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60 pc teaching jobs for rural women reserved

DHAKA, Aug. 31 (BSS) : Viqarunnisa Noon School and College today held a function at its premises to accord reception to those students who had secured outstanding positions in the last SSC examinations of Dhaka Board and also welcome the freshers to the college.

Education Minister Sheikh Shahidul Islam, who was chief guest on the occasion distributed prizes among the students. Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and Chairman of the School Governing Body A. N. M. Eusuf presided over the function. Mrs. Hamida Ali, Principal of the college and Baniza Ismat, one of the meritorious students, also spoke on the occasion.

Speaking on the Education Minister Sheikh Shahid said the government had decided to reserve 60 per cent teaching jobs for women in rural areas to achieve a twin objective of providing employment to the educated women and involving the women, who constitute half of the country's population, in the development of education.

Emphasising the importance of education and role of women in building society, the Education Minister said in pursuance

of the government's declared policy women education was encouraged and given necessary support throughout the country.

Lauding Viqarunnisa Noon School for its glorious performance in school examinations over the years, the Education Minister expressed the hope that the former students of the school would contribute their mite to different spheres of national life.

The Education Minister praised the school authority for running the institution without any financial support from the government. Mr. Islam opined that if similar schools grew up in different parts of the country, the funds usually needed to run those could be utilised to "bridge gap between urban and rural school."

The minister announced a donation of Taka one lakh to take up development activities of the school.

Principal Hamida Ali said freshers' receptions were being held every year, but the speciality of this year's function was that the meritorious students had been honoured and rewarded.

She gave a brief resume of the performance of the school in the last SSC examination and said three students of the school were in the merit list. Out of the 118 students, who appeared in science group, all but three have been placed in First Division including 44 star holders.