

Why relax policy for rescheduling loans?

HC questions BB's decision

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday questioned the legality of Bangladesh Bank's decision to grossly relax the policy for rescheduling defaulted loans.

It issued a rule asking respondents to explain in four weeks why the central bank circular issued on July 18, which stated changes that reportedly patronise loan defaulters, should not be scrapped.

Eight government high officials -- including the cabinet secretary, principal secretary to the prime minister's office, finance secretary, law secretary and BB governor -- have been made respondents to the rule.

The bench of Justice JBM Hassan and Justice Razik-Al-Jalil issued the rule, after rights organisation

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her younger sister Sheikh Rehana shower flower petals on the grave of their youngest brother Sheikh Russel at Banani graveyard in the capital, marking Russel's 59th birth anniversary yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

'We want a peaceful world for children'

PM urges all to shun war

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged all to shun war and violence to create a peaceful world for children.

"We don't want war, devastation and arms trading. We don't want any child to turn into a refugee and to be shot to death," she said.

The premier was virtually addressing a programme, marking the 59th birth anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's youngest son Sheikh Russel, at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka, from her official Gono Bhaban residence.

The programme also marked Sheikh Russel Day and distribution of Sheikh Russel Padak among winners.

The PM also inaugurated 5,000 Sheikh Russel Digital Labs and 300 Sheikh Russel Schools of Future across the country at the event.

She said many children are becoming orphans and refugees due to the Russia-Ukraine war.

"We want no more conflict and none to be killed like Russel... we want a bright and developed future for all the children," she said.

Criticising those who raises voices on so called human rights issue, she questioned, "Where were they, when my entire family, my father and the then president of Bangladesh, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh

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All in the name of 'etiquette'

BCL members accused of abusing freshers at JU hall



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SHEIKH TAJUL ISLAM TAJ

Members of Chhatra League at Jahangirnagar University have been accused of verbally abusing freshers.

A video of the incident has been obtained by The Daily Star.

In the video filmed yesterday at 12:30am, seven to eight senior students were seen hurling abusive comments towards freshers in the name of "teaching etiquette" in the guest room of the university's Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall.

Requesting anonymity, a student told this correspondent that if one wants to stay in the dormitories, they have to tolerate abuses from BCL members.

"I automatically assumed that in the future I have to get used to listening to such vulgar words," he added.

Several victims of the incident identified the accused BCL activists as students of marketing, international relations, English, public health and informatics, and urban and regional planning departments.

All of them are from the 49th batch and residents of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall.

Contacted, Zayed, one of the BCL activists present at the guest room during the incident, told this correspondent, "The juniors committed an untoward incident on campus on Sunday. That's why we called them."

When asked, he did not explain about the "untoward incident" committed by the juniors.

"Besides, there is a hall tournament coming up, so we

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'Honorarium for doing the bare minimum'

JU admins, teachers receiving lakhs yearly for admission test duties

SHEIKH TAJUL ISLAM TAJ

Pretty much every year, teachers and administrators of Jahangirnagar University (JU) distribute a huge amount of money among themselves as honorariums for "extra services", like preparing for and invigilating the admission tests.

After looking into the distribution for the 2019-20 academic session, University Grants Commission said the distribution "needed to be more logical".

Moreover, it mentioned that such tasks are part of the duties of JU's teachers and administrators.

The commission did not investigate other sessions, as it was only instructed to probe this one, said Abu Taher, a member of UGC.

From sources, The Daily Star has found details of the ordered honorariums, approved by the university's syndicate and finance committee, for the last five years.

As per the order, for the 2020-21 admission test, former vice chancellor Farzana Islam was set to receive Tk 2.86 lakh. Two pro-vice chancellors and the treasurer were to receive Tk 2.81 lakh each. Tk 1.38 lakh was supposed to be given to each teacher who performed the duty. Officers related to the admission test were to receive Tk 69,000 each.

For 2019-20, the VC was set to get Tk 3.40 lakh; two pro-VCs and treasurer Tk 3.35 lakh each; Teachers Tk 1.65 lakh each; and officers Tk 82,500 each.

Overall, around Tk 12.63 crore of honorariums were supposed to be distributed that year.

In 2017-18 session, teachers were to receive Tk 1.4 lakh each. The Daily Star only found a part of that academic year's information. A document shows that the authorities allocated Tk 1 lakh for a portion of the VC's honorarium.

Similarly huge amounts were distributed in the other three academic years. According to the financial documents, honorariums are given for two services, performing separate duties during the admission test and being a member of the central admission test's governing body.

The money is determined based on the amount of work done, like the number of shifts completed or participation in meetings.

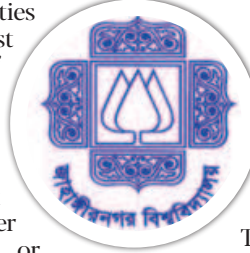
This system is not a part of any overarching law. It is the university's own practice. Moreover, in some years, in the name of "dignity", the same amount of honorarium is given to top administrators, regardless of the amount of work they have done.

For 2020-21, Prof Dr Amir Hossain, former pro-VC (administration), received Tk 1.43 lakh for being a member of the admission test's governing body, while Prof Sheikh Monjurul Haq, the current pro-VC, received the same amount.

Prof Amir said, "I attended eight meetings as the pro-VC. So, I was given the full honorarium."

Treasurer Rasheda Akhtar, also chair of the university's finance committee, said, "Pro-VCs are seniors and respectable persons. Distributing money among them based on work is insulting and the practice of awarding them with the full honorarium is nothing new."

Prof Anu Muhammad, economist and former faculty member of JU, termed this form of distribution illogical.



"This is unacceptable and insulting for us. Not only for five years, this has been going on for more than a decade. The authorities grab a huge amount of money in name of honorariums. The work they do is the bare minimum for such amounts."

"UGC has submitted a report for the 2019-20 session. But this is not enough. An overall investigation is needed for every session. The authorities should lower the money taken for admission forms and ensure that the money earned from admission tests be used for the university's welfare," he added.

VC Prof Nurul Alam said, "I rejected a big amount of this year's honorarium allocated for me."

The authorities, however, did not explain the rationale behind such honorariums.

'EX-INFO SECRETARY'S SCAM'

HC wants to know about ACC's action

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday wanted to know whether Anti-Corruption Commission has taken any action centring the reported financial scam of former information and broadcasting secretary Mokbul Hossain, who was sent to retirement on Sunday on "public interest".

The court also ordered ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan to get the information from ACC and to present it before the court by October 27.

The HC bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice Khizir Hayat Lizu passed the order as a suo moto (voluntary) move, following a report published on Bangla daily Kalbela on October 17 under the headline "Ortho Kelenkarite Chakri Haralen Shachib Mokbul (Secretary Mokbul loses job due to financial scam)".

Lawyer Khurshid told The Daily Star that the

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Taking steps for food, energy security: Momen

UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen yesterday said Bangladesh remains prudent in taking precautionary measures on two key fronts -- food and energy security -- to deal with the challenges ahead due to the Russia-Ukraine war.

He said this while speaking to reporters at the foreign ministry.

Momen said Bangladesh always wants peace and stability in the world, especially regional stability. He mentioned that the government has already started taking actions for energy and food security.

Because of the precautionary measures, the

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A passenger extends his umbrella to the rickshaw-puller after a sudden drizzle took over the city yesterday afternoon, to make sure he too stays dry while taking them to their destination. This photo was taken in Tejgaon area.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Not only for five years, this has been going on for more than a decade. The authorities grab a huge amount of money in the name of honorariums. UGC has submitted a report for the 2019-20 session. But this is not enough. An overall investigation is needed for every session. The authorities should lower the money taken for admission forms and ensure that the money earned from admission tests be used for the university's welfare.

PROF ANU MUHAMMAD

লেজার পাইলস, ফিস্টুলা অপারেশন, কোষ্ঠকাঠিন্য, পলিপ, কোলোনস্কপি, কোলন, রেকটাম ক্যান্সার ও ল্যাপারোস্কপি

পেটের খাদ্যনালী ও মলদ্বারের (Colon, Rectum and Anus) বিভিন্ন সমস্যা যেমন- মলত্যাগের পর রক্ত যাওয়া, মলদ্বারের বিভিন্ন সমস্যা, ফিস্টুলা, এনালফিসার, রক্ত আমাশয় (Ulcerative Colitis), লেজার পাইলস অপারেশন, সর্বাধুনিক ল্যাপোস্কপি পদ্ধতিতে পাইলস অপারেশন, মলদ্বারের বারো বারো অপারেশন ব্যর্থ হওয়ার কারণ, বাধামুক্ত মল ত্যাগের জন্য (Obstructed Defecation) STARR অপারেশন, পেটের ভেতর খাদ্যনালীর ক্যান্সার (Colon Cancer), Colonoscopy, পায়ুপথ ক্যান্সার (Rectum Cancer) মলদ্বার না কেটে অত্যাধুনিক হ্যাপালিং পদ্ধতিতে পেটে ব্যাগ না লাগিয়ে অপারেশন, ল্যাপারোস্কপিক পদ্ধতিতে পেট না কেটে কোলন ক্যান্সার অপারেশন, শিশুদের পায়খানার সাথে রক্ত যাওয়া ইত্যাদির অত্যাধুনিক ও বিশ্বমানের চিকিৎসা সম্পর্কে জানতে হলে বইটি পড়ুন।

বইটি লিখেছেন বাংলাদেশ এবং উপমহাদেশের পাইওনিয়ার কলোরেকটাল সার্জন

কলোরেকটাল সার্জিরে বিশ্বব্যাপী সর্বোচ্চ মূল্য বহনকারী সম্পদকেই সার্জন

অধ্যাপক ডাঃ এ. কে. এম. ফজলুল হক

এমবিবিএস, এফসিসিএস, এফআইসিএস
ইউরোলজিস্ট সার্জন (ফ্রান্স), কলোরেকটাল সার্জি (সিংগাপুর)
গ্রীকিডাতা চেয়ারম্যান (অবঃ), কলোরেকটাল সার্জারী বিভাগ,
বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিব মেডিকেল ইউনিভার্সিটি।

সম্পাদনা করে ডাঃ আশিক আলমাস হক

এমবিবিএস (এসএসএমসি), এফআরসিএস (এডিনবরা)
এফসিসিএস (সার্জারী), এফআরসিএস (গ্র্যান্ডপো)
এফআরসিএস (ইংল্যান্ড), এফএসসিএস (যুক্তরাষ্ট্র)
এফএসসিএস (যুক্তরাষ্ট্র)

কনসাল্টাণ্ট ল্যাপারোস্কপিক, লেজার ও কলোরেকটাল সার্জন

ইডেন মাল্টি-কেয়ার হসপিটাল

৭০৩ সাত-মসজিদ রোড, আবাহনী মার্গের দক্ষিণ পশ্চিমে, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা। ফোন: ০২-৫৮১৫০০০৭-১০
মোবাইল: ০১৭৫৫-৬৯৭১৭৩, ০১৭৫৫-৬৯৭১৭৪, ০১৭৫৫-৬৯৭১৭৫-৬
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