

# Hectic activities by MP nomination seekers Nilphamari AL divided

From EAM Asaduzzaman

NILPHAMARI, Oct 21: In the wake of parliament election next year, hectic activities within the main political parties gain momentum for party ticket amidst inter-group rivalry.

Different aspirant leaders for party ticket are heading individual groups in the same procession. In the race of rivalry within the party, ruling Awami League (AL) is leading over other major political parties. District AL is openly divided in two factions on MP nomination. The division may turn violent any time as both factions, one headed by District AL General Secretary Joyal Abedin and the other under leadership of TV actor cum recently turned politician Asaduzzaman Noor are confronting each other face to face. No one seems to be weaker than the other in the show of strength. In spite of directive of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to both groups to work unitedly, there has already been incidents of sporadic clashes between the two groups.

Prime Minister came to Nilphamari on September 24 last. Joyal Abedin General Secretary (GS) of now defunct District Committee who defected to AL during BNP rule put the party in strong footing in Nilphamari, where AL was weak organisationally after the killing of late Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on August 15, 1975. It never posed any threat to the then ruling BNP and JP. It is only in last parliamentary election, he put up a tough fight with JP and was defeated only by small margin. Abedin is a strong contender of AL ticket in the forthcoming election.

On the other hand, TV actor Asaduzzaman Noor who has link with AL top leadership through his association with "Sammilita Shangkritik Jote" formally joined AL after it came to power in 1996. Local veteran Awami Leaguers, who were kept isolated from the party by Joyal rendered their support to Noor. With support of veteran Awami Leaguers and by dint of his capability, Noor has been able to strengthen his position within the party.

Moreover, his connection with central top leadership has given him a firm base in the Party. Making best use of this opportunity, he has already contributed significantly in many development activities of the district. His presence in different popular TV serials has also been key to his massive popularity among the teenagers. Apparently, although

Noor appears to be a new entrant to District AL, but as a matter of fact, he was involved in active student politics in mid-sixties, when he was the General Secretary of Nilphamari College Student's Union as nominee of the then EPSU.

Although he was away from Nilphamari for over 25 years, yet through his charisma as a popular TV personality, he has been able to attract support from the younger section in particular. His supporters are more or less sure that his nomination as AL candidate is guaranteed.

However, political observers still believe that Joyal is no less stronger than Noor among the party cadres and later will face a tough resistance within the party from Joyal's supporters for nomination as well as in election.

In last parliamentary election, JP captured this seat. But subsequently local JP MP defected to JP (MM) group. Although the main stream JP has popular support in the area, but its organisational structure is extremely weak. However, as the election comes nearer, its leaders are gradually becoming active. Some new faces like Anisur Rahman Coco, ex-MP A Sattar and ex-Whip Ershad Government Nurannabi Chand a re-entrant to JP from BNP in which ticket he contested in last poll are the main aspirants for JP ticket. Due to organisational weakness, Ershad's popularity which declined in last six months has regained people's sympathy here recently. To bank on the sympathy votes, aspirants are more keen to attract Ershad's support instead of party activities.

Organisationally, although BNP is in strong position here with its youth front leader Alamgir Sarkar's massive organisational qualities, but like other areas of Greater Rangpur, it's public support does not seem to be challenge for others. Authoritative sources believe in this seat Alamgir Sarkar will get BNP ticket.

Jamaat-e-Islami under the leadership of Advocate Abdul Latif and its disciplined cadres have substantial support in this electorate. It is likely that either Latif or Moniruzzaman Montu may get Jamaat ticket in this seat. Although in last parliamentary elections, AL JP and Jamaat were the main contestants, but if the 4-party alliance puts up a single candidate, it would pose a real challenge to the ruling Awami League.

# Vested Property Act now talk of town in northern region

From Anwar Ali

NATORE, Oct 21: The property of Hindu community dispossessed under the Vested Property Act (VPA) in northern Bangladesh are mostly occupied by vested groups including local influential persons.

A highly placed government official, insisting on anonymity told The Daily Star that always the illegal occupants belong to the contemporary ruling party.

He said, most of the occupants of vested property had no legal documents of ownership or any lease contacts with the government.

The affiliation of the beneficiaries with the power-parties is evident as they need dodging the administrative harassments for occupying property left by the Hindus during wartime.

The issue of the VPA has now become talk of many towns in this region as Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's cabinet, on September 3 decided in principle to return all lands under VPA to their original owners after long 35 years of state acquisition. The government decision will pave the way for the owners or their successors to repossess the abandoned lands.

The vested properties are supposed to be occupied by either government or other people through leasing because of the VPA. But in reality many of the cases are different.

In the northern Bangladesh, there are as high as 1,22,534 acres of land listed as vested property (VP).

Out of the total, 98,376 acres of VP are occupied by the government and 24,158.30 acres of land have been leased out to others.

The government had fixed a yearly revenue income of Tk 5.25 crore from these VP. But during the 1996-97 fiscal, the government managed to collect not more than Tk 88 lakh at a rate of 16.61

percent. There are as much as 3,587 buildings as vested property in this region.

Of the total buildings, 2,310 are leased out and Tk 1,09,06,893 were likely to come from the leasing. But the authority could not collect more than Tk 44,80,320 during the 1996-97 fiscal at a rate of 41 percent.

There are also 480 commercial estates in the northern region under VPA. Of these, 287 are sold out among public at a cost of Tk 1,12,38,165 and more than 100 commercial establishments have been leased.

Besides, there are about 900 acres of arable and 154 acres of uncultivable land in this region under VPA.

In 1965, the then Pakistan government had declared the property of those who left the country as "enemy property". Four years later, the then government promulgated an ordinance to this effect.

Following the Indo-Pak war in 1965, a large number of people of the Hindu community left the country for India. Some of them returned later while some other were still living there permanently.

Later in 1974, the Bangladesh government amended the Enemy Property Ordinance, 1969 into "Vested Property Act". This time, the landed property of Biharis, who opted for Pakistan, also got same status.

Mistakes were committed in enlisting properties as enemy or vested property, while in many other cases, properties were listed as enemy property which were earlier sold to Muslims by the original Hindu owners.

Besides, it was alleged, many property of Hindus, who were staying in the country, were confiscated under VPA. A recent

study say, only five per cent Hindus left the country for India during the 1965 war.

The VP issue has now become complex and it might spark disputes and complications because of people's ignorance, defective rules and due to lack of authentic guideline on the part of government.

A committee was formed in 1993 to study the VP for removing various irregularities. But, the work never came out to light.

Despite demand for return of the assets, no government took responsibility of handing over property worth millions of taka to their real owners.

Moreover, local influential people were engaged in grabbing the property, in connivance with the Tahsil and Upazila Revenue officers.

Recently, the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's cabinet took the major decision and formed a cabinet committee to formulate a draft law for restoration of ownership of the vested property.

## Teen raped

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Oct 21: A teenager was allegedly raped by a miscreant at village Uttar Kochua under Saikupa upazila in the district on Monday last, according to police sources.

The miscreant, Khairul Islam, forcibly took her to a banana field and raped her when the 15-year-old girl was returning home after feeding her father at about 11 am on the fateful day.

Later, guardian of the victim filed a case with Cognignence Magistrate of Jhenidah "Ka" region in this connection, but the miscreant is yet to be arrested.

## IU to introduce Bangabandhu Chair

From IU Correspondent

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY, Oct 21: Islamic University (IU) authority has decided to introduce Bangabandhu Chair in the campus. The decision was taken at the 61st meeting of IU academic council on Monday last. Vice Chancellor Prof Kayes Uddin presided.

Chairman of Bangla Language and Literature, and the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Science Dr. Abul Ahsan Chowdhury was the first to propose for introducing the chair in Bangla Department. In the meeting, all the members of the academic council agreed to establish the chair.

Necessary steps will be taken to set up the chair after its approval in the next Senate meeting.

## One killed in BCL factional clash in Barisal

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Oct 21: One person was killed and at least 25 others were wounded in a series of clashes between two factions of BCL at Kashba in Gournadi upazila on Monday night.

The dead was identified as Nasir Fakir, 22, and injured Zakir and Churnu were arrested and sent to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital under police custody.

Witnesses said the clash ensued between the two groups following previous rivalry one led by poura convener of BCL Bakhtiar and the other by BCL Gournadi thana vice president Majibar Rahaman.

Several bombs were exploded and both the groups traded gunshots during the clash today. House of Al Amin of Bakhtiar group at Kashba has been damaged and ransacked by the rivals.

Police rushed to the spot, dispersed the warring groups and recovered more than 100 live bombs from the spot.

Tense situation was mounting in the area.

## School teacher dead

From Our Correspondent

KAPASHAHI, Oct 21: A teacher of Kapasha High School in Poba upazila died of heart failure as he felt aggrieved after hearing about the newly introduced rule of the Ministry of Education recently.

School sources said, Azibur Rahman, 30, an Assistant Teacher of the institution, was delivering class lecture and then some students asked him what he would do as his service would be discontinued under the new rule. The teacher was shocked at the query and died of heart attack at once in the classroom.

According to one of the new rules, a teacher having third division at any level will not be included for Monthly Payment Order (MPO). Rahman had a third division who was waiting for being included in MPO.

## Seminar

From Our Correspondent

MOULVIBAZAR, Oct 21: A day-long seminar on "Saturation of Human Rights in Trade Union Movement" was held at training centre of Bangladesh Water Development Board office here recently.

The seminar was organised by Moulvibazar unit of Bangladesh Workers' Forum for Human Rights (BWFHR) in association with Para Legal Training Services Centre (PLTSC).

Opening session of the seminar was presided over by Abu Taher, an employee of Pubal Bank and a trade union activist. Sunil Baran Dev Roy, executive Engineer of Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) Moulvibazar, attended it as chief guest while Md Ruhul Islam, co-ordinator of PLTSC, was present as special guest.

Among others, Rudraji Chakraverty, Deb Sunil Krishna Sarker, Syed Ali took part in the discussion.

# Magura flood victims passing hard days

From Hossain Seraj

MAGURA, Oct 21: At least 60 thousand people in Sadar and Shalikh upazila have been affected by the recent flood.

Flood waters entered in 11 unions of the two upazilas, according to the district Relief and Rehabilitation office, about 109 square kilometres area in the unions have been submerged in flood waters affecting some 58,563 people of 14,440 families and damaging standing crops on 21,341 acres of land.

A large number of people in the flood affected area have become shelterless, as 2,500 houses destroyed completely, 125 kms of kutcha and 13 kms of pucca roads in Sadar and 50 kms of kutcha, 10 kms of pucca roads in Shalikh upazila were damaged completely. Recent flood also destroyed 71 culverts and 81 educational institutions in Magura Sadar upazila.

Amuria village in sadar upazila was the worst affected area. While visiting the area, this correspondent saw that the marooned people still passing very hard days. Relief materials supplied were not sufficient.

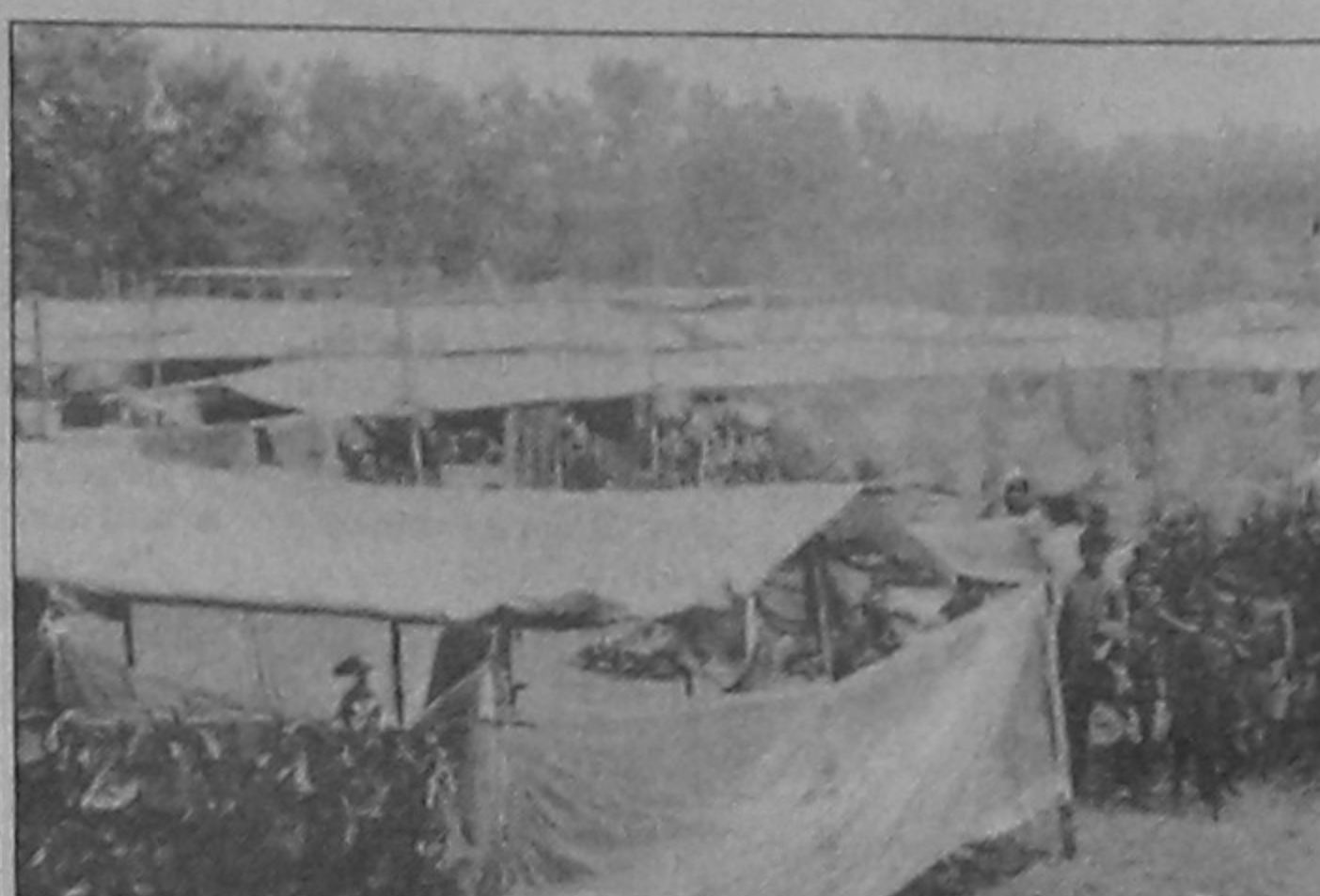
"We received only 5 kg of rice as relief from the local administration, said Chand Ali Shikder of village Amuria.

Meanwhile, diarrhoea has already broken out in the flood affected area. At least 105 patients were admitted to Magura sadar hospital till filing of this report.

Magura District Relief and Rehabilitation office said that the district administration distributed 15 metric tons of rice among the flood victims till October 17.

Besides, local political organisation also did some relief works, the affected people said.

# News snaps



About 600 flood affected people had taken shelter at Jalipur madrasa relief camp in Mohespur upazila under Jhenidah district. Now they are passing very hard days there. —Star photo

## Vacancy

MADARIPUR, Oct 21: Eight posts of physicians have been lying vacant since long at Sadar Hospital depriving the patients of proper treatment, reports UNB.

Hospital sources said the treatment is being hampered seriously as the posts of senior medical consultant, surgery consultant, radiologist, junior consultant (anesthesia), a medical officer and three posts of EMO remained vacant. Patients also alleged that the hospital lacks necessary medicine including life saving drugs causing untold suffering to them. They said they are forced to buy the medicine from outside at high prices. Local people urged the concerned authority to fill up the vacant posts of the hospital without further delay and ensure supply of necessary medicine.

## New cement factory

MUNSHIGANJ, Oct 21: Another cement factory went into production in the country Friday, reports UNB.

M 1 Cement Factory Ltd will produce 600 metric tons of cement per day with the brand name "Crown Cement." About 500 people got employment opportunity in the factory, set up using modern technology, at West Mukhtarpur in the district. A milad mahfil was held marking the inauguration of the factory.

## Relief distributed

JESSORE, Oct 21: Director General of Bangladesh Rifles Maj Gen Alam Fazur Rahman on Sunday visited various flood-affected areas in Jessore and Sathkira districts, reports UNB.

He also distributed relief materials including rice, sugar, banana, hotchpotch and necessary medicines among the flood victims.

## Man stabbed to death

HABIGANJ, Oct 21: A man was stabbed to death in Nabiganj upazila on Thursday following a previous enmity, reports UNB.

Police said a gang of assailants in the guise of friends called out Majlish Mia, 45, from his hotel room and took him to nearby Osmani road and stabbed him indiscriminately. He died on way to hospital. The body was sent to morgue for autopsy. Police arrested Sohel Miah, a local businessman, in connection with the murder.

## Sexagenarian killed

THAKURGAON, Oct 21: A sexagenarian umbrella repairer was killed and two others were injured when a big branch of an old Banyan tree suddenly fell on them in the court compound here on Saturday, reports UNB.

The dead was identified as Hamidul, 60, of village Akcha in Sadar upazila. Injured Milon Sheikh, 40, and Dilip Biswas, 60, were admitted to Rangpur Medical College Hospital in critical condition. After the incident agitated people set fire on two trees, which have already died but the authorities failed to take any decision of felling those. They also resisted firefighters in extinguishing the fire.

## Murderer convicted

NAOGAON, Oct 21: A court here on Thursday awarded a man life imprisonment for killing a school student, reports UNB.

The convict was identified as Jahangir of Horipur village in Sadar upazila. The court, however, acquitted eight others, including Bokhtiarpur union parishad chairman AKM Fazul Huq Chowdhury, from the case. The prosecution in brief was that Sohel, son of Adv Golam Rasul, was killed on April 27, 1997. The father of the deceased filed a case accusing 9 people. After examining the witnesses and evidences, the court handed down the verdict on Wednesday.

## Phensidyl seized

COMILLA, Oct 21: Police in separate drives seized narcotics worth about Tk 12.36 lakh and arrested three people in this connection recently, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip-off, plainclothes police raided Jagannathpur area in Sadar upazila Sunday and arrested Mokbul Hossain Khan, M Faruq and Duke along with 1,235 bottles of phensidyl. In another drive in Brahmanpara upazila Saturday, they seized 100 bottles of phensidyl and 65 bottles of wine. Earlier on Oct 5, police recovered 55 cans of beer and 12 bottles of phensidyl from Padua Bazar rail line area. They also recovered 40 bottles of phensidyl in another drive on Oct 3 from Padua Bazar bypass. Yet in another raids, police recovered 140 kgs of Indian sugar from Brahmanpara while 400 kgs from Laksam road on Oct 7. Separate cases were filed.

## 17 uplift projects implemented

KHAGRACHHARI, Oct 21: Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board is implementing 17 development projects in the three hill districts, involving Tk 58.91 crore, reports UNB.

Meanwhile, nine of the projects, mainly in the fields of education, health and infrastructure development, have been implemented at a cost of Tk 5.99 crore. Of the amount, Tk 5 crore was spent for the construction of the 9-km Taindong-Tabachhari road. The project works also include construction of a hostel, three school buildings and a link road, and installation of ring-wells and tubewells. Works on these projects are progressing well, officials said.

## Sanction

BARGUNA, Oct 21: Government has sanctioned Tk 53.10 lakh from Annual Development Programme for Amtali Municipality to implement its 38 development projects, reports UNB.

The projects include road carpeting, construction of drain, bridge, culvert and roads. Officials sources said 80 per cent of the works has already been completed while the rest is likely to be completed by the next month.



Innocent faces: Right to play is a basic right of all children. But the recreational facilities are limited in a district town like Sirajganj. So where do the children go? Photo shows some poor children enjoying the game of fishing by making the most of rain waters accumulated in a ditch situated at the western side of Sirajganj Circuit House. They also earn some money by selling fish.

—Star photo by Akhteruzzaman Bablu

**রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়**  
ভর্তি পরীক্ষা বিজ্ঞপ্তি  
১ম বর্ষ স্নাতক সম্মান  
শিক্ষাবর্ষ ২০০০-২০০১

নং এ ১৭৩৮-৪-২/২০০০-২০০১ তারিখ ১৮.১০.২০০০

সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ সকলের অবগতি ও কার্যকরিতার জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ২০০০-২০০১ শিক্ষাবর্ষে ১ম বর্ষ সম্মান কোর্সের ভর্তি পরীক্ষা নিম্নরূপ পুনঃসংশোধিত সময়সূচি অনুযায়ী অনুষ্ঠিত হবে-

| তারিখ      | সকাল ৯টা-১১টা                        | দুপুর ১২টা-২টা                          | বিকাল ৩টা-৫টা                                                        |
|------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ৫.১১.২০০০  | হিসাব বিজ্ঞান                        | বাংলা                                   | ফার্মাসি ও ব্যায়কিং                                                 |
| ৬.১১.২০০০  | মার্কেটিং                            | ইংরেজি                                  | ব্যবস্থাপনা                                                          |
| ৭.১১.২০০০  | সমাজবিজ্ঞান                          | রাষ্ট্রবিজ্ঞান                          | সমাজকর্ম                                                             |
| ৮.১১.২০০০  | অর্থনীতি                             | লোক প্রশাসন                             | নৃ-বিজ্ঞান                                                           |
| ৯.১১.২০০০  | গ্রন্থাগার ও তথ্যবিজ্ঞান             | আইন                                     | গণযোগাযোগ                                                            |
| ১০.১১.২০০০ | ইতিহাস                               | X                                       | ইসলামের ইতিহাস ও সংস্কৃতি                                            |
| ১১.১১.২০০০ | ইসলামিক স্টাডিজ                      | মানববিজ্ঞান                             | ভূগোল ও পরিবেশবিদ্যা                                                 |
| ১৩.১১.২০০০ | ১. পদার্থ বিজ্ঞান<br>২. আদিবি        | ১. দর্শন<br>২. কমিউনিকেশন টেকনোলজি      | ১. গণিত<br>২. ফোকলোর                                                 |
| ১৪.১১.২০০০ | রসায়ন                               | পপু. সায়েন্স ও হিউ. রিসোর্স ডেভ        | ১. ফিলজি পদার্থ বিজ্ঞান ও ইলেক.<br>২. মিউজিক এন্ড ড্রামাটিস-নাট্যকলা |
| ১৫.১১.২০০০ | ফিলজি রসায়ন ও রাসা, প্রযুক্তিবিদ্যা | ১. জেনেটিক্স ও ব্রিডিং<br>২. উর্দু      | ১. পরিসংখ্যান<br>২. মিউজিক এন্ড ড্রামাটিস-কন্সার্বাট                 |
| ১৬.১১.২০০০ | প্রাণ রসায়ন                         | ১. স্ব-স্বত্ব ও খনিবিদ্যা<br>২. সংস্কৃত | ১. ফিসারিজ এন্ড এগ্রিকোলচার<br>২. চাকরকলা                            |
| ১৭.১১.২০০০ | ১. প্রাণবিদ্যা<br>২. ফার্মি          | X                                       | উদ্ভিদবিজ্ঞান                                                        |
| ১৮.১১.২০০০ | এন্টোমোলজি ও এগ্রি. এঞ্জিনিয়ারিং    | ফার্মেসী                                | কম্পিউটার সায়েন্স এন্ড টেক.                                         |

\* চাকরকলা বিষয়ের জন্য সময়কাল ৩ ঘণ্টা এবং বিকাল ৩টা-৫টা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।  
\* জুনের ৯টা-১১টা ও ৩টা-৫টা দু'শিফটে পরীক্ষা হবে। ১২টা-২টা পরীক্ষা হবে না।  
\* নভেম্বর ১২ তারিখে কোন পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে না।  
বিঃ দ্রঃ ভর্তি পরীক্ষাসহ ভর্তি সনাক্তকৃত যাত্রীদের বিহার/তথ্যাদি সংক্রান্ত বিভাগ থেকে ছাত্র/ছাত্রীকে নিজ দায়িত্বে জেনে নিতে হবে।

আদেশক্রমে  
রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়