

Question setting made easy!

A guidebook followed for Sylhet Board HSC English exam?

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Was a guidebook used for setting English First Paper objective questions in the on-going HSC examination under the Sylhet Education Board?

This question is being posed by many teachers and examinees as the question is almost the same as the 'model question' in Panjeri guidebook available in the market.

Such a similarity is unexpected, they said. Examinees who followed the Panjeri guidebook could correctly answer questions for 98 marks. Others who did not follow the guidebook could not do well in the English First Paper

examination, they said.

They said questions a, b, c, d and e under question No-1 and No. 2 in the First Paper are exactly the same as the 'model question-6' in the Panjeri Guidebook.

Similarly, question No-3 and 4, passage 5, 6, 7 and 8, question No-9 and 10 in part-B and question No 11, 12 and 13 in part-C are the same as in Panjeri guidebook.

Teachers and examinees say questions for 98 marks are exactly the same as the 'model question' in the guidebook.

Guidebooks available in the market may be useful to students in learning the style but it is

unexpected that questions for 98 marks will be exactly the same as the 'model question' in any guidebook, the teachers said.

They also alleged that a similar thing happened in English question under Sylhet Education Board last year also. Some teachers had made verbal complaints to the Board authorities last year, but to no effect, they said.

If such things happen, the government drive to stop cheating and other unfair means in public examinations will be of no use, they said.

Drive begins today to free the Bhairab from encroachers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

The district administration will launch a demolition drive today to free the Bhairab riverbanks in the town from encroachers.

They have prepared a list of 119 illegal constructions along the banks, sources in the administration said.

People of all walks of life have hailed the initiative, saying this will give the river a new life.

The Bhairab was the lifeline for the town about 50 years back, when launches and big boats carrying both passengers and cargo plied the river.

Commercial and industrial towns like Khulna, Noapara and Jessore developed on both banks of the Bhairab, taking advantage of its navigability.

But due to the adverse effect of Farakka Barrage, illegal construction of commercial and residential buildings on its banks in Jessore municipal area and unplanned construction of bridges across the river, a large portion of the river up to Basundia is now almost dead.

Water still flows up to Basundia in the river, some 20 kilometres off Jessore town. But the river is almost dead from Taherpur in Chow-gachha upazila in the upstream to Ghuni in Jessore Sadar upazila in the down stream via Jessore town.

In the municipal areas, illegal occupants have built markets and buildings in the name of hospitals, clinics and residential houses.

Most of the lessees have misused lease agreements and grabbed lands up to the river bad,

thereby choking the river. As a result, the Bhairab fails to accommodate the additional water in the rainy season, creating water-logging in low-lying areas of Jessore town.

"It will be a gigantic task, to restore navigability of the river", said Jessore Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Abdul Wazed while talking to this correspondent.

"The district administration,

after consultation with the Citizens' Committee, political personalities and journalists, has decided to free the municipal area of the river from encroachers", he added. There is a plan also to beautify the banks.

The land grabbers have been notified. Publicity is being made in the town every day, asking the grabbers to demolish their structures on their own before June 19. Otherwise, those will be demolished by the district administration.

But the illegal occupants did not show any gesture to remove encroachments till yesterday. Many of them said they have lease documents.

Talking to this correspondent some city dwellers said they are waiting to see the drive become successful because such campaigns were launched earlier also.



PHOTO: STAR

Different citizens' committees formed a human chain in Chittagong city yesterday demanding steps to resolve acute water and power crises.

Warrant against BNP man for 'beating' Care staff

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A Tangail Court has issued an arrest warrant against BNP leader AKM Ahsanul Taiab Zakir, Chairman of Shonatola municipality in Bogra, on charge of beating and injuring an employee of Care Bangladesh, an international NGO.

Zakir allegedly beat the Care employee, Rokeya Begum, on February 10, 2002.

Rokeya then filed a case against Zakir under the Women and Children Repression Control Act.

But the investigation officer, allegedly being influenced by Zakir, gave a final report in the case. But Rokeya filed a naraji petition there.

She then appealed to the High Court for trial of the case in any court other than in Bogra. The HC ordered transfer of the case to Tangail Women and Children Repression Control Tribunal on January 25 this year.

Judge of the Tangail court issued the arrest warrant on May 3.

When contacted, Bogra police said the warrant order did not reach them.

Low quality Indian rice stored in two Kishoreganj silos

ADC inspects, will give report soon

A CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

Low quality Indian rice has been stored at Hossainpur and Pakundia upazila food godowns, it was gathered from officials at the two godowns.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (general) of Kishoreganj Tapan Chandra Banik on Tuesday visited the two food godowns and inspected the stored rice following an order by Deputy Commissioner Eusuf Hossain.

He also collected samples of rice from the two godowns. District Food Controller AKM Fazlur Rahman, and local food officials were also present during the visit.

The DC earlier formed a one-member committee headed by the ADC to probe the allegations.

Later talking to newsmen the ADC said the moisture content in the rice was 15.10 against approved 14. He said he will submit a report to

the authorities concerned soon.

Earlier, it was gathered from Hossainpur upazila food officials that that till June 12, 34 tonnes of rice were purchased from local farmers and 159 tonnes were 'sent from the District Food Controller's (DFC) office'. The rice sent from the DFC's office was of yellowish colour.

When contacted, Hossainpur Upazila Food Officer Khurshed Alam declined to make any comment. The District Food Controller is the appropriate man to talk about the matter, he said.

The condition of 146 tonnes of rice sent from the district food controllers office and stored at Pakundia upazila food godown is also the same. Its moisture content is 15 per cent. Upazila food official Abdul Hakim said that their target was to procure 736 tonnes of rice. They purchased 322 tonnes from farmers, he said.

Human chain in Ctg protesting acute water, power crises

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Different environmental and social organisations yesterday staged demonstrations demanding immediate solution to acute water and power crisis in the port city.

Jano Uddyog, Save Chittagong, Barnali and Chittagong Nagorik Uddyog formed a human chain in front Chittagong Press Club at noon.

People from all walks of life joined the human chain, followed by a rally.

The speakers at the rally resented that acute water and power crisis made life in the port city unbearable. But the authorities did not take any effective step to solve the problem, they alleged.

Chittagong Nagorik Uddyog Convener and elderly journalist Muhammad Idris, Abu Taher Masud, Tusher Kanti Basak of Save Chittagong, Barnali Chairman Saroj Kanti Das, Utsa Executive Director Mostafa Kamal and Sourabh Barua of Sangshaptak also spoke at the rally.

Jano Uddyog Coordinator Sharif Chouhan presided over the rally.

Punish killers of Mili, Parosh

Protesters demand in Rajshahi

RU CORRESPONDENT

A human chain was formed at Shaheb Bazaar zero point here yesterday protesting recent killing of schoolchildren Mafroza Begum Mili and Parosh in Rajshahi and all other killings of schoolchildren throughout the country.

Several hundred children, school students, NGO workers, journalists and social workers participated in the human chain organised by Kendriyo Kishore Pathagar, a children's organisation.

After the human chain, a meeting was held which was presided over by Kendriyo Kishore Pathagar president Shohag Ali.

Expressing deep concern over increased incidents of killing of children across the country, the speakers have demanded proper probe into all the incidents and speedy trial of the cases.

They also demanded trial of rape and murder of four other girls in the district in last one month.

The victims are Joly of Durgapur and Hasina of Bagha, teenager Rulifa of Charghat and Noor Banu, a domestic help working at the house of a Rajshahi City Corporation engineer.

Among others, Rajshahi unit general secretary of Jatiya Sangbadik Sangstha Rafique Alam, Azizul Hakim and Rakibul Haque Tuhi, child organiser Rabiul Islam, Kishore Kuri Mela organiser Rajab Ali and Abdul Khalek addressed the meeting.

Rift in Netrakona AL over leadership

JAHANGIR ALAM, Netrakona

Netrakona Awami League (AL) is virtually split into two rival factions, hampering party activities.

One faction is led by former lawmaker Fazlur Rahaman Khan, also a former president of Netrakona district AL. Former chairman of Netrakona Pourasava Matir Rahaman Khan, convener of Netrakona Juba league Omar Faruk, president of Netrakona district Krishok League Keshob Ranjan Sarker and president of Netrakona district Chatra league Majibur Rahaman Hira are with him, party sources said.

They opened a separate party office at Fazlur Rahaman's chamber at Mukterpara in the town recently and are holding separate programmes.

The other faction is led by district AL President Shamsuzzoha, along with former lawmaker Jalaluddin Talukder, district AL Secretary Ashraf Ali Khan Khasru and Joint Secretary Nur Khan Mitu.

AL workers and supporters in the district town and in 10 upazilas are frustrated over the rift in the party's district leadership, the

sources said.

The conflict surfaced during the last general election when Shamsuzzoha had urged the party central leaders not to nominate Fazlur Rahaman Khan, who was a lawmaker at that time.

The party nominated Abdul Momin, thinking that he would be acceptable to all.

The conflict intensified during last district council of the party held on January 27 last year, when Fazlur Rahaman Khan lost to Shamsuzzoha in the race for the post of president of the district unit.

The rival groups are in a stand-off situation now, which may lead to clashes any time, many leaders and activists said while talking to this correspondent.

When contacted, Shamsuzzoha and Khasru said they were elected by councilors and so enjoy support of the party rank and file.

"They (Fazlur Rahaman group) are conspiring against the party" Shamsuzzoha alleged.

Fazlur Rahaman Khan said they opened a new office and holding separate programmes because many of the leaders and workers do not like Shamsuzzoha and Khasru.



PHOTO: STAR

A partial view of the Bhairab riverbank in Jessore town, encroached by land grabbers. A drive by the administration begins today to demolish illegal structures.

12x3

5x3