

# Political climate prompts worries before SSC exams Nahid urges parties to be responsible

Staff Correspondent

EXAMINEES and guardians expressed concern over the political atmosphere deterring as the Secondary School Certificate and equivalent examinations are only two days away. The examinations, the country's biggest, began on February 1. Guardians said that the deteriorating political climate make them feel insecure in sending their children to examination centres. At least four people were killed and hundreds injured on Sunday in police firing on opposition demonstrations across the country. Many students said that they were not sure whether or not the examination schedules would remain unaffected. We know the scheduled of the examinations, but we do not know whether they would be held as scheduled, said Sumaya Islam, an SSC examinee from the city's Montpur High School. It's an abnormal situation, as no one knows when the political parties would call strikes, which could lead to an abnormal situation. The examinations are scheduled to end on March 4.

At a news briefing at his Secretariat office, reporters sought his comments on the charged political climate apparently headed for confrontation. Nahid said that the political parties should not do anything that could affect the students. The parties seemed to be unconcerned about the problems of the people, he said. Education minister Nilam Islam Nahid on Sunday called upon the political parties, without naming them, to be responsible in announcing programmes, so that they did not interrupt the SSC Exams. Nahid said that the political parties should not do anything that could affect the students. The parties seemed to be unconcerned about the problems of the people, he said. Education minister Nilam Islam Nahid on Sunday called upon the political parties, without naming them, to be responsible in announcing programmes, so that they did not interrupt the SSC Exams.

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