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Frequent hartals hamper Dhaka Varsity examinees

Masters and Honours final examinees of the Dhaka University are being seriously affected due to frequent shifting or postponement of scheduled examinations because of hartals, reports UNB.

Postponement of examinations also keeps the honours examinees in constant mental agony as to their chances of appearing in the Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examinations. Because, they do not know when their examinations will be over.

The DU authorities twice shifted some honours and masters examinations due to siege and hartal programmes last month. Again, they were forced to postpone the examinations due to hartals and strikes on April 9-12 and 18, and no fresh dates were yet announced.

The masters and honours examinations began simultaneously on March 14 and were scheduled to end by the 2nd week of May. But because of frequent postponements, nobody knows when these will be over.

Meanwhile, the Public Service Commission has invited applications by June 6, 1995 for the ensuing BCS examination.

The honours students, finishing their examinations before June 6, will be eligible to apply for the coveted competitive exam.

"Thousands of students will be denied the opportunity to appear in the BCS examination, if the university authorities fail to take examinations within May", said Ruhul Martin, an honours examinee of the Journalism department.

"My tension mounted as I fear that I may miss the BCS examination due to shifting of my examinations", said Qamrunnahr Sheila, another honours examinee of the same department.

Some masters and honours examinees accused the university authorities of being naive as they failed to announce the fate of the examinations well in advance.

They said they suffer from tension whenever a hartal programme falls on the same date of their examination, and the authorities keeping them in the dark until the last moment about the fate of the examinations.

The students suggested the authorities to take examination in due time in consultation with the student bodies so that the exams are kept out of hartals and strikes.

"The authorities can take examination on every Friday, usually there are no hartal or strikes on the day", offered Papia Haq, an honours examinee of the History department.

Some student organisation leaders suggested to take the examinations at night.