



Class V students sit for the Primary Education Terminal Examinations 2012, which began yesterday, at Motijheel Model High School and College in the capital. Inset, Delayed by the morning traffic jam, an examinee runs to make it to the centre on time.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

## PRIMARY TERMINAL EXAMINATIONS Over 2 lakh students absent on first day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

More than 2.14 lakh examinees out of over 29 lakh were absent on the first day of the primary terminal examinations for class V students of both general and madrasa education yesterday.

Twelve students—eight from general schools and four from madrasa—were expelled reportedly for resorting to unfair means, according to the control room of Directorate of Primary Education (DPE).

The examination began in 6,364 centres across the country with mathematics. Students also sat for the exam from eight overseas centres. Students of both the groups will sit for Bangla today.

Primary and Mass Education Minister Afsarul Ameen, State Minister Motahar Hossain, and Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid visited several exam centres in the capital.

While visiting an examination centre at Shaheed Police Smriti School and College, Ameen told reporters that the examination was being held amid a festive atmosphere and sought cooperation of all to ensure peaceful examination. Talking to reporters at Ideal School and

College, Motijheel, Nahid said the government has initiated public examinations with a unified question paper to build a healthy competitive atmosphere, reduce students' fear of exams and above all to improve the standard of country's education.

The examination centres in the capital were seen overcrowded with anxious guardians especially mothers waiting outside for their children.

"I did well [in the exam]," replied Imra Hossain, a student emerging from the examination centre at Ideal School and College, Motijheel.

This year, 2,641,067 general and 328,326 madrasa students registered for the exams. The number of female examinees is higher this year.

Of the absent yesterday, 160,973 were from general category while around 53,058 from madrasa.

Among the eight expelled from general schools, seven are females, all from Rajshahi division, while the lone male is from Dhaka division. While among expelled students from madrasa, two are from Rangpur and two from Dhaka division. The examinations will end on November 29.

## Sex workers still discriminated Conference told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has been trying to address the living conditions of sex workers and their children but they are still stigmatised and discriminated by society, speakers said at a conference yesterday.

They said although living conditions of this marginalised segment have improved, they still need to be more integrated into society and their two basic needs—healthcare and education—must be covered.

The conference styled "International Conference on Human Trafficking, Sex Workers and their Children: Assessing Vulnerability and Exploring Responses in South Asia", was jointly arranged by ActionAid Bangladesh and University of Liberal Arts (ULAB) at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban of Dhaka University.

In the conference, a book was launched which contains eight researches under a project "LEADER" working to ensure empowerment and liberation for sex workers and their children.

One of the researches conducted showed how sex workers decide to bring their daughters in their line of work due to economic necessity and lack of marriage prospects.

Speakers said sex workers treat their children as their property and as an extra source of income. Even girls who get the chance to live and study outside brothels are compelled to follow in their mothers' footsteps because of the social "tags" they carry.

Another research, conducted on women and children trafficking, found that most women and children, who migrate to India, fall victims to sexual abuse.

Information Commissioner Prof Sadeka Halim, ActionAid's Country Director Farah Kabir, Chairman of Dhaka University's law department Shahnaz Huda, Vice Chancellor of ULAB Prof Imran Rahman, and project manager of LEADER Helena Ballester Bon spoke at the conference.

## 5 killed, 16 injured in road accidents

METRO DESK

Five people were killed and 16 others injured in road accidents in Sirajganj, Chittagong, Tangail, Rangpur and Moulvibazar on Tuesday and yesterday.

Our Sirajganj correspondent reports, two people were killed and 15 others were injured in a road accident on Bogra-Dhaka highway in Dhopakandi area of Sirajganj yesterday.

Identities of the deceased could not be known immediately.

Police said the accident took place as a bus collided head-on with a truck killing the truck's driver and his helper on the spot.

Our Chittagong correspondent reports, a female garment worker was killed in a road accident on Chittagong-Dhaka highway in Fakirhat area under Sitakunda upazila of Chittagong on Tuesday night.

Police said Josna Begum, 27, died on the spot as a truck hit her while she was crossing the highway around 10:30pm.

Our Tangail correspondent reports, a senior official of traffic police in Tangail and his wife were killed in a road accident on Dhaka-Tangail Highway yesterday.

The deceased are Traffic Inspector Bazlul Haque Khan Milky, 57, and his wife Farida Milky Beby, 50.

Police said the accident took place as a truck hit the private car of the victims around 8:45am.

Bazlul Haque died on the spot while his wife was declared dead at Tangail General Hospital.

Our Rangpur correspondent reports, a man was killed in a road accident on Rangpur-Dhaka highway near Shathibari bus station area under Mithapukur upazila on Tuesday.

The victim was Jahidul Islam, 34, a branch manager of Grameen Krishi Foundation (GKF) in Kaliganj upazila in Lalmonirhat.

Our Moulvibazar correspondent reports, a schoolboy was injured in a road accident on Juri-Moulvibazar Highway in Chatol area under Kulaura yesterday.

The victim was Rifat Ahmed, 13, a class VIII student of Nabin Chandra High School.

He was rushed to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College.

**Lee Kuan Yew**  
School of Public Policy

**NUS**  
National University of Singapore

**"If my skills could bring some healing and joy to any community, then let it be my first aim."**

For 15 years, Dr. Tan Lai Yong lived among poor villagers in rural Yunnan, giving medical care to those affected by leprosy. His passion to make a difference led him to the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy to pursue a Master in Public Administration degree, one that would hone his mastery of complex global policy issues.

The LKY School offers a unique curriculum by bridging the gap between prevailing theories in the West and best practices in the East. Located in Singapore, the School brings together almost 400 students from over 50 countries across disciplines of government, civil society, media, law and medicine.

The LKY School at the National University of Singapore offers postgraduate programmes for working professionals at various stages of their careers.

The Master in Public Policy programme is catered to young professionals with up to 5 years of work experience, or those considering a career switch.

The Master in Public Administration programme is designed for middle-level management with 5 to 8 years of work experience.

For those with more than 8 years of work experience, and going to enter senior management, the Master in Public Management programme is specially designed for you.

Apply now for enrolment in July 2013.  
Application deadline is 15 Feb 2013.  
Generous scholarships are available.

For more information, visit  
[www.spp.nus.edu.sg/programme.aspx](http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/programme.aspx)



**NUS** #2 in Asia #25 in the world

QS University Rankings

**LEAD THE CHANGE**  
to improve lives