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## HSC exams begin tomorrow

DU Correspondent

Stringent measures have been taken across the country for copying-free holding of the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) and its equivalent Alim and HSC (vocational) in Business Management (BM) examinations under nine education boards begin simultaneously tomorrow (Thursday).

This year, a total of 6,20,020 examinees from 7,120 educational institutions in the country are expected to sit for the examinations with an increase of 78,842 candidates than the previous year, officials sources said. Last year it was 5,41,178 and 5,10,281 in 2006.

As many as 5,02,796 examinees will sit for HSC examinations under seven education boards followed by 62, 505 for (Alim) under Madrasa education board and 54,719 for (HSC vocational) under Bangladesh Technical Education Board.

A total of 1,800 examination centers has been set up across the country. Of the total, 1,024 are set up under the seven education boards, 348 under the Madrasa Education Board and 428 under the Bangladesh Technical Education Board.

Besides, 155 candidates will also appear for HSC and equivalent examinations in five overseas centers in Qatar, Abu Dhabi, Jeddah, Riyadh and Tripoli, sources said.

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## HSC exams

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Addressing at a news conference held at the ministry of education on Tuesday, Education Adviser Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman urged all the candidates to sit for their examinations without fear or intimidation in a complete copying-free atmosphere.

"All preparations have been completed to hold the HSC, Alim and vocational examinations in a copying-free atmosphere across the country," he said.

The adviser said stern actions would be taken against the students those found indulged in unfair means. Teachers will also be punished if found assisting students in copying in the examinations, he added.

The adviser asked all concerned including teachers and officials to discharge their duties with utmost sincerity in the greater interest of the nation.

Dr. Zillur said there is an increase of 14.57 percent in the number of examinees this year in comparison with the previous year. There is a 14.52 percent increase in seven education boards, 19.24 percent in Madrasa board and 19.10 percent in the Bangladesh Technical Education Board.

About dropout, the Adviser said the total dropout rate is 23.58 percent under all education boards among the students registered under session 2006-07. Of them, there are some 24.21 percent male and some 22.80 percent female students.

Meanwhile, a press release from the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) said police imposed a ban on entry of common people within 200 yards of the examination centers during the examination.

The board-wise number of candidates are: 1,51,247 under Dhaka Board, 1,36,745 under Rajshahi Board, 50,719 under Comilla Board, 70,809 under Jessore Board, 41, 515 under Chittagong Board, 32,164 under Barisal Board, 19,597 under Sylhet Board, 62,505 under Madrasa Board and 54,719 under the Bangladesh Technical Education Board.

In last year, 1,29,179 appeared under Dhaka Board, 1,04,394 under Rajshahi Board, 80,535 under Jessore Board, 46,573 under Comilla Board, 37,764 under Chittagong Board, and 24,599 under Barisal Board and 17,204 under Sylhet Board.