

Medical college admission test questions were leaked

Reveals probe of citizens' committee led by Prof Anu Muhammad; test rerun recommended

DU CORRESPONDENT

A citizens' committee, which was formed to investigate the alleged question leak of the medical and dental college admission test, yesterday reported that questions were leaked before the test and marks were tampered with.

The committee also placed 11 recommendations including rerunning the admission exam.

"The admission test held on September 18 has lost its moral and legal base as it was beset with corrup-

tion, irregularity and question leaks. The students who passed the test have also fallen into a trap of stigma; so the admission test must be held again," said the committee report.

A 15-member committee led by Jahangirnagar University's Prof Anu Muhammad published the report through a press conference at TSC of Dhaka University.

The committee found evidence that candidates who bought the leaked questions were assured of admission and that the leaked and real questions matched

with exception in the order.

IT expert Fida Huq, a member of the committee, said, "Emails containing questions and answers were sent to different admission seekers at 6:41am, around three hours before the exam took place and it resembled questions in the real test."

The screenshots of the emails and other website links were showed in the report.

Prof Anu Muhammad alleged that the health minister repeatedly dismissed the allegations of the question leak and involvement of government

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high officials in the process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The probe body recommended forming a supreme independent probe committee to ensure punishment for those who leaked the questions.

It also called for creating a "medical education commission" to conduct fair admission tests since the interference of the health ministry created controversies.

The committee also demanded enforcement of laws to stop question leaks. It criticised the suspicious death of a UGC official, who was arrested for his alleged involvement in the leak, under Rab's custody. A group of citizens formed the committee on October 19. It collected evidence from various sources, had them scrutinised by IT experts, talked to protesters and government officials and evaluated the question formulation procedure.

The committee also includes barristers Sara Hossain and Jyotirmoy Barua, BSMMU's ex-professor Dr Fazlur Rahman, hydrologist M Inamul Huq, academic AN Rasheda, vocalist Mahmuduzzaman Babu and DU teachers Mohammad Tanzimuddin Khan and Samina Lutfa.