

# Many HSC candidates risk missing exams in flood zones

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Many candidates of the Higher Secondary Certificate and equivalent examinations in the flood affected areas are at risk of missing the examination today (Thursday).

While the ministry already postponed the exams in Sylhet division, on Wednesday the ministry also postponed the half-yearly exams in different secondary level schools in different districts due to worsening flood situation.



The half-yearly exams started in the secondary schools across the country on the day under the new assessment system for the new curriculum.

Scores of villages remained swamped by water in northern, north-eastern and south-western parts of the country.

Sporadic landslides also occurred in the hilly districts of Rangamati, Khagrachari and Bandarban in the past few days leaving the candidates at danger of missing the examinations.

Two students who went missing in the Tindu area under Alikadam upazila in Bandarban on Monday were yet to be recovered as of Tuesday evening.

Professor Tapan Kumar Sarkar, chief of the inter-education board coordination committee, said that as per their decision till Wednesday evening, HSC exams would continue across the country except Sylhet division and one examination centre in Rangamati (Kachalong Govt Degree College) on Thursday.

'We will observe the situation and take decision based on situation,' he said and added that due to the pandemic situation the exams were taken lately in last few years.

The HSC and equivalent exams started on June 30 across the country except in the Sylhet division as the exams were postponed there till July 8 following the worsening flood situation.

The education ministry on Tuesday postponed the exams at Phulgazi and Parshuram upazilas in Feni only for the day due to the flood situation.

After one day break, the exam is scheduled to be held there today.

Kachalong Govt Degree College is an exam centre under Baghaichari upazila in Rangamati district.

On Wednesday the college's entire campus including ground floor, adjacent playground and roads went under water while the candidates of degree examinations attended the exams by boats.

Considering the situation, the examination in the centre has been postponed by the ministry.

Rangamati district education officer Mridul Kanti Talukder said that the half-yearly exams in five secondary schools were postponed on the day.

The district education officers from Khagrachari and Bandarban said that HSC exam centres were not affected.

'On Tuesday I suffered a lot to reach the centre as I had to walk under rain after not getting any transport,' said T Mro, a HSC candidate at Bandarban Sadar, and added that she was worried about Thursday's exam.

Kurigram district education officer Md Shamsul Alam said that though roads were submerged at places, the centres were not affected.

Roads at some places in Kalmakanda, Durgapur and Madan upazilas under Netrakona district remained under water till Wednesday but the centres were not affected, said the district education officer Md Zubayer Sayed.

Half-yearly exams in two schools were suspended, he added.

Feni district education officer Md Shafi Ullah said that Porshuram and Phulgazi upazilas were still flood-affected.

Gaibandha district education officer Roksana Begum said that the char areas were affected badly by flood.

New Age correspondent in Sylhet reported that half-yearly exams were suspended at nine schools out of 23 secondary schools on Wednesday.

Last year, the HSC and equivalent exams were deferred by 10 days under the Chattogram, Madrassah and Technical education boards due to the flood situation.

The education minister, Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury, at a press conference on June 30 said that they were trying to take steps to hold the HSC and equivalent exams from April from the next year.

In a statement issued on June 21, UNICEF representative to Bangladesh Sheldon Yett said that over 7.72 lakh children were affected by flash floods in North-East Bangladesh.