

ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOLS

Exams put on hold for blockade

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The handful of English medium schools in the capital that held classes and exams during the last opposition-called blockade yesterday suspended all exams.

The school authorities said they had to suspend the exams following indirect pressure from some parents and being concerned over security of the children and school.

"We received phone calls from the guardians who indirectly put pressure on us not to take the exams

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during the blockade," said a teacher of a reputed school.

Siddiqui's International School and Sunnydale School had attempted to stay open for a day during the blockade last week but yesterday closed due to poor turn up of students, reported authorities.

Yesterday, students were having difficulty showing up at school. If the schools were kept open, it would have been unfair to those who could not make it, the authorities said.

Hartal and blockades in this crucial month messed up the academic calendar and ruined the schedules for annual exams at primary and secondary levels of general education.

The authorities are struggling to finish the exams by taking the tests on weekends and blockades on weekends put them in further difficulties.

On Friday night, the government rescheduled primary and ebtedai terminal tests slated for yesterday. The exams had already been deferred last week due to the opposition alliance's blockade. More than 29 lakh class-V students are taking the examinations.