

Rumeen questions govt's refusal to defer HSC exam amid disaster

Staff Correspondent  14 July, 2026, 17:21



Rumeen Farhana. | File photo

Independent lawmaker Rumeen Farhana on Tuesday questioned the government's decision not to defer the Higher Secondary Certificate examination by one or two days despite students' demands amid natural calamities, while education minister ANM Ehsanul Haque Milon defended the decision.

The minister, however, admitted errors in the physics question paper and announced that all examinees would receive full marks for the two flawed

questions.

Raising a supplementary question in the Jatiya Sangsad during the question-answer session chaired by deputy speaker Kayser Kamal, Rumeen said that students had requested a short postponement of the examination but their demand was not considered, leading to protests in Dhaka.

She said that the HSC examination was crucial for students' future academic prospects and questioned why the authorities had not postponed the physics examination despite the flawed questions.

In reply, the education minister said that the decision to hold the examination as scheduled had been taken after reviewing the overall situation across the country and consulting local administrations.

He said that nearly 2,700 examination centres across the country had been prepared for the test, while examinations under the Chattogram Education Board had already been postponed due to flooding in Rangamati, Bandarban and Khagrachhari.

The minister said that the government had monitored the situation continuously and consulted the superintendents of police of all 64 districts, eight divisional commissioners, education board chairpersons, upazila nirbahi officers and weather officials before deciding at about 5:00pm on the previous day that the examination could proceed as scheduled.

Referring to flooding at Cumilla Government Women's College, Milon said that local authorities had taken affected candidates to the examination centre by boat, started the examination an hour late and extended the examination

time after arranging alternative clothing for students whose clothes had become wet.

On the question paper errors, the minister said that the moderation process had started two years earlier under the previous government.

He said that errors were found in question numbers 6 and 7 of the physics paper and all candidates would be awarded full marks for those questions.

Replying to another supplementary question from reserved seat lawmaker Marzia Begum, the minister said that the government was considering transforming Lakshmipur Science and Technology University into a general or specialised agricultural university.

He said that a specialised School of Agriculture would be established under the university after completion of the ongoing legal vetting process.

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