

CLASS I ADMISSION IN CITY SCHOOLS

Lottery draws mixed reaction

Staff Correspondent

THE lottery process for the admission in class I at different branches of Viqarunnisa Noon School and College and Ideal School and College on Monday has drawn mixed reaction from guardians.

Those whose children got chance to be admitted hailed the system, while guardians whose children did not get the chance criticised the system saying it ignored the merit of students.

Viqarunnisa Noon School and College authorities alleged that a group of guardians had threatened principal Manju Ara Begum and others to grant 100 per cent sister quota for admitting their children into class I on Sunday noon.

Manju Ara and 51 other teachers of the school had filed a general dairy with Ranuna Police in connection with a death threat.

Viqarunnisa Noon School and College teachers in the general dairy said that a group of guardians of so-called Abhibhabak Forum came to the principal's office and demanded 100 per cent sister quota in place of existing 10 per cent sister quota and threatened the teachers. They also demanded admission of students according to their wish.

Manju Ara said that they also threatened that if their demand was not met they would close Viqarunnisa Noon School and College and teachers would be removed.

One of the teachers alleged that MA Rahim Rana,



The governing body chairman of the Viqarunnisa Noon School and College, lawmaker Rashed Khan Menon, inaugurates the lottery for the admission to Class I at the school in Dhaka on Monday. — New Age photo

general secretary of so-called Abhibhabak Forum of Viqarunnisa Noon School and Mosarrat Hossain led the group of 30-35 guardians.

The school already has 10 per cent sister quota, there are 5 per cent quota for freedom fighters' children and grandchildren and 2 per cent quota for children with disabilities in all non-government schools.

Moreover, non-government schools in the capital reserve 2 per cent of their seats for the children of education ministry officials.

The Azimpur branch has a special colony quota, Manju Ara added.

There are 1,484 seats for

class I students while about 9,290 children are taking part in the lottery which started on Monday.

Lottery for Azimpur and Bashundara branches was held on the main campus of Viqarunnisa School on the day. Lottery for Dhanmondi and English section students will take place today and for main branch will be held tomorrow.

From the morning, guardians crowded the school premises. When a name was announced, the winner's guardian shouted with joy.

A guardian, Nafiza Jahan, heard the name of her child being announced but she could not believe her hear-

ing and went to the dais to confirm it.

Guardians whose children's names were not announced were critical of the system.

'In this system, you cannot evaluate the merit of the children,' said Anwar Hossain, a guardian.

'The lottery is being held in a fair way. There is no scope for allegation about the system,' said Manju Ara Begum.

Meanwhile, lottery for the Banasree branch of Ideal School and College was held on Monday and lottery for the Mothiheel branch will take place tomorrow.

The tests for the admis-

sion in Class II, III, IV, V, VII, and VIII of government schools-- Dhanmondi Government Boys High School, Armanitola Government High School, Tikatuli Kamrunnessa Girls High School, Tejgaon Government Boys High School, Dhaka Collegiate School, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Government Girls High School, Ganabhaban High School and Mirpur Government High School, also took place on the day.

Students will be admitted in Class I through lottery, and in VI and Class IX based on their results in Primary Completion Exam and Junior School Certificate examinations respectively.