

## Education bears the brunt

### *Academic life disrupted totally*

**F**OR the millions of primary education students, the ongoing blockade has served as a death knell. According to the academic calendar, nearly 3 million school going children belonging to various grades are scheduled to appear at final examinations between now and November 30. Unfortunately, the flexible timetable set up by the ministry of education has been thrown into turmoil due to the blockade having been enforced nationwide by the opposition alliance. Though the blockade technically is supposed to draw a noose around Dhaka city, has in reality, turned into a nationwide hartal including Dhaka city. It has become impossible for school and college administrations to reset a time for the examination given present circumstances.

With buses not plying the roads and cars keeping off the streets, parents are in a fix as to how they will take their children to exam centers. Given the extreme insecurity that has paralysed life in the city, it is not surprising to find parents and guardians unwilling to risk the lives of their children to travel to institutions. The repeated cancellations and rescheduling of examination dates is playing havoc with children's study preparations. Unfortunately, our political masters seem least bothered with the future of our children. That obviously is the case since repeated appeals by parents and educationists have not been heeded by the opposition. Such indifference towards children and their studies merely goes to show precisely how much politicians and parties care for the country.