

Strict measures undertaken to halt copying

# HSC Exams across country begin today

The Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) Examinations 2003 begin today (Thursday) under the country's seven education boards including Madrasah Education Board.

A total of 5,30,330 students will sit for the examinations. English first paper examination will be held on the first day of the HSC exams today.

Of the examinees, 1,63,539 will appear under Dhaka Education Board, 1,52,450 under Rajshahi Board, 69,264 under Jessore Board, 47,777 under Comilla Board, 45,138 under Chittagong Board, 32,937 under Barisal Board and 19,225 under Sylhet Board.

The Alim and Fazil examinations under Madrasah Education

Board also begin today. Kamil examinations will begin on Saturday. In all, 63,330 examinees will appear in Alim, 21,613 in Fazil and 7,561 in Kamil examinations.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) in a Press release on Wednesday announced a ban on the movement and gathering of more than four persons within the radius of 200 yards of the examination centres in the city.

BSS reports adds: The Education Ministry has taken all preparations for holding the examinations in an atmosphere free of unfair means. Besides deployment of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR), special measures were taken for vulnerable examination centres, according to the ministry source.

Unfair means in HSC exams will be dealt with strictly and none of the examinees will be allowed to enter the examination halls with any paper, book or document except registration and admit cards. Offences would be dealt with strictly under the Public Examination Act, 1980.

Besides, the examinees who will be found to be involved in unfair means, will be expelled, and awarded with rigorous imprisonment and monetary penalty under the Speedy Trial Act. Copy suppliers and their accomplices would also be tried under the act.

Expulsion from examination halls would be continued like past years through searching the bodies of the HSC examinees before entering the halls.