

5 POPULAR EATERIES in and around DU campus

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On July 1, 2024, Dhaka University celebrated its 103rd anniversary. University life is an experience in itself. Besides the education and the bonds of friendship people share, a notable aspect that shines in every person's heart is campus food.

We spoke to a few students and DU graduates about their favourite campus eateries and here's what we found.

Campus Shadow

The tiny shop is well known for its lemonade, but the best item there is the luchi-daal, which is only served in the



afternoon. The luchi is always served hot, straight from the fryer! If you walk by Mall Chattar in the afternoon, the aroma will certainly lure you towards this simple place.

"Praner Mela" (carnival of life) -- is the phrase used to describe TSC. If you ever had the opportunity to be here for any occasion, you would know that it's a



befitting name.

One of the reasons for the popularity of TSC is the affordable food it offers. Whether it's the khichuri or the chicken with rice, students line up all the same. Besides lunch, breakfast and snacks are also served here and the place is almost always jam-packed. Taking a sip of their lemon tea while strumming a guitar is a common sight here.

Hakim Chattar



Standing beside the central library, Hakim Chattar is more popular for its location than the food. The usual khichuri, soup, and snacks such as shingara and pakora make up the menu here. And of course, there is tea.

It is hard to find a time when this place is not crowded. Many students prefer to come here from the central library for a quick bite. On other occasions, it's just a convenient place to sit for a quick meal under the shade of

Mama Hotel

It is difficult to find someone who studies at Dhaka University but has not been to Mama Hotel. Located just outside of the DU campus, the hotel is always bustling with students. The owners have formed a bond with the students and make them feel welcome. As a result, whether it's a special meal

with beef, brain, shrimp, or just a regular dinner with a dash of jhal fry, bhorta, and bhaji -- students of DU rush to Mama Hotel whenever they feel like having a feast.

Charukala Gate

This particular eatery is a temporary shop that only operates in the afternoon. At the Charukala gate, one can find fried chicken. Every day, people line up to get a taste of this snack. With a little bit of sauce, it is a decent offer, given the reasonable price. However, to treat yourself to a piece of this famous fried chicken, you will have to battle through a crowd.

Honourable Mentions

Of course, there are other options in the campus. IBA and FBS Canteen are two places that offer good food, but are overlooked because many feel that the food there is somewhat overpriced. There is also Royal Tehari - a small shop at Nilkhet, which holds a special place in the heart of DU students, much like Mama Hotel.

Madhur Canteen is a legendary eatery, but the place is usually crowded for its political importance. As a result, students turn to DUCSU Cafeteria, which perhaps offers the most affordable food option on campus. And just across from DUCSU, DU Coffee Hut offers fast food and juices.

This list is by no means comprehensive, and there are several options scattered throughout campus. Everyone has their share of fond memories about them.

What's yours?

ACC finds 12 heads of Brahman cattle in Sadeeq Agro Goat priced Tk 15 lakh found

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday raided a farm of Sadeeq Agro in Savar's Bhakurta and found five Brahman cows and seven calves.

ACC Assistant Director Abul Kalam Azad who led the drive, told reporters that they would investigate how the cattle were brought to the farm as there is a ban on importing such cattle.

He added that they found the goat worth Tk 15 lakh there, whose price is now the talk of the

Earlier in the day, the nine-member ACC team went to Central Cattle Breeding and Dairy Farm (CCBDF), Savar, to enquire about 18 Brahman cows that were seized and kept at the farm for rearing. Sadeeq Agro imported them without

permission three years ago. CCBDF Director Monirul Islam told The Daily

Star that three of the 18 cows died. Dairy Farmers Association bought 15 cows from the fisheries and livestock ministry on condition of selling the meat at fair price during Ramadan.

Sadeeq Agro owner Imran Hossain is the president of the organisation.

Asked whether the cows were slaughtered, Monirul said they were not tasked with supervising it. "We handed over the cows to them as per

ACC Assistant Director Azad said they would probe allegations against Imran of selling the same kind of cattle before Eid-ul-Azha. It would also be investigated whether any CCBDF official is involved in Sadeeq Agro.

Australia doubles foreign student visa fees

REUTERS, Sydney

Australia said yesterday it had more than doubled the visa fee for international students, the latest move by the government to rein in record migration that has intensified pressure on an already tight housing market.

From July 1, the international student visa fee has risen to A\$1,600 (\$1,068) from A\$710, while visitor visa holders and students with temporary graduate visas are banned from applying onshore for a student visa.

A lone train operating on Tk 2,110cr line!

stations in this section operational due to a lack of manpower. Several buildings construed for the railway staffers at those stations still remain unused, leading to their decay.

The Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) under the planning ministry made these observations in its recently published Impact Assessment Report on the

The project was taken up to revive a 75km old line and build a 32km new track at a cost of Tk 1,101.32 crore.

The IMED report said the contractors used oversised stones on the rail track, making the line risky. It also found that a lack of maintenance and unauthorised level crossings are increasing the risks of accidents.

Transport expert Hadiuzzaman said taking up a project without a feasibility study is not a good example.

"It is not possible to know the traffic demand, best locations of stations and the best possible links with roads without a proper study. Investing such a huge amount in a project without a study is questionable," he told The Daily Star vesterday.

As the BR invested money without assessing the traffic demand, they are operating only one train now which is not bringing enough returns for their investment, said Hadiuzzaman, a

professor of civil engineering at Buet. directors oversaw the scheme and the The Tungipara Express, which

was launched in 2019, operates from Gobra of Tungipara to Rajshahi via Rajbari. The BR could have invested this

money in other projects if a proper study was conducted beforehand, he

suggested that the project should be stations but those were degrading as iken up a few years later, the expert—those were unoccupied

THE PROJECT

The rail line from Kalukhali of Rajbari to Bhatiapara Ghat of Gopalganj was constructed in 1932 but the line became inoperative in

The government in 2010 approved a project to revive the 75.5km section and build 32.35km of lines between Kashiani and Gopalganj to bring Tungipara, the birthplace of the father of the nation, under the railway network.

The project was supposed to be completed by June 2013. But it was completed in December 2018 with 330 percent time extension and 91.61 percent cost escalation, shows IMED

The IMED report said that the project saw time and cost overruns as it was taken up without a feasibility

It also said that nine project

frequent changes of PDs hindered its progress to some extent.

The IMED said the rail line is not being maintained properly. Five years have passed since the opening of the rail line, but the BR is vet to deploy waymen (track maintenance workers).

According to the report, three staff A proper study might have quarters were built at each of the five

Also, four stations on Kashiani-Gopalganj-Tungipara remain inoperative due to a lack of manpower. The stones used on the rail line is

30 to 40 percent oversised and the amount of stones were not adequate, the report mentioned. Contacted. BR Director General

Sardar Shahadat Ali yesterday said he would not comment on the project as he was not the DG when it was taken

He said they have shortages of manpower, locomotives and carriages and that's why they cannot make all stations operational and operate more trains on the line.

Asked about the return on investment, he said, "It's true that we are not getting enough return on the investment now. But we will have the expected return when will be able to operate more trains. However, it may take some more time."

65pc for written part

five, and 10 in January 2025.

As per the new curriculum, students of pre-primary to grade three will not be assessed through exams. For higher classes, there will be exams along with continuous assessment.

DRAFTING AND APPROVAL

The NCTB drafted the assessment method in February. However, there were controversies and protests from guardians and teachers regarding written exams.

ministry formed a coordination committee for the evaluation system and curriculum.

The NCTB draft was further revised based on this committee's suggestions. The final draft was subsequently sent to the ministry for approval following the NCCC meeting, according to the NCTB.

KEY DECISIONS IN FINAL DRAFT

National Curriculum Framework-2021, the NCTB outlined two broad forms of learning assessment: formative (continuous classroom-based assessment) and summative (at the end of an academic

Following a major change in the summative assessment, students will now have to sit for five-hour-long tests for each subject: four hours for "practical" activity and one for "theoretical" written test. There will be an interval in between. According to the new assessment

method, 65 percent will be on written

tests while 35 on practical activity. Meanwhile, SSC exams, which take

place at the end of the 10th grade, will be conducted by the existing education boards at different exam centres, but the evaluation process will be under the new curriculum, according to the NTCB.

When publishing the report card of SSC, there will no longer use a GPA system. Instead, there will be seven scales to describe the level of competency, with "initial" at the bottom and "unique" at the top. Following this, the education ADVANCEMENT FROM SSC TO HSC

From now on, SSC students will be allowed to advance to the HSC level even if they fail up to two subjects.

They will, however, receive a mark sheet showing their scores and will need to retake and pass the failed subjects in subsequent examinations to obtain full marks.

TECHNICAL, MADRASA EXAMS

the other hand, public examinations in some specialised subjects under the Technical and Madrasa education boards will continue to use the old method for next few years, as decided in the NCCC meeting.

Prof Md Mamun Ul Haque, acting chairman of the Technical Education Pension protest Board, said class nine students under FROM PAGE 1 this board will continue to take public exams in four specialised subjects using the old creative method due to the delay in making new textbooks for those subjects.

For the same reason, the Madrasa education board will be do the same.

after mob attacks Syrian properties

Turkey arrests 67

AFP, Istanbul

Turkish police were holding 67 people yesterday after a mob went on the rampage in a central Anatolian city after a Syrian man was accused of harassing a child.

A group of men targeted Syrian businesses and properties in Kayseri on Sunday evening, with videos on social media showing a grocery store being set on fire.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan condemned the latest bout of violence against Turkey's large community of Syrian refugees.

"No matter who they are, setting streets and people's houses on fire is unacceptable," he said, warning that hate speech should not be used for political gains.

Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said the Syrian national, identified only by his initials as I.A., was caught by Turkish citizens and delivered to the police.

recruitments for government jobs. Jahangirnagar University students

kept the Dhaka-Aricha highway blocked for several minutes.

The High Court on June 5 ordered a 30 percent quota for the freedom fighters' children in government jobs.

Explain VAT claims against S Alam firms: HC to NBR

FROM PAGE 12

Excise Customs. Chattogram, Commissionerate, without hearing the two companies should not be declared illegal.

respondents The commissioner commissioners of the Chattogram commissionerate; and revenue officer of Customs, Excise & VAT, Karnaphuli Circle, Taltola Chowki, Patia, Chattogram -- were asked to come up with an explanation within

The court also asked them why the commissioner of the Chattogram commissionerate should not be asked to dispose of the matter by strictly following sections 73 and 85 of the Value Added Tax and Supplementary Duty Act, 2012.

The HC bench of Justice Zafar Ahmed and Justice Sardar Md Rashed Jahangir issued the rules after two writ petitions were filed by the two companies.

The bench also fixed July 15 to

hold a hearing on the rules.

During yesterday's hearing, the companies' lawyer Ahsanul Karim told the bench that his clients on June 4 sought time from the commissionerate for their senior counsel to appear for hearings.

He said his clients were not heard before the adjudication orders were issued. The commissioner of the Chattogram commissionerate violated the principle of natural justice in passing the orders by not allowing his clients to defend themselves against allegations made in show-cause notices issued on October 4 and December 27 last year and on March 18 this year, the lawyer

Deputy Attorney General Nawroz MR Chowdhury representing the government told the court that the companies were given time on several occasions over the last one year to submit their statements before the commissioner to uphold the principle of natural justice.

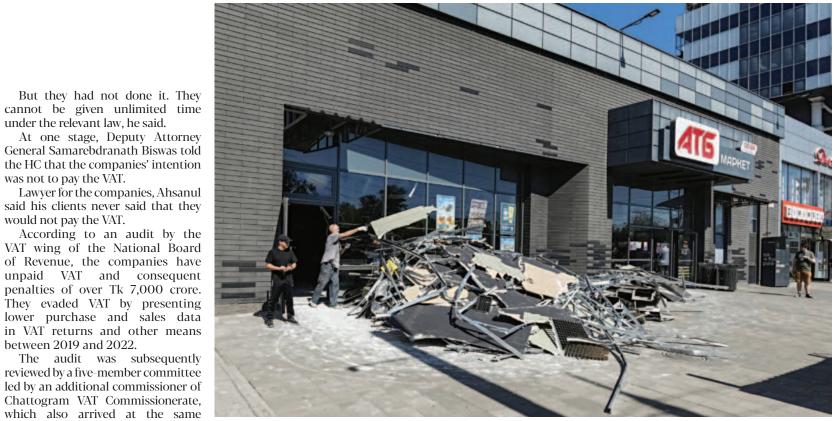
But they had not done it. They cannot be given unlimited time

under the relevant law, he said. At one stage, Deputy Attorney General Samarebdranath Biswas told the HC that the companies' intention was not to pay the VAT.

Lawyer for the companies, Ahsanul said his clients never said that they would not pay the VAT.

According to an audit by the VAT wing of the National Board of Revenue, the companies have unpaid VAT and consequent penalties of over Tk 7,000 crore. They evaded VAT by presenting lower purchase and sales data in VAT returns and other means between 2019 and 2022.

Chattogram VAT Commissionerate, which also arrived at the same conclusion. The two companies denied any wrongdoing.



A worker removes debris from a supermarket damaged by a Russian missile strike, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Dnipro, Ukraine yesterday.