

PSC finally admits question paper leakage BCS exam of Feb 28 cancelled as widespread protests continue

Staff Correspondent

In the backdrop of the widespread protests against alleged leakage of the question papers of the 24th BCS preliminary examinations, the Public Service Commission (PSC) on Monday cancelled the examination, which was held on February 28 (Friday).

The decision of cancellation of the examination was taken at an emergency meeting of PSC on Monday to dispel doubts in pub-

lic mind and controversies.

The PSC, even on Sunday, however, turned down all the newspaper reports in this regard and said it found no evidence relating to the leakage of the question paper, sticking to its earlier stand not to scrap the examination despite widespread demands.

Fresh date for the examinations will be announced soon.

Meanwhile, the PSC, regarding another examination held on Sunday, said that no change has been made in examination system and therefore the reports published in some newspapers on Monday were not correct.

About 1.2 lakh candidates took part in the BCS 24th Preliminary Examination on February 28 against 4,540 posts under various cadres.

Our Varsity Correspondent report adds: The examinees of the 24th BCS preliminary examination continued their agitation for the third consecutive day on Monday in different educational institutions demanding cancellation of the examinations.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of ruling BNP expressed its support to the demand of cancellation of the BCS examinations. At a rally staged at the foot of Aparajeyo Bangla of Dhaka University on Monday JCD urged the authority of Public Service Commission and the government to hold fresh examination.

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) demonstrated on Dhaka University campus in support of today's (Tuesday) strike in all educational institutions throughout the country. BCL called the strike protesting the leakage of BCS question papers.

Students and guardians from different sections of the country rejected the statement of Public Service Commission (PSC) on the leakage of question paper of the 24th BCS preliminary examination, in which the PSC denied the incident of leakage of the question papers.

The PSC also on Monday held a meeting and stuck to its earlier decision not to cancel the preliminary test of the 24th BCS.

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But, the students and guardians reiterated their demands for holding the examination afresh, resignation of the PSC Chairman Prof ZN Tahmida Begum and exemplary punishment to the concerned persons by investigating into the incident.

General students and different student organisations of Dhaka University, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and Dhaka Medical College (DMC) and all other public universities of the country protested against the leakage of the

question papers and staged rallies and brought out processions on their respective campuses.

On the Dhaka University campus, general students in a procession tried to proceed to the PSC at Tejgaon, but police intercepted it at Shahbagh crossing at about 12 noon.

"Although the evidences clearly showed the leakage of the question paper, how PSC can deny it," many of the students and guardians deplored the incident on Monday.

They said even if the PSC tries to continue the process, it will create a controversy and the result of such a public examination will not be acceptable to the nation.

BCL staged a rally in front of Arts Building in support of its strike. Addressing the rally the BCL leader urged its workers to make the strike a success.

Presided over by its president Liakar Sikder, the rally was addressed among others by General Secretary Nazrul Islam Babu, Vice-President Marufa Akhter Popy, Zakir and Hossain Maruf.

JCD held rally at the premises of Aparajeyo Bangla. President of JCD Shahabudin Lahu, General Secretary Azizul Bari Helal, Senior Vice-president Sultan Salauddin Tuku, Organising Secretary Shafiul Bari Babu, Vice-President Farhad Hossain Azad, DU unit President Amirul Islam Alim, General Secretary Hasan Manum addressed the rally.

Following the rally JCD also brought out a procession on the campus.