METROPOLITAN

ERRORS IN 30TH BCS PRELIMINARY TEST QUESTIONS

PSC plans to evaluate 88 questions out of 100

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Public Service Commission (PSC) is planning to evaluate 88 questions instead of 100 in the question papers of the 30th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) preliminary test as some errors and inconsistencies have been found in the question papers, said Attorney General's office

All examinees will be evaluated by 88 questions and then 12 marks will be added to the score of each candidate, and full marks for the evaluation will be 100, according to the PSC plan.

As per the plan, 12 questions, which contain errors and inconsistencies, will not be evaluated, and so, 12 marks against these 12 questions will be given to all examinees.

Errors and inconsistencies allegedly have been found in 10 to 15 questions in set-2 question papers of the preliminary test held at 110 examination centres across the country on July 30.

PSC Examination Controller AEM Nesar Uddin on September 25 told The Daily Star that the PSC has taken a decision to resolve the matter and the decision will be placed before the High Court.

"After getting the HC directives, we will take next steps regarding publishing the result," he said.

The PSC has recently sent a statement with the plan to the Attorney General's office for legal opinion, as the High Court on August 9 asked the PSC to solve the matter by October 3.

But, the Attorney General's office last week asked the PSC authorities to revise their statement clarifying their plan in detail by September 30, said the sources.

A deputy attorney general requesting anonymity told The Daily Star that they will scrutinise the PSC plan to place it before the High Court for its decision.

The PSC will take steps regarding publishing the preliminary result of the 30th BCS, as per the High Court directives, he said.

In response to a writ petition, the High Court on August 9 asked the PSC to solve the crisis over the anomalies in the question paper and inform it by October 3.

Nineteen candidates of the 30th BCS examinations filed the writ petition on August 7 with the High Court, stating that nearly 50,000 candidates have been affected because of errors and inconsistencies in the question papers.

They sought a court directive for cancellation of the test, saying that the PSC failed to hold a fair examination.

A High Court bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Sheikh Md Zakir Hossain on August 9 allowed the PSC to publish the preliminary test results, but said it will wait to see whether the PSC take effective steps to solve the matter.

The court also adjourned hearing on the petition till October 3, as the PSC said that it has taken steps deal with the matter.



inset, are giving the vaccines. This photo was taken at 1:00pm.

Traffic division on cards to ease gridlock

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government plans for setting up a separate traffic division to build a trained traffic force to ease traffic congestion in metropolitan cities including the capital, Home Minister Sahara Khatun told parliament yesterday.

Replying to lawmakers' queries, the minister said the government also plans to prepare a database collecting particulars of people living in six metropolitan cities including the capital for the sake of ensuring law and order.

The home minister also placed a list containing statistics of different criminal activities of 7,285 incidents that took place during January to June this year with women repression topping the list.

According to the list prepared on the basis of recorded incidents with different police stations countrywide, the number of theft was 4,133, murder 1951, rape 1,586, child repression 754, piracy 496, abduction 402, robbery 362, live stock theft 476, acid throwing 50, and riot 82 during this period.

On the existing traffic system, Sahara said there are separate traffic units in all 64 districts under police department.

Besides, Dhaka Metropolitan Police and five other metropolitan police have separate traffic units, she said.

If the government's plan is implemented, all the existing units of traffic will be under the traffic division, which will also be responsible for maintaining traffic in the cities.

In a scripted answer, the home minister also described the on going activities on training up traffic police and easing traffic conges-

During question time, a number of lawmakers demanded the home ministry take steps for setting up police camps, police stations, and increasing vigilance of law enforcement agencies to improve law and order in their respective constituencies.

In response, the home minister assured them of taking necessary measures.

Two cos fined for selling bottled water without licence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court yesterday fined two companies in the city Tk 40,000 for selling bottled drinking water without licence from the Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI).

The team fined AR Enterprise at Arambagh Tk 10,000 and Safe Water Co at Uttar Shahjahanpur Tk 30,000, says a BSTI press release.

Two cases were also filed against them.

Dhaka district's magistrate Shakil Ahmed led the mobile court team comprising the officials of the BSTI, district administration and members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and police.

CARETAKER GOVERNMENT

'Cancel system of appointing last retired CJ as chief adviser'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pro-BNP leaders of Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) yesterday demanded the government cancel the system of appointing the last retired chief justice as the chief adviser to caretaker government.

The apex court has been brought under politics through the 13th amendment to the constitution, which introduced the provision, said SCBA president Khandker Mahbub Hossain at a press conference in his SCBA office.

He also protested the supersession of two senior judges of the Appellate Division through appointing Justice ABM Khairul Haque as the next chief justice.

The two judges he mentioned superseded are Justice MA Matin and Justice Shah Abu Nayeem Mominur Rahman.

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Mahbub Hossain said the SCBA is not against Justice ABM Khairul's appointment, but the provision itself. They apprehend that the government has a political intention to make Khairul Haque the chief adviser of the next caretaker government.

Justice Khairul Haque would make a controversial chief adviser to the caretaker government as he had delivered some controversial judgements against BNP, he alleged.

Awami League had launched a movement against former chief justice KM Hasan, as he was once an international affairs secretary of BNP, said Mahbub Hossain, adding that Khairul Haque would be more controversial if he is made the chief of the caretaker government.

He said all the retired chief justices appointed as the chief adviser to the

caretaker government have been controversial.

The judges of the Supreme Court have the ambition of becoming chief adviser of a caretaker government and work in favour of the ruling section due to this provision, he alleged.

The SCBA president said the 13th amendment to the constitution was made in 1991 considering the prevalent political situation, but the provision brought the Supreme Court in politics.

He hoped that the government would appoint Justice Shah Abu Nayeem Mominur Rahman as the chief justice after Justice Khairul Haque's retirement on May 18, 2011. Justice Mominur Rahman will retire on November 11, 2011.

SCBA secretary Badruddoza Badal also spoke at the press conference.



Tathya Odhikar Forum forms a human chain in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday on the eve of the International Right to Know Day. (Story on Page 16)

DUKE'S BAIL HC rule on govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday issued a rule upon the government to explain within two weeks why Saiful Islam Duke, nephew of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, should not be granted bail in August 21 grenade attack case.

A division bench of Justice Sharif Uddin Chaklader and Justice Md Fazlur Rahman passed the order following a petition by Duke seeking bail in the case.

Earlier on September 16, a Dhaka court rejected a bail prayer of Duke in this case. Later, Duke filed the bail

petition with the HC.

The Criminal Investigation Department arrested Duke on August 26 for his alleged involvement in the August 21 grenade attack on an Awami League (AL) rally at Bangabandhu Avenue in 2004. The attack killed 24 AL

leaders and workers. Advocate Khandker Mahbub Hossain appeared for the petitioner, while Deputy Attorney General Shashanka Shekhar Halder represented the government.

4 Tahrir men held with 'jihadi' books

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-1) members arrested four members of banned Hizb ut-Tahrir from the capital's Dakkhinkhan area on Sunday and seized leaflets, 'jihadi' books and other publications of the organisation from their possession.

The arrestees are Mohammad Hossain Rony, 21, of Ashkona, Kazi Rashedul Huq Rajib, 18, of Langolkot upazila in Comilla district, Sabuj alias Babu, 18, of Nandail upazila in Tangail and Mohammad Hares, 21, of Shribordi upazila in Gazipur district. Of the four, Rony and Rajib are students of Tongi Government

College while the two others are day labourers. Asked why day labourers were arrested, supposedly for the first time, Rab officials said the organisation is currently trying to

recruit people from the workers' level. Sources said the Rab-1 members at Dakkhinkhan area chased and caught the four youths as they started to run seeing the law enforcement authority. The youths admitted during preliminary interrogation that they were members of the banned organisation.

Rab later held an operation at the house of Rony, from where they seized 405 leaflets of Hizb ut-Tahrir, 105 'jihadi' books, 32 copies of draft constitution of Khilafat State and various other radical Islamic books.

Some mid-level leaders are now leading the organisation after the arrest of its senior leaders, said Rab officials.

The government on Oct 22, 2009 banned the organisation in Bangladesh, saying the Islamist outfit posed threat to public safety. Then, police arrested Mohiuddin Ahmed, the coordinator, and Kazi Morshedul Haque, the second in command, of the banned organisation on different dates.

Allow Reaz Rahman to go abroad

HC asks govt STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday directed the government to allow former BNP state minister for foreign affairs Reaz Rahman to go abroad for three months for treatment.

On September 10, the immigration officials at Shahjalal International Airport barred Reaz Rahman from going Kolkata for treat-

An HC bench of Justice Mamnoon Rahman and Justice Syeda Afsar Jahan also issued a rule upon the government to explain within three weeks why the immigration officials' action barring Reaz Rahman should not be declared illegal.

The bench came up with the order following a writ petition filed by Reaz Rahman challenging the action of

immigration officials. Advocate Khandker Mahbub Hossain and Barrister Badruddoza Badal appeared for the petitioner.



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