

Buet says no to uniform admission test

Mohiuddin Alamgir

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology has decided not to join a cluster to hold a uniform admission test; rather it would enrol students through its own admission tests like previous years.

The decision comes at a time when Buet and three other public engineering universities, who had earlier agreed on a cluster admission test system, were divided on the question of where the exams would be held.

Opinion was also divided on which university the chairman of the admission committee will come from.

University Grants Commission member Muhammed Alamgir told The Daily Star yesterday that they came to know that the Buet authorities opted not to join the cluster admission test system after an academic council meeting.

"It was decided that the Buet will enrol students through admission tests of its own like previous years," he said.

Buet was supposed to join the cluster admission test system with three other universities -- Chattogram University of Engineering and Technology (Cuet), Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) and Khulna University of Engineering and Technology (Kuet).

Alamgir said now Cuet, Ruet and Kuet will form a cluster.

Buet was uninterested in joining the cluster admission system when the idea was floated in January last year. But they had shown their interest in November through a letter to UGC.

Since Buet showed the interest, they demanded that their representative would always be the chairman of the admission committee, and the exams be held at Buet only.

But three other universities proposed nominating the chairman and test centre following alphabetic order.

Top officials of four universities in a meeting on January 20 could not reach a consensus on chairmanship of the admission test committee and the test centre, UGC officials said.

On January 23 this year, the UGC announced that universities would hold a uniform admission test in the 2020-2021 academic year.

The new method of university admission is aimed at relieving admission seekers of the hassles of travelling to different universities across the country just to be able to sit the tests.