



PHOTO: STAR
The Hindus celebrate Kumari puja, worshipping of the virgin, at Ramkrishna Mission Puja Mandap in the city yesterday.

BAD PERFORMANCE IN PUBLIC EXAMS

Lack of proper lessons responsible: Dr Farruk

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Dr M Osman Farruk yesterday brushed aside the allegation that inadequate allocation is responsible for bad performance in public examinations.

"There is no relationship between salary and result in public examinations," the minister said at a workshop.

The workshop on 'Results of public examination and allocation of MPO' was organised by the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Secondary Examination at Dhaka Teachers' Training College in the city.

The minister said none passed in Alim and Dakhil examinations from some 242 madrasas while many other educational institutions, which receive similar allocations, performed well.

It proves that there is no relationship between salary and good result in public examinations, he added.

The minister said the reason behind the bad performance is the problem in imparting proper lesson and bad management of educational institutions.

He said the teachers could improve the performance of their educational institutions in public examination only by following code of ethics and not through the

enhancement of salary and allowances by the government.

"Follow self-discipline to improve the performance of your educational institutions," the minister urged the teachers.

Farruk said a huge chunk of education budget amounting to about Tk 2,500 crore is gobbled up by teachers as salary and infrastructure development.

Earlier, Mohammad Selim Bhuiyan, member secretary of Non-government Educational Institution Teachers Employees Welfare Trust, alleged that inadequate salary and allowance are responsible for bad performance in public examination.

In his keynote paper, Bhuiyan said poor salary structure failed to attract meritorious and competent candidates in teaching profession causing a nosedive in standard of education.

Education Secretary Faruq Ahmad Siddique said the government is contemplating to take stern action against non-performing educational institutions.

"We are not in favour of shutting down those, but we are finding ways and means to improve their performance", he added.

Presided over by Director General of the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Prof Mohammad

Junaid, the workshop was participated by chairmen of different education boards and teachers' representatives.

Pro-govt lawyers threaten to resist court boycott

BSS, Dhaka

Speakers at an emergency meeting of the Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Oikya Parishad yesterday condemned the chief justice's court boycott programme of pro-Awami League lawyers.

The boycott programme will be resisted with the help of general lawyers if it continues till October 24, the day on which Supreme Court will resume after vacation period.

The meeting was addressed by Mahbubur Rahman MP, Advocate Golam Arshad, Advocate Golam Kibria, Advocate Helal Uddin Mollah, Advocate Md Shahajada and Advocate Tajul Islam.

Massive changes in DU admission procedure

DU CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka University (DU) authorities have brought massive changes in admission procedure including separate admission test for each faculty, curtailing of one number against four mistakes in Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) system and cancellation of player quota.

The General Admission Committee of the university took the decisions at a meeting yesterday with Vice-chancellor Prof SMA Faiz in the chair.

The VC told The Daily Star that they have cancelled the player quota as genuine players are not available.

Social Science Faculty Dean Prof Harun-or-Rashid told this correspondent that the science student could sit for the admission test of all the five units.

He said a committee has been formed with Pro-Vice-chancellor Prof AFM Yusuf Haider to examine the admission procedure for the next year.

Distribution and submission of forms for first year honours classes under different faculties in 2004-05 academic session will begin from November 27 and continue till December 13.

The admission test will begin on December 31.

Admission forms for over 4,500 seats under five units will be sold from the different banks of university branches at Tk 250 each and have to be submitted to the respective faculty offices within the stipulated time.

Admission forms of Kha (arts group) and Gha (social science group) units will be sold from Janata Bank of TSC Branch, Ka (Science group) and Umo (law group) units

from Agrani Bank of Curzon Hall Branch and Ga (commerce group) unit from Sonali Bank of Administrative Building Branch.

The admission tests of Ka unit will be held on January 4, Kha unit on January 14, Ga unit on December 31, Gha unit on February 11 and Umo unit on January 7.

As per the new decision, the Gha unit will not be the combined unit this year.

Only the students willing to get admission under the social science faculty will sit for Gha unit examination.

Meanwhile, the Institute of Social Welfare and Research will conduct separate examinations for the admission of honours students.

Examinees, who passed the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinations in 2003 and 2004 can sit for the admission test.

Students who have obtained GPA 6 in SSC and HSC examina-

tions excluding the marks of fourth subject will be eligible to apply in Kha, Ga, Gha and Umo units while to apply for Ka unit, they will have to get GPA 7.

Students who have passed O-Level examination in at least five subjects and A-Level examination in two subjects in 2003 or 2004 can also apply for admission, and among the seven subjects, they require at least 'B' grade in three subjects, 'C' grade in three subjects and 'D' in one subject.

The students will have to answer 120 MCQ questions and one have to get minimum 40 marks to pass.

Under the new system, 15 per cent of the SSC grade and 25 per cent of the HSC grade will be added to the marks obtained in the admission test.

'Monga takes serious turn in northern region'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a press conference yesterday said Monga, a famine-like situation, is once again taking a serious turn in the northern region due to recent floods, abnormal price hike of essentials and the government's indifference.

They warned that the ongoing Monga will claim a number of lives if the government does not take proper measures to combat it immediately.

The press conference was organised by Khetmajur Samity, a forum of farm labourers, at Purana Paltan in the city.

The speakers urged the government to fulfill their ten-point demand that include food for work programme for the solution of Monga.

Quoting a daily newspaper, General Secretary of Khetmajur Samity Advocate Sohel Ahmed said three people had already died of diseases related to Monga.

Four new DCs appointed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday appointed four new deputy commissioners in different districts, says an official notification.

Anisuddin Manju, director of the Prime Minister's office, has been appointed DC in Kushtia; Moinuddin, private secretary to the communications minister, in Bagerhat; Mizanur Rahman, deputy secretary at the Ministry of Establishment, in Joypurhat and Habibur Rahman, deputy director of the monitoring unit of Directorate of Compulsory Primary Education, in Cox's Bazar.

SHOOTOUT WITH POLICE
One shot, arrested with arms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday arrested an alleged one person with arms after a shootout at Mohammadpur in the city.

Mohammadpur police arrested bullet-hit Mohammad Ripon, 22, with a rifle from an under-construction building at Asad Gate.

Ripon, however, told reporters that police shot him at around 2:45pm when he went there to collect some money from his uncle Mahiuddin.

Someone fired at us as a team

of Mohammadpur police went to Asad Gate to nab a criminal, said Sub-Inspector Matiar Rahman of Mohammadpur Police Station. We saw Ripon running with a rifle, he added.

Ripon was shot in his leg and fell on the ground, police said.

He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital and later shifted to Orthopaedics Hospital.

Police said Ripon gave a statement to police that he went there to collect a rifle from one Rafiq who fled the scene during shootout.



PHOTO: STAR
AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal President Hasanul Haque Inu discuss a point at a roundtable in the city yesterday.

Death anniversaries

The 10th death anniversary of Wali Ahmed, a freedom fighter and former Awami League MP, will be observed today, says a press release.

A milad mahfil and Doa will be held at the Sobhanbag mosque in the city after Maghrib prayers.

Jahanara Kanchan



Today is the 11th death anniversary of Jahanara Kanchan, wife of filmstar Ilias Kanchan, says a press release.

On this day of 1993, Jahanara died in a road accident at Gasbaria on the way to Bandarban.

On the occasion, Nirapad Sarak Chai (We Demand Safe Road) will organise a foot march from its Kakrail central office at 10:00 am and offer prayers at her grave at Banani in the city.

A milad mahfil and a discussion meeting will also be held at her residence at 3:00 pm at 105 Boromogbazar in the city today.