

Univs, English schools to go on Eid holiday today

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All public and private universities and English-medium schools operating under foreign curricula in the country are set to go on Eid holiday from today, as per an announcement by the education ministry issued on Sunday.

The decision comes in an effort to save electricity and fuel in the wake of the war raging through the Gulf Arab countries, triggered as the United States and Israel jointly struck Iran over a week ago.

All types of coaching centres, including those serving both Bangla and English-medium students, will also remain closed during this period.

The ministry's Secondary and Higher Education Division issued separate orders regarding its decisions, one of which included an 11-point charter of directives for universities to follow in this regard.

One of the orders sent to the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh and Bangladesh Accreditation Council has asked them to take necessary steps to implement its content at the universities.

UGC chairman SMA Faiz told New Age on the day that they had already communicated with the authorities of all universities to convey the directive.

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Being autonomous bodies, universities follow their own decisions regarding holidays that has led some universities to have already gone on Eid-ul-Fitr holidays, while many others had remained open until today.

The division issued the other order to all the education boards regarding closing of all the English-medium schools operating under foreign curricula and coaching centres.

Following government decisions, Eid holidays started at all primary and secondary level educational institutions from February 19, the day when Ramadan started.

These educational institutions are scheduled to be closed till March 26.

Education ministry public relations officer Khalid Mahamood told New Age that English medium schools and coaching centres would also remain closed till March 26.

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March 26 is followed by the weekend of Friday and Saturday (March 27–28), setting all educational institutions to reopen on March 29.

According to a Sunday press release issued by the ministry, a meeting chaired by education minister ANM Ehsanul Hoque Milon was held with representatives of schools operating under foreign curricula (English-medium schools) in several cities, including Dhaka.

The meeting was held at the Secondary and Higher Education Division's conference room at Bangladesh Secretariat on formation of separate guidelines for English-medium schools and coaching centres.

It was also decided that during the period of closure, English-medium schools would be allowed to arrange for examinations.

The meeting also discussed academic activities during Ramadan taking into perspective public suffering in the cities during Ramadan and also the current global situation.

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Secondary and Higher Education Division secretary Abdul Khaleque attended the meeting, among others.

According to the Bangladesh Education Statistics 2024, country's 147 English medium schools had 29,077 students and 7,178 teachers.

[Geographic Reference](#)

Holiday in all madrassahs under the education ministry began on February 15, while all the government and non-government colleges went on holiday from February 11.

The 11-point charter of directives issued by the Secondary and Higher Education Division for the universities read: avoid using electric lights by keeping windows and doors open during daytime; use maximum half of the lights installed; turn off all the additional lights, fans, air conditioners and other electrical appliances during office hours; if air conditioners are used at all, temperature should be kept at 25C or above; turn off all electrical appliances, including lights, fans, air conditioners when leaving the office room; stop using unnecessary lights in office corridors, stairs, washrooms, and such places; use energy-efficient appliances; turn off lights, fans, computers, printers and all other electric appliances when at the end of office hours; stop using lighting for festival and celebration occasions; limit the use of vehicles as much as possible; and be economical in fuel consumption.