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Thousands of students may be denied admission in colleges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Students passing this year's SSC (Secondary School Certificate) examinations, even GPA-5 scorers, are in anxiety of being denied admission at their college of choice due to shortage of available seats.

Since the prestigious colleges are mostly located in urban areas, seats in colleges in rural areas are however likely to go unfilled.

According to Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics (Banbeis), a total of 1.34 lakh students will not be able to attend a college as there are only 4.63 lakh seats available for around 5.97 lakh students passing this year's SSC exams all over the country.

After a high number of schools in the urban areas succeeded to have 100 percent of their students pass the SSC exams with a good number of them securing GPA-5 this year, contenders for each seat at prestigious colleges have multiplied.

Only 995 intermediate-level colleges are located in the urban areas while 2,155 colleges are in rural areas, Banbeis sources said.

There are 135 colleges in Dhaka metropolitan area. Ten of the most prestigious colleges in the country, where only around 10,000 seats are available, are also located here.

As there will be no admission test and the students will be enrolled at the colleges based on their scores, the fate of admission seekers hangs in the balance when in Dhaka Board alone 9,439 students secured GPA-5 and 34,404 received 'A'.

The situation is also tough for science group students this year as there are only 98,000 seats available for them against a whopping 1,51,201 students passing from this group across the country. As a result, 53,201 of them might wind

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up switching to commerce or humanities group.

Only the 'golden GPA' holders (an unofficial name for the ones receiving highest marks in every subject) can easily get admitted to their college of choice, according to a number of college teachers.