

# HSC results tell what govt should focus on

📅 18 October, 2025, 00:00

Share

Tweet

Email

Share



CUSTOMARILY viewed, results of the higher secondary examinations of 2025 have been a disaster, with the pass percentage having declined to the lowest in two decades. The results published on October 16 put the pass percentage of the Higher Secondary Certification Examinations under the nine boards of general education at 57.12 per cent. Whilst the pass percentage in Alim examinations, equivalent to higher secondary, under the Madrassah Education Board is 75.61 per cent, the pass percentage in Higher Secondary Certificate business management and vocational examinations under the Technical Education Board is 62.67. The combined pass percentage of the Higher Secondary Certificate and equivalent examinations under all 11 education boards this year has declined by about 20 per cent, compared with the percentage of the year before, to 58.83 against the percentage of 77.78 in 2024. About three-fifths of about 1.5 million students taking the examinations have passed, which also means about two-fifths of the students have failed. Board officials say that most of the unsuccessful students have failed in English and many have also failed in information and communications technology and higher mathematics.

Critically viewed, and perhaps logically, the results have been what they should have been long ago, as many believe. The adviser on education to the interim government, puts the state of the results down to the strict evaluation of the answer scripts, noting that fair evaluation has been put above the false sense of pride buttressed by extra marks, which has for long been a reality in national education, beginning with primary education. The chair of the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education Dhaka, who heads the inter-education board coordination committee, says that the evaluation was strict and frequently monitored, noting that there are flaws in the education system for which about a half of the students taking the examinations have failed. The number of educational institutions with no pass has increased three times, from 65 in 2024 to 202 this year and the number of institutions with all students having passed declined to 354 this year from 1,388 in 2024. All this suggests that whilst the managers of national education have been stringent about answer script evaluation, which should, of course, always happen, what has gone amiss is the government's focus on classroom teaching or improving the quality of education. And, education managers all speak about evaluation that has brought the results to such a pass, they all conveniently forget to speak about the classroom teaching and the quality of education.

The results of the Higher Secondary Certificate and equivalent examinations adequately tell the government what it should put its prime focus on in efforts to improve education, from primary to tertiary. It is time that the government attended to all such affairs.