



President Abdul Hamid receives annual report-2017 of Bangladesh Public Service Commission from a delegation led by commission Chairman Dr Muhammed Sadique in the capital's Bangabhaban yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

RU students seek BCS quota system reform

OUR CORRESPONDENT, RU

Several hundred students of Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday demonstrated on the campus demanding reformation of existing quota system in various government recruitment process including Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examinations.

They formed a human chain before the university central library under the banner of "General Students" at 11:00am to press home their five-point demand, including 10 percent quota for the freedom fighters and recruitment of the remaining 90 percent based on merit, and cancellation of recruitment under a fixed quota.

Currently, 44 percent are recruited on merit and the remaining 56 percent on privilege allocated under various quotas.

Fate of 7,000

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During the visit, the Rohingyas on the zero line said they want to go back to their homes, but want a guarantee of safety and security, Abul Kalam told this correspondent.

The Rohingyas there earlier this week told The Daily Star that Myanmar's Border Guard Police (BGP) on February 8, 9 and 12 announced (over loud speakers) that they have to move elsewhere, claiming that the zero line area belongs to Myanmar. And, staying there for months was illegal as per the international law.

Myanmar Deputy Home Minister Aung Soe along with army and BGP members went to the border area around 11:00am on February 9 and talked to the Rohingyas there.

He directed them to leave the zero line, and warned that the consequences would not be good if they did not comply.

Dil Mohammad, a community leader of the Rohingyas on the zero line, said the Myanmar deputy home minister did not talk about their going back to Myanmar, but said that the no man's land belongs to Myanmar and no one will be allowed to stay there for months.

He alleged that BGP members often come near the barbed-wire fences, fire blank shots and even throw brick bats and empty liquor bottles at the Rohingyas, instilling greater sense of fear into them.

Until recently, the Rohingyas there did not want to move to the temporary shelters at Kutupalong or Balukhali in Cox's Bazar. But now they are considering moving to Bangladesh's shelter centres for safety, said Ghumdum Union Parishad Chairman Jahangir Aziz, quoting several of them.

Bangladesh security forces also have not allowed their entry into Bangladesh, while many of them have said they would rather stay there to avoid becoming refugees.

Kalam said during the home minister-level meeting between the two countries in Dhaka last week, Bangladesh had asked Myanmar to first take back the Rohingyas staying on the zero line of Ghumdum. "We will extend cooperation in this regard if Myanmar wants," he said.

Meanwhile, diplomatic missions in Myanmar have urged the Myanmar authorities to address the underlying problems including security, freedom of movement, access to livelihoods, health and education and citizenship, reports UNB.

"We expect the government will now focus on addressing the underlying problems," said the statement of the diplomatic missions. The news agency has obtained a copy of it from Yangon yesterday.

The statement is issued by the diplomatic missions that took part in government-arranged trips to the Rakhine State in this month. The missions include Australia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the European Union, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Turkey, and the United States.

Enhanced media

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relations between Bangladesh and India in last nine years and way forward", journalists of both the countries called for early solutions to the pending issues, including the Teesta river water sharing one.

With Ambassador Muhammad Zamir, chairman of the ICIDS, in the chair, Syed Badrul Ahsan, executive editor of The Asian Age; and Devadip Purohit, chief of bureau (politics & policy), The Telegraph, India, presented two keynote papers.

Moderated by Shyamal Dutta, editor of Bhorer Kagoj and director of ICIDS, Indian High Commissioner Harsh Vardhan Shringla also spoke at the event.

From Indian side, Jayanta Roy Chowdhury, editor of The Telegraph; Bharat Bhushan, former editor of Catch News; Mohua Chattapadhyay, assistant editor of Times of India; Nadeem Kazmi of Urdu Daily; and Anamitra Chatterjee of Anandabazar Patrika took part in an open discussion.

From Bangladesh side, Angur Nahar Monty of News 24 and Rahul Raha of Channel 24 and others also spoke.

In another session, Syed Ishtiaq Reza, director (news) of Ekattor TV; and Joyonto Roy Chowdhury, editor of The Telegraph presented keynote papers on "Bangladesh-India Cooperation in economic aspects". Prime Minister's Energy Affairs Adviser Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury attended it as the chief guest.

43pc population will live in urban areas in 2029

Degrading living standards, says BBS-Unicef-ACPR study

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Extreme population growth in urban areas may highly degrade living standards of the dwellers in near future as they have already been experiencing so, in cases of sanitation, health and child protection, according to a recent study.

Around 81 million people, approximately 43 percent of the country's total population [190 million], will live in the urban areas in 2029, said the study, adding that the urban population reached 55 million in 2015 from 32 million in 2001.

The high population growth resulted in rise of slum dwelling, where only 19 percent households currently using proper sanitation facilities, it said. Besides, about 57 percent of the total urban households can use the sanitation facilities, it added.

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), Unicef, and Associates for Community and Population Research (ACPR) jointly conducted the study titled, "Child Wellbeing Survey in Urban Areas of Bangladesh 2016", through surveying 20,134 urban households across the country.

The findings of the study were revealed at a seminar organised by BBS at its office in the capital yesterday.

The study found more than 93 percent children in the slum areas are involved in child labour.

Around 60 percent females, who are currently aged between 20 and 49, in the urban areas had got married before 18, it found.

It also found that around half of the urban women cannot receive proper treatment during their pregnancy and do not have undergone their deliveries

in health centres or with support from trained professionals.

Besides, 8 in 10 children, who are aged 1-14, experienced psychological aggression or physical punishment, it said.

The study also found that 26 percent children, under the age of 5, in the urban areas are stunted, and the percentage is around 60 in the slum areas.

In addition, 20 percent urban children are underweight, which is more than 74 percent in the slums, it found.

Speaking at the seminar, Unicef representative in Bangladesh Edouard Beigbender said the urban population growth is alarming for the country.

Saurendra Nath Chakrabhartty, secretary in-charge of Statistics and Informatics Division at the planning ministry; and Md Amir Hossain, director general of BBS, also spoke.

Prioritise disposal of cases pending for over five years

SC directs lower courts

UNB, Dhaka

The Supreme Court on Monday directed the country's lower courts and tribunals to dispose of cases pending for more than five years on priority basis.

The administration of the apex court sent a circular regarding the direction to all the courts across the country, asking them to send the lists of dissolved cases as well as the pending ones within the first week of each month to the SC authorities.

According to the circular, some 28 lakh cases are under trial in the lower courts and tribunals, making the disposal process more complicated.

'Wizard of words' remembered

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Not just the readers, Humayun Ahmed was a popular choice among the publishers too.

"During the book fair, he used to sit at our stall. He could engage all in conversations," said a nostalgic Liaquat Ullah of Student Ways Publication.

This year, Kakoli Prokashoni has brought out two new collections of the writer -- "Muktijuddho Samagro" (a collection of nine novels and five stories) and "Sreshtha Humayun Ahmed".

This correspondent also met Nuzhat Ahmed, an accounting student of Dhaka University, yesterday. She bought three novels from Kakoli publication. "Jochna O Jononir Golpo and Moddhanno are my favourite books," she said. "He will always be missed. No one could tell a story like him."

Many other publication houses are also selling books written by Humayun Ahmed. Among them, Oboshor Prokashon has brought out a collection of his ghost stories, "Sera Saat Boutik Uponnash", and a collection of stories based on the Liberation War, "Sera Saat Muktijuddher Uponnash".

A total of 124 books arrived yesterday.

Meanwhile, a short story collection, "Kalpoloker Golpogatha" by Rowshan Ara Ausrus is available at the fair. The book is

published by Nakhkhatro Prokashoni.

"The book is for sixth and seventh graders. There are 11 stories in total," said the writer, also an assistant teacher of Power Development Board Secondary School in Narayanganj.

DAILY STAR BOOKS

"Sangrami Nari 52 o Ektattor (interview)" edited by Bashar Khan arrived at Daily Star Books yesterday.

The book is about women who made contributions during the Language Movement in 1952 and the Liberation War in 1971. Experiences of 23 such women have been portrayed through their interviews in the book.

Meanwhile, Daily Star Books continue to attract booklovers, especially the youths.

"I love to read autobiographies. It is a good initiative by Daily Star Books to offer readers books by writers from home and abroad," said Jubair Ahmed, an English teacher of Adamjee Cantonment Public School and College.

He bought two books by Kuldeep Nayar and Shashi Tharoor.

In total, the stall is showcasing 37 books at the fair. Of them, eight are in Bangla and 29 in English.



BNP stages a protest rally on the Balurmath premises in Narayanganj city yesterday, demanding release of party Chairperson Khaleda Zia, who was convicted in a graft case.

PHOTO: STAR

Recognise women's

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Speaking as the chief guest, Shamsul Alam said the government is sensitive to the issue of women's empowerment. It has taken various measures in this regard and it is willing to do more for women in days to come.

Rizwanul Islam, former special adviser for employment sector at International Labour Organisation in Geneva, said although the society has a widely accepted conception about gender-biased roles, women's safety at work needs to be addressed and they should be given fair opportunity to move up the hierarchy for their financial advancement.

MJF Executive Director Shaheen Anam said rural women are behind a large part of agricultural activities and so the credit for the nation being food independent should go to them. However, their contribution remains uncounted for and unrecognised.

The MJF has been campaigning for three years to bring the issue of women's household work into discussion, she added.

The speakers emphasised redistribution of care work so that more women can join the labour force -- a phenomenon that would eventually help increase the country's economic growth.

Women's unpaid work subsidises the cost of care and it supports economies, but the work goes unpaid and often unrecognised, said Mia Seppo, UN resident coordinator in Bangladesh.

Hossain Zillur Rahman, former adviser to a caretaker government and executive chairman of Power and Participation Research Centre, also spoke.

Accommodation crisis

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gets into another bus to reach his destination.

The entire one-way journey takes him around two hours if there is less traffic and costs him Tk 175.

Seeking anonymity, a BBA third-year student, of Gazipur, who is staying at his maternal uncle's home in Bahaddarhat area, said, "My two cousins and I have to reside in a small room meant for only one."

He said he would get a mental, physical as well as financial relief if the hostel was open.

Touhidul Islam, a BBA second-year student who is residing in a rented mess near the college, said, "I need some Tk 6,000 per month for my monthly expenses including meal charges. Moreover, house owners increase rents every year. My poor family is struggling to bear all my expenses."

A number of students said their monthly expenditure would reduce by half if they could stay at the college hostel.

Sabbir Chowdhury, acting president of BCL college unit, said they verbally requested the authorities concerned on several occasions for reopening the hostel but it has fallen on deaf ears.

The hostel needs immediate renovation, he said, also urging the authorities concerned to construct a new building to be used as a male dormitory.

Principal of the college, Md Ayub Bhuiyan, said the four-storey hostel building is now dilapidated and beyond renovation.

He rather stressed that a dormitory for teachers is more important for now.

The principal, however, said he would talk to the higher authorities for constructing a new male hostel.

About not considering opening the hostel in the last 28 years, he said they did not open it for security reasons.

However, students said it has become a new trend to keep dormitories closed for years in the name of security reasons.

It is the college's responsibility to create conditions conducive to the pursuit of academics, they added.

The college also has a female hostel with only 50 seats. Construction of another female hostel with 250 seats has just been completed.

Uphold Bangla

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Prof Syed Manzoorul Islam, Saiful Islam Khan (poet Hayat Saef), Subrata Barua, Robiul Hussain and Khalekdad Chowdhury received the award for language and literature.

Each recipient received a gold medal, a certificate and a cheque for Tk 2 lakh.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor presided over the function while Cabinet Secretary M Shafiul Alam read out citations of the recipients of the award. Cultural Affairs Secretary Ibraheem Hossain Khan delivered the welcome address.

Career Opportunity

Post: Technical Instructor
No. of Post: 20 (twenty)
Experience: 5-8 years experience in high quality tent & Textile/Garments manufacturing company. Candidate must be capable of speaking Korean/Chinese.
Last date: 26 Feb 2018
Contact Address: HKD Outdoor Innovations Ltd, Plot No. 55-57 & 63-65, Sec#01, Plot#45-50, Kamaphuli, EPZ, North Patenga, Chittagong & HKD International (CEPZ) Ltd, Plot # 49-55, Sector # 08, CEPZ, Chittagong. D-63

Career Opportunity

BETTER LIFE HOSPITAL LIMITED (A Modern Facilitated Hospital Consists of 250 Beds) based in 01 East Rampura, D.I.T Road, Dhaka-1219 is seeking to recruit experienced & skilled personal for the following positions.

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SL No	Position Name	Department	QTY.	Educational Qualification	Work Experience
1.	Consultant	1. Neuro Medicine 2. Pediatrics, 3. Pediatrics Neurology, 4. General & Laparoscopic Surgery, 5. Orthopedics, 6. Respiratory Medicine, 7. Gastroenterology, 8. Endocrinology, 9. Gynae & Obs	Each post 3	FCPS/MS/ Ph.D/ M.D/ M.R.CP/ F.R.C.S/ or Equivalent / DCH/ D. Ortho (American/Canadian/ Arab Board certified)	02-03 Years working experience
2.	Medical Officer (Male/Female)	EMO/ IMO / NICU/ICU/dialysis	30	M.B.B.S	01-02 Years working experience in NICU/ICU/Emergency
3.	Manager (Male/Female)	Admin	3	M.B.B.S	5 Years working experience as Manager under Hospital Management
4.	Office Executive Female	Executive	10	Master's	01 Year Working experience
5.	Store In-Charge/ Officer (Male/Female)	Store	4	Graduate/Master's	03 Years working experience in Hospital Store Management
6.	Customer Care Officer (Male/Female)	Administration	10	Graduate/Master's	02-03 Years working experience as Hospital Customer Care Officer
7.	Marketing Executive (Male/Female)	Marketing	30	Graduate/Master's	03 Years working experience in Hospital Marketing
8.	Front Desk Officer (Male/Female)	Billing/Front Desk	15	Graduate/Master's	01 Year working experience in Hospital Billing
9.	Technician Endoscopy (Male/Female)	Endoscopy	3	H.S.C/ Equivalent	2-3Yrs working experience in Endoscopy
10.	Electrician/Lift Operator	Maintenance	Each post 6	S.S.C / Equivalent and with License/ Diploma Engineer	3-4 Y ears Working experience
11.	Security Guard (Male)	Administration	20	S.S.C / Equivalent	2-3 Years Working experience

Computer literacy compulsory for (1-8) post. Suitable candidates are requested to send or email their CV along with cover letter mentioning name of the post, expected salary, recent photograph, copies of all academic certificates to below address by **28th February 2018**. Residential facilities are available for Medical officers if necessary.

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