

43rd BCS (Written) Examination

মস্কর

Subject Code: 003

Full Marks: 200

Time: 4 hours

Part A

Read the passage below and answer the question nos. 1-7 that follow :

As we enter the third year of the COVID-19 pandemic, public health leaders must take stock of where we are and how we can end the crippling hold that the SARS-CoV-2 virus has over us all. All pandemics end. The COVID-19 pandemic will end too, but it is not over yet. Already we have endured two years of missed opportunities, missed education, missed connections with family and loved ones. Without action, 2022 could be the same. But it doesn't have to be.

The virus will continue to affect our lives and livelihoods unless the global community collectively addresses inequitable access to vaccines, therapeutic agents and diagnostics, as well as the fact that we are giving the SARS-CoV-2 virus the room it needs to thrive through uneven and inconsistent international as well as national policies to reduce transmission, some of which are undermined by division and politicization. At the same time, governments must invest in preparedness, prevention and in science.

One of the greatest scientific achievements during the pandemic has been the speed of the development of several safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines. Robust data continue to show that COVID-19 vaccines are very effective in preventing people from getting seriously ill and dying. This protection seems to be maintained against the more transmissible Delta variant and over time.

However, we continue to see persistent inequities in access to COVID-19 vaccines. Of the more than 7 billion doses administered so far, less than 3% have been in countries in the African continent. The World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended that those at higher risk of severe disease and health workers be prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination in all countries. The number of doses administered by the end of September 2021 was enough to have covered 40% of the population in all countries. The failure to provide access of sufficient doses of vaccines to low- and middle-income countries is not only unethical but also epidemiologically and economically unwise, and it is prolonging the pandemic.

Unfortunately, vaccines alone will not end this pandemic, in part because of more transmissible new variants and also because vaccines are primarily designed to protect against severe disease and death. The more the virus is allowed to circulate, the more opportunity the virus has to evolve. Throughout the course of the pandemic, SARS-CoV-2 has shown its ability to become better adapted to the human host, with variants Alpha and Delta

demonstrating enhanced transmissibility. One of the biggest unknowns in 2022 will be how this evolution continues.

In 2022, epidemiological and genomic surveillance efforts should be expanded in all countries to detect SARS-CoV-2 variants and ensure that robust testing systems are linked to public health action. As we track the evolution of the virus, WHO and partners will continue to closely assess and monitor the effect of virus evolution on public health and medical countermeasures, including diagnostics, therapeutic agents and COVID-19 vaccines.

Preparedness for the next pandemic or pandemic pathogen does not begin when the current emergency is over. It begins now with investing in integrated respiratory disease surveillance, a well-protected work force, early clinical care, access to health care, better personal protective equipment, further research and development for diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines, and addressing long-standing inequalities. This will not only help to control COVID-19 but also ensure that we are in a better position to confront the next outbreak.

Marks

1. Answer the following questions in your own words without copying any sentences from the passage above : $3 \times 10 = 30$
 - a. What topic does the given passage deal with?
 - b. What has the whole world been enduring for the last two years?
 - c. What do you think the pandemic situation would be like next unless appropriate collective measures are taken?
 - d. How has the SARS-CoV-2 virus been given space to spread?
 - e. Cite an example of inequity in access to COVID-19 vaccines.
 - f. Who belonged to the priority groups for the COVID-19 vaccination according to WHO recommendations?
 - g. What has been the effects of the failure to ensure sufficient access to vaccines in low- and middle-income countries?
 - h. Why are not vaccines alone sufficient to put an end to the COVID-19 pandemic?
 - i. Name the areas that will be continuously assessed and monitored by WHO and partners.
 - j. What measures should be taken to ensure a better position to tackle the next outbreak?
2. Write the meanings of the following words in English as used in the passage (The words are underlined) : $1 \times 5 = 5$
 - a. inequitable
 - b. robust
 - c. transmissible
 - d. persistent
 - e. pathogen

3. Fill in the empty cells with words indicating appropriate parts of speech:

$$1 \times 5 = 5$$

Noun	Verb	Adjective
×	thrive	(a)
(b)	×	inconsistent
(c)	assess	×
access	(d)	×
(e)	reduce	×

4. Give an antonym for each of the following words and make sentences with the antonyms :

$$2 \times 5 = 10$$

- severe
- crippling
- prolong
- sufficient
- protect

5. Make sentences of your own with each of the following words and phrases (Copying any sentences from the passage above must be avoided) :

$$1 \times 10 = 10$$

- take stock of
- endure
- affect
- uneven
- undermine
- preparedness
- failure
- unethical
- throughout
- as well as

- Summarize the passage in your own words (within 100 words). 20
- Write a letter to the editor of an English daily suggesting measures to be taken to effectively deal with the next pandemic. 20

Part B

- Write an essay in about 1000 words on any one of the following topics: 50
 - Mujib Year: The Grand Celebration of Bangabandhu's Birth Centenary
 - Global Competences and 21st Century Higher Education
 - Socio-Economic Impact of Foreign Remittance in Bangladesh
- Translate the following text into Bangla : 25

Reliable infrastructure plays a key role in economic growth. Studies have found positive relationship between infrastructure and economic output in many countries. This happens through gross domestic capital formation, employment, trade and human capital. Good infrastructure

enhances productive capacity and improves competitiveness of a country. This is ample evidence that infrastructure and output are mutually beneficial. That is, infrastructure boosts output and higher output also leads to better infrastructure.

The Padma Bridge is estimated to increase the GDP of the country by more than one per cent. It will benefit about three crore people across 21 south-western districts of Bangladesh. These districts will be connected with the growth centers through better connectivity. They can be used as economic corridors. This will create opportunities for employment and income. The transportation system will be improved as movement of people will be enhanced. Supply chains within the country will be connected better. Goods and services will move smoothly from one place to another. People from the south-western parts are also expected to have better access to education, health care and other services.

Not only will people move to the urban areas easily, opportunities will also come to the rural areas. This will change the rural economy which is already undergoing transformation. The share of the agriculture sector to the GDP of the country has declined significantly with the emergence of non-farm activities in the rural areas. This was facilitated by several factors including better communication and connectivity.

10. Translate the following text into English :

25

মনোরম প্রাকৃতিক সৌন্দর্যমণ্ডিত জাহাঙ্গীরনগর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়। সবুজ বনভূমির মাঝে দৃষ্টিভঙ্গি নন্দন হৃদ আর লাল ইটের তৈরি ইমারত ক্যাম্পাসকে আরও নান্দনিক করে তুলেছে। পাশাপাশি এ ক্যাম্পাস সংস্কৃতির রাজধানী নামেও পরিচিত। এছাড়া প্রতি বছর শীতকাল এলেই বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের জলাশয়গুলো অতিথি পাখিতে পূর্ণ হয়ে যায়। তাই জাহাঙ্গীরনগর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়কে অতিথি পাখির ক্যাম্পাস হিসেবেও অনেকে চেনেন। বাংলাদেশের মুক্তিযুদ্ধ ও স্বাধীনতার গৌরবময় ইতিহাসকে ভিত্তি করে নির্মিত কয়েকটি ভাস্কর্য এ-বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সৌন্দর্য বহুগুণ বাড়িয়ে দিয়েছে। সবুজের মাঝে কংক্রিট বা ব্রোঞ্জের তৈরি ভাস্কর্যগুলো দাঁড়িয়ে আছে মুক্তিযুদ্ধ, স্বাধীনতা ও ভাষা আন্দোলনের প্রতিচ্ছবি হয়ে। এসব ভাস্কর্য এক প্রজন্ম থেকে আরেক প্রজন্মের কাছে মুক্তিযুদ্ধের প্রকৃত ইতিহাস পৌঁছে দিচ্ছে। বাংলাদেশের মহান মুক্তিযুদ্ধের গৌরবোজ্জ্বল ইতিহাস, ঐতিহ্য ও চেতনাকে স্মরণ রাখতে জাহাঙ্গীরনগর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে নির্মাণ করা হয় ভাস্কর্য ‘সংশপ্তক’। যুদ্ধে জয়লাভ অথবা মৃত্যু— এই শপথের আবদ্ধ থেকে লড়াই করেন যে অকুতোভয় বীর, তিনিই সংশপ্তক। বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের কেন্দ্রীয় গ্রন্থাগারের সামনে স্থাপিত এই ভাস্কর্যটির মাধ্যমে ফুটিয়ে তোলা হয়েছে যুদ্ধে শত্রুর আঘাতে এক হাত, এক পা হারিয়েও রাইফেল হাতে লড়ে যাওয়া দেশমাতৃকার এক বীরসন্তানকে। ভাস্কর্যটির নির্মাতা শিল্পী হামিদুজ্জামান খান মুক্তিযুদ্ধের চেতনাকে ব্রোঞ্জের অবয়বে প্রতীকী ব্যঞ্জনায় প্রকাশ করার চেষ্টা করেছেন। আজকের প্রজন্মের কাছে ভাস্কর্যটি যে-কোনো আন্দোলন-সংগ্রামের অনিঃশেষ প্রেরণা হিসেবে কাজ করে।