



BCS RECRUITMENT

Pvt university graduates show little interest

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Graduates from private universities and medical colleges have shown little interest in public service, representing only 1-2 per cent of the recommended list, which remains overwhelmingly dominated by alumni of public universities.

Educationalists say this has been the tendency for years as these graduates have different perspectives and career motivation, as well as a different understanding of power and politics. Private universities had only 1.34 per cent in the 43rd Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) recommendation list, down from 2.19 per cent in the 41st.

The 42nd was a special batch.

Public universities, particularly the University of Dhaka, continued to dominate with 30 per cent of the total recommendations on average in recent results, according to the annual reports of the Bangladesh Public Service Commission (BPSC).

BPSC final results of the 43rd BCS recommended 2,163 candidates for appointments in various cadres.

Public universities claimed the lion's share, 92.70 per cent in the 43rd list, with Dhaka University having 30.51 per cent or 660 recommendations.

Public institutes did almost the same in the 41st, with 90.58 per cent of the total recommendations. Dhaka University had 29.57 per cent.

National University covered 3.33 per cent in the 43rd BCS recommendation list and 3.50 per cent in the 41st.

Others had 2.64 per cent in the 43rd and 3.74 per cent in the 41st.

Dhaka University teacher and former PSC member Prof Mohammad Tanzimuddin Khan told the FE that BCS traditionally is not a matter of interest for private university students. "Furthermore, BCS, with some exceptions, is largely not a creative and comfortable job.

Private university students mostly come from well-off families. These make public service not that attractive to them," he explained. Public university students are mostly non-urban and closely observe power and politics,

which often attract them towards BCS, according to the teacher.

Sibbir Ahmad, an assistant professor of economics at North South University, explained that private university students' families spend a bigger amount of money on education and therefore the graduates do not want to spend much time preparing for government jobs while remaining unemployed.

That is why they have greater interest in the private sector, which gives them immediate returns, while another section of them usually tries to move abroad, he said.

He said public service exams are a long journey, which demotivates such graduates.

"Joining public service is largely not about serving the state. Rather, it is linked to job safety and being part of the social power structure," he also said.

When it comes to major public universities, like Dhaka University, they offer a positive environment for BCS and access to resources plays a key role, he says.

"Education is a signal. Top institutes across the globe see a positive signal. It could work for major institutes like Dhaka University and they have larger alumni, which works as motivation," he said.

The percentage of participating public university students, particularly Dhaka University, is also higher than other institutions. Therefore, the percentage in the final recommendation is also higher, both teachers clarified.

In terms of gender participation, the 43rd BCS recommended 80.54 per cent men and 19.46 per cent women.

It was 73.29 per cent men and 26.71 per cent women in the 41st BCS recommendations, according to the BPSC data.

Women's percentage in the 38th and 40th BCS remained about 26-27 per cent in the final recommendations.

In terms of age, ages between 21 and 29 dominate, with 23-25 years old covering 29.21 per cent and 25-27 covering 20.07 per cent.

Prof Tanzimuddin explained that the situation for women had changed amid a challenging environment in the country.

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