

FOURTH NATIONAL CAREER FAIR HELD

Changes in exam system from 28th BCS to protect rights of job seekers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Public Service Commission (PSC) is bringing changes to the Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examination system to protect the rights of job seekers and the changes will take effect from the forthcoming 28th BCS exams, PSC Chairman Saadat Hussain said yesterday.

"More rights will be extended to the BCS examinees with a view to restoring the image of the PSC and ensuring transparency in its activities. We have already changed the system of selection of applications, question paper pattern, examination system and the mark distribution system," he told reporters after inaugurating a career fair in the city.

About the rights of examinees, the

PSC chairman said a candidate will get the opportunity to know his marks on any specific subject and have his answer scripts re-examined on payment of an additional fee.

He also said that the circular for 28th BCS examinations would be issued soon but did not disclose the exact timeframe.

Earlier, the PSC chairman inaugurated the daylong Fourth National Career Fair 2007 as the chief guest at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the morning. Thousands of job seekers thronged the fair venue and submitted their CVs to renowned organisations.

Around 60 organisations from various sectors such as education, banking, telecommunications, information technology, communications

and advertising, took part in the career fair organised by the Department of Career & Professional Development Services of North South University (NSU).

Speaking at the inaugural session, PSC Chairman Saadat Hussain advised the job seekers to adopt different formulas to secure jobs in different sectors.

The students should also develop their network after completing their studies, he said, adding that they first have to target specific job and make themselves fit for that job.

He also mentioned four qualities – writing skills, especially English writing; communication skills; ability to take initiatives and develop network – which are necessary for job seekers to qualify for a suitable job.

Dr Hafiz GA Siddiqi, vice-chancellor of NSU, said the career fair offers advice and counsel in addition to serving as a meeting place for job seekers and employers.

NSU Foundation Chairman Rehana Rahman, Grameenphone Ltd Director Emad Ul Amin and Dr Abdul Hannan Chowdhury of NSU were also present at the inaugural session.

Some renowned organisations such as Grameenphone, Unilever, Prothom Alo Jobs.com and Rahimafrooz organised separate workshops at the career fair.

Textiles and Jute Adviser Geeteara Safiya Choudhury spoke at the closing session in the evening as the chief guest.

MAA O SHISHU HOSPITAL
Doctors surprised over termination

CU CORRESPONDENT

The agitating doctors of Chittagong Maa Shishu O General Hospital yesterday expressed surprise over their termination while the authorities were preparing newspaper advertisement for recruiting new doctors in the 'vacant posts'.

In a press statement issued last evening the doctors denied receipt of any letter regarding the termination.

They further claimed they had a meeting with the authorities that continued till 10:30pm on Thursday when a TV channel was telecasting a report on their termination.

The doctors blamed the reported quarrel between President Dr ASM Fazlul Karim and General Secretary Dr Anjuman Ara Islam of the hospital executive committee (EC) for the present situation.

They also demanded regularisation of their jobs and implementation of service rules.

Otherwise, they threatened to continue the agitation suspending medical activities of the hospital for which the president and the general secretary would be held responsible.

The signatories included Dr Anamul Haque Chowdhury, Dr Parijat Palit, Dr Probir Kumar Nath, Dr Abu Mohammad Ferdous, Dr Mohammad Kamrul Islam Jewel, Dr Muijjul Akbar Chowdhury and Dr Didarul Alam.

On the other hand, the hospital authorities said they had only an informal sitting with the doctors on Thursday evening in an attempt to make the latter resume their duty for the sake of the patients.

Dr Anjuman Ara Islam said as per the letter issued by the EC whoever refrained from joining their duty within 24 hours that ended at 2:30pm on Thursday had lost their jobs.

However, the EC would consider anyone who wants to resume working till now, she said.



PHOTO: STAR
Bangladesh Bank Governor Dr Salehuddin Ahmed hands over a crest to eminent cultural personality Sanjida Khatun at a reception ceremony at Radisson Water Garden Hotel in the city yesterday. Citibank NA Bangladesh accorded the reception to her.

Incidents of acid attack on rise

MOON MOON SULTANA

Incidents of acid attacks have increased alarmingly in Dhaka putting it at the top position among all other districts.

Ten people were attacked only in Dhaka out of total 88 victims across the country from January to June this year whereas the capital was not even in the list last year, revealed a report of Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF).

The northern districts of Bogra and Sirajganj got the second and third positions with the total number of victims at nine and eight.

Last year Sirajganj topped the list claiming 11 people during the same timeframe.

This year, other top districts are Kurigram, Bagerhat, Barisal, Comilla and Habiganj.

The ASF report also shows that Dhaka was below Sirajganj, Khulna, Brahmanbaria, Kushtia and Sylhet in 2005.

A total of 15 people fell victim to acid violence in 14 accidents across the country in last month, and of them five people were from Dhaka.

Najibul Islam Polash, a senior journalist of a magazine The University Campus, was a victim of acid violence in the city.

Criminals threw acid at him in the

early hours of June 28 while he was sleeping at his Malibagh residence.

This correspondent met Polash while he was waiting at ASF for admission to its medical unit with bandage in almost all over the body including eyes on July 1.

Polash suspected that his colleagues working in another magazine might have committed the crime out of professional jealousy.

His family sources said Polash took treatment at the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College and Hospital for two days.

His father and brother took him to ASF as no attendant is needed there.

It is mentionable that the family members of Polash live in Chapainawabganj.

ASF Executive Director Monira Rahman said, "Polash was admitted here with 40 percent deep burn. We'll go for surgical intervention after he reaches at a stable situation."

Monira admitted that the awareness campaign against acid throwing is yet to reach people from all walks of life, especially to lower-middle class people.

She said total number of acid victims in last year was less than this year.

Some 74 people fell victim to acid violence in six months (January-June)

of last year across the country, she added.

According to a recent analysis of ASF, the immediate causes of acid throwing are the disputes over land, property, money, family relations and dowry.

The victims are mostly women and the age group of the victim is 18 to 45 years.

Human rights activists have suggested reinforcement of awareness campaign promoting social values at all levels to stop this violence.

They also called for strict implementation of acid control act.

"Provision of more stricter laws is needed so that acid is not easily available in the market," said Farida Yasmin, senior project officer of Nari Pokkho that started work on acid violence for the first time in the country in 1995.

It is known from the statements of the alleged acid-throwers that acid is available at battery and jewellery workshops, she added.

ASF Programme Officer Palash Chowdhury said ASF has initiated an advocacy campaign to check illegal supply of acid.



PHOTO: STAR
PSC Chairman Saadat Hussain visits a stall after inaugurating the National Career Fair 2007 at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city yesterday.