





'Patience test' for govt jobseekers

PSC fails to publish results of 38th BCS in over 3 years; candidates frustrated with process; experts call for reforms

SHARIFUL HASAN writes for The Daily Star

More than three years have passed and the Public Service Commission (PSC) is yet to announce the final result of the 38th BCS exams, testing the patience of over nine thousand university graduates to the limit.

The frustration over the lengthy recruitment procedure of the attractive public cadre service jobs were quite evident among the aspiring candidates. A graduate from Department of Social Welfare at Dhaka University, who appeared in the 38th BCS exams, summed it up precisely.

"Universities once had awful session jams. Now there is no such thing, and we are graduating in four years. But then it takes three to five years just to get a job. It's unbelievable... a waste of youthful energy. Nobody is thinking how to resolve this."

The process for the 38th BCS started following a Ministry of Public Administration requisition to the PSC on March 5, 2017 for the recruitment of 2,024 cadre officers.

The preliminary exam of the 38th BCS involving over 3.5 lakh candidates was held on December 29, 2017. The preliminary exam results were published on February 18, 2018 with 16 thousand passing it.

The written tests ended on August 13, 2018 and the results were published on July 1, 2019, setting a record for delaying. The PCS then took viva tests of over nine thousand candidates until February this year.

Contacted, PSC chairman Mohammad Sadiq said, "We were taking preparations to publish the results by the end of March or the first week of April. But the coronavirus has changed everything. We are really helpless."

The PSC members are retired government secretaries or additional

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



FIGHTING CANCER, COVID-19 FEAR

An anxious father from Cox's Bazar carrying his cancer patient daughter to the BSMMU's fever clinic to have her tested for Covid-19 yesterday for the third time. She was discharged from the hospital on Tuesday as two other patients in her ward tested positive.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Biman offers charter flights

Makes first ever move in domestic market as passengers keep away

RASHIDUL HASAN

Biman has now begun offering chartered flights on domestic routes due to frequent cancellations of all scheduled passenger flights over the last four days.

Tahera Khandakar, Biman's deputy general manager (public relations), in a Whatsapp message said, "Biman Bangladesh Airlines is offering charter flights to domestic destinations for family trips at a cost between Tk three lakh and Tk five lakh depending on the distance and five hours ground time. For extra time, extra charges are applicable."

This is the first time in Biman's history that the national flag carrier offered chartered flights on domestic routes following frequent cancellations of flights on domestic routes, sources in Biman said.

Speaking to The Daily Star, a senior official of the airliner said a special chartered flight is a flight operated by an air operator on special demand for a certain destination, and this flight is not part of the airline's regular flight.

Tahera Khandakar told The Daily Star that any people will be able to charter Biman's aircraft for five hours for a short trip from Dhaka to any of the other seven airports in

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Press freedom violations worrying

5 bodies criticise actions against journos in letter to Hasina

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The heads of five international and domestic organisations published an open letter to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, decrying her government's "repression of the freedom of press".

The letter was signed by the chiefs

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Lockdowns, curfews in LatAm

Brazil, Mexico see record deaths; life in Europe slowly returning to normal

AGENCIES

Brazil and Mexico reported record daily coronavirus death tolls as governments in Latin America battled to fortify their defences against the pandemic with fresh lockdown orders and curfews.

In Europe where countries have been emerging from lockdowns, the European Central Bank was expected to beef up its plans to help virus-battered economies and Britain was hosting a summit to raise funds for a global vaccine alliance.

But as European countries moved to reopen their borders, South and Central America cemented

their places as the new hotspots in the pandemic, while Iran -- the hardest-hit country in the Middle East -- announced a surge in infections.

Mexico on Wednesday announced more than 1,000 coronavirus deaths in a day for the first time, while Brazil, the region's worst-hit country, reported a record 1,349 daily deaths.

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro has staunchly opposed lockdowns but many local authorities have defied him and, with the crisis deepening, a vast section of Bahia state was placed under curfew.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

8 foreign ministry officials suspended



Bangabandhu speaking at the reception programme organised in the honour of British MP John Stonehouse on June 4, 1972.

June 5, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

BANGABANDHU VISITS EMERGENCY CONTROL ROOM

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman today visits the emergency control room established to monitor food prices and distribution of food aid across the country. He enquires about the food situation of the country and checks the price list of various essential commodities.

CLEANSING OPERATION BEGINS

The government has suspended eight officials of the foreign ministry, including an ambassador and a minister (diplomatic). These officials actively participated in anti-Bangladeshi propaganda during the Liberation War. Bangabandhu today signs their

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Runaway bus runs over 2 at Bangla Motor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three people, including a policeman, were killed and four others were injured in two road accidents in the capital's Bangla Motor area and Narayanganj yesterday.

In Bangla Motor, two pedestrians were killed and a motorcyclist was injured when a bus of Bihanga Paribahan hit them around 11:30am, said sub-inspector Aminul Islam of Shabbagh Police Station.

The deceased were Maksudur Rahman, 42, a private job holder, and Belayet, 52, a small trader.

The injured, Jakir Hossain, 45, was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Police seized the bus and detained its driver Zafor

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3



PRAYER TIMING JUNE 5

Fazr	Juma	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4-05	12-15	5-00	6-45	8-15
JAMAAT 4-40	1-15	5-15	6-50	8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A pair of Indian Spot-Billed Duck was recently found floating around in the Jamuna near Kazlar Char area of Bogura's Sariakandi upazila.




PHOTO: MOSTAFA SHABUZ

United Hospital sued over May 27 fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A case has been filed against the United Hospital authorities and some staffers over the May 27 fire that killed five patients at the hospital's corona isolation unit.

Ronald Ricky Gomez, son-in-law of Vernon Anthony Paul, one of the five patients, filed the case with Gulshan Police Station on Wednesday night, said SM Kamruzzaman, officer-in-

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Few among us are able to transcend the gift of life on earth.
Mrs. Niloufer Manzur is one such rare being.

Through her life's dedication, Sunbeams, Mrs. Niloufer Manzur enlightened and touched the hearts of generations of students, their guardians, teachers, colleagues, friends and family. Like a tree that provides shade to travelers, both new and old, she was a protector, a mother figure to many. Since her final journey, we have witnessed an unprecedented outpouring of emotions that speaks volumes to the testament of this remarkable person. At the same time, we must remember to celebrate her life and strive to emulate her ideals.

We pray to the Divine to give strength and comfort to Mrs. Niloufer Manzur's life-long partner Apex Chairman Mr. Syed Manzur Elahi, son Syed Nasim Manzur, daughter Munize Manzur, daughter-in-law Samia Huq and her six grandchildren.

We will remain ever-grateful for her contributions to education, to society, to nation building.

With the deepest respects.
The Apex Family

