

PM defends holding of primary, JSC exams

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday defended holding of primary terminal and junior school certificate (JSC) examinations, saying that such examinations boost the self-confidence of the children sitting for higher public exams.

"... as a result of such exams, self-confidence is being boosted up among the students to pursue education, while a consciousness has been created among the people which I think are very essential," she said.

The prime minister said this when receiving the results of this year's primary terminal, JSC and their equiva-

lent examinations.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid handed over the JSC and Junior Dakhil Certificate (JDC) exam results, while Primary and Mass Education Minister Md Mustafizur Rahman handed over the primary terminal and Ebtedayee exam results to the prime minister at a ceremony at the PM's official Gono Bhaban residence.

The premier said there was controversy few days back whether the examinations would be held or not.

"At one stage many people did not want holding of such exams. But I think the people should be informed again about holding of such examinations because they

expressed reluctance about such exams," she said.

In this connection, the prime minister said earlier scholarship examinations were held at class V and VIII where a few number of selected students used to get chance for appearing these exams.

"The teachers had given attention to these students so that they are able to obtain scholarships. But the teachers had no time to focus on other students and that's why they (students) did not give proper attention to their study," she said.

As a result, she said, those who were left out of the teachers' attention were deprived of better education. But there might be meritorious among them.