

224

## No division, so no higher studies

Tale of 42600 students who got 'referred' in SSC exams

By Staff Correspondent

Over 42 thousand students who passed the SSC examination this year with 'special pass' status are facing uncertainty as regards pursuing higher studies.

These students, many of whom got over 600 marks in last year's SSC examination but failed in one subject, appeared this year as 'referred' candidates. As a rule for long, such candidates are not placed in any 'division'.

Many such students told this correspondent that their future has become uncertain as they can not even appear at test for admission to any good college.

According to sources in education boards, the number of such students who got 'special pass' status this year is 42,595 or 11.16 per cent of the total. Of them, 11,224 were under Dhaka

Board, 7738 under Jessore Board, 8329 under Comilla Board, 2776 under Chittagong Board and 12528 under Rajshahi Board.

Principal of a reputed private college in Dhaka told The Daily Star that only students who obtained 'first division' with good marks would be eligible for admission test in his college.

When contacted, Chairman of Dhaka Board, Dr. ATM Sharifullah ruled out any possibility of giving 'division' to those who passed SSC examination appearing as 'referred' candidates.

He, however, agreed with the correspondent that there is logic for giving them 'division'.

Replying to a question he

See page 11 col 7

## No division

From page 1

said there was never any discussion in the education ministry on the issue.

It may be mentioned here that under the National University, candidates passing Degree (Pass) examinations appearing as 'referred' candidates are given 'division'.