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## New grading system will be modified

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The newly introduced grading system will be modified to make it at par with standard international systems, the authorities concerned said yesterday.

They admitted that the system has some flaws and it has created widespread confusion among teachers, students and their guardians.

It is not comparable with standard international merit judging systems in some respects, they told newsmen at the conference room of Dhaka Education Board.

Officials of Dhaka board, Madrasah Education Board, National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) and the Grading System Implementation Cell addressed the press conference.

In an international standard grading system, the difference of marks in different grades is 10. The grades are: A for 90 marks and above, B for 80 to 89, C for 70 to 79, D for 60 to 69 and E 50 to 59. The pass mark is 50.

In the newly introduced system in the country, the grades are: A+ for 80 marks and above, A for 60 to 79, B for 51 to 59, C for 41 to 50, D for 33 to 40 and F for 0 marks to 32.

The grading system has been evolved in the light of international

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grading systems, keeping in mind the education system and the traditional system of divisions in our country, they said.

"Change in curriculum and examination procedures is always an ongoing process and these can be revised," said Dr. ATM Shareefullah, a member of the Grading Implementation Cell and former chairman of Dhaka board.

The grading system will help students to "transfer the credit" to educational institutions abroad, eliminate unfair means in examinations and the rat race for securing position in merit lists, NCTB Chairman Dr. Tapan Kanti Chowdhury said.

"We have called this press conference to eliminate the confusion regarding the results published under the grading system", Prof. M. Ali Asgar, Chairman of Dhaka Board said.

He said the confusion has been created due to inadequate steps to make the teachers, students and their guardians aware of it.

The officials said the results of SSC, Vocational and Dakkhil examinations announced on Thursday

Grade Point Average (GPA) instead of letter grading.

He said the teachers, students and their guardians have become confused because of their lack of interest in the new system.

"There can be some loophole and confusion. We are trying to remove the confusion and an awareness campaign will be launched soon for this," Prof. Asgar said.

Turning to SSC examinations results this year, they said these are not so bad compared to those previous years. This year's pass percentage is 35.22 against last year's above 42. Only 22.35 per cent of the examinees failed in more than one subject this year, they said.

Those who failed in one subject will be able to enroll themselves in higher classes provisionally and appear for subject during examinations next year.

They categorically said the slightly low percentage of pass this year is not due to the grading system.

Prof. Abu Bakar Siddiq, Chairman of Madrasah Education Board and senior officials of the board were also present at the press