

Comilla Edn Board's seminar at BARD

Determination to hold free, fair HSC exams reaffirmed

From Our Correspondent

COMILLA, May 10:—A seminar against the adoption of unfair means in ensuing HSC examinations was held at the auditorium of Bangladesh Academy of Rural Development (BARD) on May 7 having been arranged by Comilla Education Board. The Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSC) examinations are scheduled to begin on May 12.

The Chairman of the Education Board Professor Dr Md Liakat Ali Khan, Secretary of the board presided over the seminar while Professor Md Alauddin, Chairman of the Education Board was present as the chief guest.

Director General of BARD Md Nazrul Islam, Deputy Commissioner Md Mijanur Rahman, former Controller of exams Professor Md Yousuf, Principal of Government Victoria College Professor Md Mostaque Ahmed and Principal Md Hossain Khan addressed the seminar among others. All the centre executives, college Principals, and district and upazila level education officers in six districts under the board also were present in the seminar. The chief guest in his speech blamed the negligence of teachers for adoption unfair means in public examinations.

The chief guest posed question to the leader of teachers association "You are agitating on the road to realize your 8-point demand but the teachers association never makes any agitation against the adoption of unfair means in public examinations". He said, I launched movement against the adoption of unfair means in public examinations. He expresses his fairness to succeed in the movement.

In the seminar all the participants expressed their firm determination to hold the ensuing HSC examination in free and fair atmosphere. They also emphasized to take necessary steps to remove all the drawbacks prevailing in the examinations and motivate the students to keep themselves aloof from copying. The teachers of non-government colleges will be engaged as envigilators in Government College vice-versa and the sitting arrangement of students of Government Colleges in non-government college vice-versa.

The seminar also discussed that examination centres will be se-

lected in the district town centres for unfair means then will shift the reserve if any centre is cancelled for unfair means, it will be shifted to other centre. In the HSC examination in 2004 the Board authority made arrangement for poster in the education institutions, court premises, railway stations, bus stations and important places of the district and upazila headquarters to create awareness among the students, guardians and teachers about mass copying.

It is to be noted that each and every year appearing the HSC examinees is reducing day by day and pass percentage of HSC examinations is decreasing. The Chairman of Comilla Education Board said that it is not his duty to get the huge number of candidates failed. He said that they would try to check copying and unfair means in the centres this year. It is possible to increase percentage of Pass if the students and teachers do not depend on copying and if they try to attend their classes and work more, he added.

It may be mentioned here that the standard of education of teachers in rural colleges is not up to mark to teach English and Mathematics. The conscious people feel that it is high time to evolve a system that will create proper academic atmosphere in the educational institutions.

At present 90 per cent pay of the teachers is being given by the government. The teachers are demanding cent per cent salary from the government, which is also under active consideration of the government. The guardians opine that the dismal picture of the HSC examinations result of the previous year should not be taken into consideration before the enhancement of the government subsidy at the cost of the Public Exchequer.

A total of 34,360 candidates including 14,125 female students will appear at the HSC examination under the Comilla Education Board this year. According to sources in Comilla Board, out of the total students 7,340 will appear from Science Group, 13,309 from Humanities Group and 13,900 from Business Studies Group.

The Comilla Education Board covering six districts will set up 113 centers. The Board authority has formed 60 Vigilance Teams under

six districts this year to check unfair means in the examination halls. It has been observed that almost 100 per cent candidates in the rural centres go to the halls with the hope of passing through unfair means. But due to the strict vigilance they could hardly get any chance to copy.

Meanwhile, excessive fees more than the fixed ones are being realized from the candidates of HSC exam under Comilla Education Board, it is alleged. The college authorities realize extra fees from the examinees on an assurance that they will be given the chance of adopting unfair in the examination halls, it is further alleged.

A lot of 1,154 students were expelled for adopting unfair means in the halls of English and Bengali examinations of the last HSC examinations in six districts under Comilla Education Board in 2004. Two invigilators were also expelled from the hall. Police arrested 15 persons who were supplying copies to the examinees in the halls last year.

It may be mentioned here that the Comilla Board authority had blacklisted some examination centres last year for adopting unfair means in the halls. The blacklisted centres include; Ajit Guha College, Chowara Adarsha Degree College and Lalmai Degree College under Comilla Sadar upazila, Redwan Ahmed Degree College in Candina upazila, Hasanpur Degree College in Daudkandi upazila, Companiganj Badiul Alam Degree College in Muradnagar upazila, Burichong Ershad College and Nimshar Junab All Degree College under Burichong upazila, Shahebabbed Degree Collge in Brahmanpara upazila, Payalgacha Degree College in Barura upazila, Nangolkot Hasan Memorial Degree College in Nangolkot upazila, Cheora Adarsha College and Chowddagram Degree College under Chowddagram upazila and Dabidwar Government College in Dabidwar upazila.