

HSC EXAMS POSTPONED AGAIN Hartal frustrates examinees

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All examinations of Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) and of its equivalence, which were scheduled for today, have been postponed due to BNP's dawn-to-dusk hartal for the third successive day.

The postponed examinations under eight general education boards have been rescheduled for May 23, said a handout of the education ministry.

However, the changed schedule of the examination under technical board will be informed later through print and electronic media, it said. There is no examination under madrasa board.

Around 9.26 lakh examinees are appearing in the HSC and equivalent examinations that began on April 1. Postponement of NU Exams

Meanwhile, the second year honours examinations of 2010 at National University slated for today have also been postponed. The delayed examinations will be held on May 5.

Examination on physics, geography

and environment, mathematics were scheduled for today, said an NU press release.

The opposition BNP continued its countrywide hartal for the third consecutive day in protest of the "disappearance" of Sylhet BNP leader M Ilias Ali.

The first term examinations at different schools are also being hampered due to the hartal, with the authorities rescheduling the examinations for the last three days over and over again.

Examinees, teachers, and guardians expressed their frustration over the continued hartal and urged the opposition party not to enforce hartal anymore for the sake of students.

"Consecutive hartals have already demoralised us. I prepared well for tomorrow's [today] examination but now I have to take the preparation once again", said Imtiaz Rahman, a HSC examinee.

Another HSC examinee, Mariam Sultana, from Lalmatia Mahila College, said it broke the concentration whenever any examination was delayed.

Nabidul Islam, a man whose daughter is sitting the HSC exam from Viqarunnisa Noon School and College, said, "We are gravely anxious if the examinations would complete. If it goes like this, we don't know when the exams will be over and when we will get the results".

The political parties should take the students' academic life into consideration before announcing any such programme, he said.

Manju Ara Begum, acting principal of Viqarunnisa Noon School and College, said the ongoing hartal would definitely have a negative impact on students and examinees' preparation.

"We have failed to hold exams during the hartal. So it will not be possible to announce the results in due time", she told The Daily Star.

The first term examination is in progress and the authorities have already rescheduled two examinations, she said, urging the political parties to consider the future of thousands of students before going for such political programmes.