secure fair price of Jute to the growers and to investigate into the Jute-bungling during the Muslim League regime to punish those found responsible for it;
4. To introduce co-operative farming in agriculture and to develop cottage industries with full government subsidies;
 5. To start salt industry (both small and large scale) to make East Bengal self-sufficient in the supply of salt, and to investigate into the salt-bungling during the Muslim League regime to punish the offenders;
 6. To rehabilitate immediately all the poor refugees belonging to the artisan and technician class;
 7. To protect the country from flood and famine by means of digging canals and improving irrigation system;
 8. To make the country self-sufficient by modernizing the method of cultivation and industrialization, and to ensure the rights of the laborers as per ILO Convention;
 9. To introduce free and compulsory primary education throughout the country and to arrange for just pay and allowances to the teachers;
 10. To restructure the entire education system, introduce mother tongue as the medium of instruction, remove discrimination between government and private schools and to turn all the schools into government aided institutions;
 11. To repeal all reactionary laws including those of the Dhaka and Rajshahi Universities and to make them autonomous institutions; to make education cheaper and easily available to the people;
 12. To curtail the cost of Administration and to rationalize the pay scale of high and low paid government servants. The ministers shall not receive more than 1000 taka as monthly salary.
 13. To take steps to eradicate corruption, nepotism and bribery, and with this end in view, to take stocks of the properties of all government officers and businessmen

from 1940 onward and forfeit all properties the acquisition of which is not satisfactorily accounted for.

14. To repeal all Safety and Preventive Detention Acts and release all prisoners detained without trial, and try in open court persons involved in anti-state activities; to safeguard the rights of the press and of holding meetings;
15. To separate the judiciary from the executive.
16. To locate the residence of the chief minister of the United Front at a less costly house, and to convert Burdwan House into a student's hostel now, and later, into an institute for research on Bangla language and literature.
17. To erect a monument in memory of the martyrs of the Language Movement on the spot where they were shot dead, and to pay compensation to the families of the Martyrs.
18. February 21st would declare as "Shaheed Day."
19. Lahore Resolution proposed full autonomy of East Bengal leaving Defense, Foreign Affairs and currency under the central government. In the matter of defense, arrangements shall be made to set the headquarters of the army in West Pakistan and the naval headquarters in East Bengal and to establish ordnance factories in East Bengal, and to transform Ansar force into a full-fledged militia equipped with arms.
20. The United Front Ministry shall on no account extend the tenure of the Legislature and shall resign six months before the general elections to facilitate free and fair elections under an Election Commission.
21. All casual vacancies in the Legislature shall be filled up through by-elections within three months of the vacancies, and if the nominees of the Front are defeated in three successive by-elections, ministry shall resign from office.