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## Ctg lags behind for poor facilities in remote areas

Ferdous Ara . Chittagong | Updated at 01:13am on May 08, 2018

Educationists and teachers have blamed poor facilities in remote areas including three hill districts — Rangamati, Khagrachari and Bandarban — of Chittagong division for the lower pass rate in Secondary School Certificate exams under Chittagong education board.

Lack of trained teachers and rumour of question leaks are factors for the declining pass rate and poor number of GPA 5 under the board.

This year the pass rate of Cox's Bazar is 74.29 per cent which was 85.92 per cent in 2017. In Rangamati the pass rate this year is 62.72 per cent which was 63.51 per cent in 2017.

This year the pass rate of Khagrachari is 50.52 per cent which was 62.63 per cent last year while in Bandarban this year the pass rate is 57.92 per cent which was 79.60 per cent the previous year.

Debabrata Das, headmaster of the port city's top scorer Chittagong Collegiate School, said, 'We have a good number of trained teachers (master trainer), which is mainly behind our success.'

But the students of remote areas and three hill districts lack such facilities — educational infrastructure, skilled and adequate teachers.

Chittagong University associate professor of English Sukanta Bhattacharjee told New Age, 'Discrimination against remote upazilas and hilly areas is a major factor. Moreover, there are hundreds of students in hilly areas who find it hard to go to school every day due to poor communication.'

'They don't have adequate teachers. We need trained teachers in those schools and colleges especially for English and maths,' said the professor.

Bangladesh Mahila Samity Girl's High School and College principal Anwara Begum said that rumours about question leak had an impact on this year's results.

The principal said under Chittagong Board there are three hill districts and coastal areas which still lacked proper facilities enjoyed by the city areas.

So, every year their poor performance negatively impacted the overall result of Chittagong Board, she observed.

Baghaichari upazila secondary education officer Nur Mohammad said the situation improved a little from the previous year and some schools even improved a lot.

He, however, admitted that students of remote areas faced problems in attending schools due to poor communication.

Showkat Alam, secretary of Board of Intermediate and Secondary Examination, Chittagong, said students of city areas enjoyed more facilities than the students of coastal and hilly areas. 'The condition of Rangamati, Khagrachari and Bandarban is very unfortunate.'

There are many schools which are suffering from inadequate teacher and infrastructural facilities. In some schools of Baghaichari there are only three to four teachers.

'No teacher wants to work at Sandwip. After some months they try to come to the city. We need to consider all these factors,' said the secretary.

According to the statistics of Board of Intermediate and Secondary Examination Chittagong, in 2017, a total 8,344 students got GPA-5 in Secondary School Certificate (SSC) exam but this year the number fell to 8,094. The number of educational institutions with cent per cent pass rate also dropped this year to 27 from 56 in previous year.

From Chittagong Board, this year a total 1,35,148 students sat for the exam and 1,02,037 came out successful. In terms of pass rate, this year Chittagong in the last position.

Earlier, on Sunday, the results of SSC examination 2018 were published. The SSC and equivalent examinations were held from February 1 to Mar 4 this year.

