

HC REJECTS WRIT PETITIONS AGAINST PSC

Restrictions on publication of 27th BCS results go

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The restrictions on Public Service Commission (PSC) publishing the

27th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examinations have gone as the High Court yesterday rejected three writ petitions challenging the legality of

the PSC decision cancelling the results of its viva voce.

The PSC took fresh viva voce for the 27th BCS exams after cancelling the previous viva, prompting the aggrieved candidates to file writ petitions. As a result, the PSC could not publish the final results of the much-talked-about 27th BCS exams.

Now it will take about two months to publish the results, PSC Exam Controller AEM Nesar Uddin told The Daily Star.

An HC bench of Justice Md Abdur Rashid and Justice Md Ashfaqul Islam yesterday rejected the petition, saying that the court would not interfere in the activities of PSC.

Counsel for the petitioners said the court verdict means that the decision of PSC would remain valid and there is no bar to publishing the results of the fresh viva voce.

On June 12, 2007, the PSC cancelled the viva voce of the 27th BCS exams and decided to hold fresh viva of the successful candidates of the written examinations following a request from the caretaker government.

The government also issued a notification saying that the decision was taken after reviewing newspaper reports and various allegations about the 27th BCS examinations in order to restore confidence in public mind and establish transparency in the recruiting process for public jobs.

Some 12 successful candidates, including Toufique Islam, filed three similar writ petitions with the HC challenging the government decision cancelling the results of the viva voce.

The petitioners stated in the petitions that all the tests, including preliminary, written and viva voce, of the 27th BCS were held according to due process of law and the government could not ask the PSC to cancel the results.

Upon the petitions, an HC bench of Justice Shah Abu Nayeem Mominur Rahman and Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury

issued a rule upon the PSC and the government on July 22, 2007 to explain why the decision should not be declared "illegal".

It also asked the PSC to show cause why its decision on fresh viva voce should not be declared "with-outlawful authority".

The court in its order did not interfere in holding fresh viva voce that began on July 29. But the court asked the PSC not to publish the results until the case is disposed of.

The HC recently started the final hearing of the writ petitions and delivered the verdict yesterday. Some 16,342 candidates attended the viva voce held

between September and December 2006.

Dr M Zahir, Barrister Abdur Razzak, Advocate Mostaque Ahmed, Advocate Ahsanul Karim and advocate Shah Mohammad Ejazur Rahman appeared for the petitioners while Assistant Attorney General (AAG) Zafar Inam argued for the government.

Islamic Foundation recovers 19 shops from illegal occupants

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nineteen shops of New Super Market adjacent to the Baitul Mukarram market were recovered from the illegal occupants yesterday, says a press release.

The executive magistrate of Dhaka Collectorate with the help of DMP police conducted a drive and evicted the illegal occupants. The recovered shops were then allocated to Islamic Foundation Bangladesh.

Grabbers have been occupying the shops worth around Tk 20 crore at the newly constructed market illegally for long, the release added.

During the drive, shop grabbers took away their goods and went into hiding.

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President, CA greet Bush

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed and Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed have greeted US President George W Bush on the occasion of his country's Independence Day today.

"Bangladesh and the USA enjoy excellent bilateral relations, which, I am confident, will be further strengthened in the years ahead", said Iajuddin in a message of felicitation.

In a separate message, Fakhruddin said Bangladesh deeply values its relations with the USA and is committed to further strengthen and deepen the existing close ties between two countries.

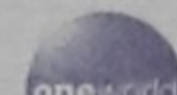
Fakhruddin expressed his hope that the friendly relations between USA and Bangladesh will grow in depth and dimensions in the coming days.

Both the leaders wished the US president good health, happiness and long life and continued peace, progress and well-being of the people of the USA.

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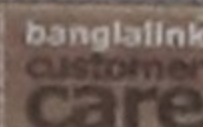
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