

SBH/2

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## Collage admission a difficult gamble

### Campus Report

"Such a large number of students have passed the SSC examination this year with high marks that I am wondering what will happen to those who have got a mere first division leaving aside those who have a second division," were sentiments expressed by a teenager desirous of joining a prestigious college of the metropolis.

This is also the feeling of many other students and guardians who are passing their days in great anxiety.

This problem is not a new one, it has been there but with the passage of time it is being intensified and is acquiring a serious shape.

Dhaka being the metropolitan capital is overcrowded with thousands of successful SSC candidates even from the far flung areas of the country desirous of seeking admission to a city college.

The rush is most at the reputed colleges of Dhaka but even the lesser known ones are not without students.

Getting admission to a college these days is much more difficult than getting admission to a school. People closely connected with college administration opine that with the passage of time this (admission) will become much more difficult.

This difficulty is compounded at both the private and the government colleges this year by the fact that an unimaginable number of students have passed their SSC securing very high marks from all the four boards of the country.

Hence the number of students seeking admission to the colleges far surpasses the num-

ber of vacant seats at the college level.

This predicament situation is worsened by the fact that meritorious students from the different Boards particularly those who secured top positions flock to Dhaka to avail the facilities available here.

Side by side runs the fact that no new college has been set up this year either in the public or private sector while the number of students has increased manifold.

So far admission formalities are complete at the Notre Dame College where 7000 applicants appeared in the admission test for only 1400 seats (though the number has been increased this year).

As students on average have secured very high marks particularly in the science group, so many such students with first division are forced to take admission in the commerce group forcing one to think what will happen to those who completed their SSC in commerce?

At the Dhaka College students having less than 700 marks in total are being denied admission forms as there is no system of admission test in that college. It appears that a good number of students shall be put on the waiting list.

The last date for submission of admission form is the 19th of this month. It is only after the date has expired that it will be possible to ascertain the exact number of candidates who have applied for admission.

A candidate who has applied for admission to this college asserted "before the result was announced I was in great tension

but now my tension has multiplied because I am not sure whether I stand any chance of entering the Dhaka College or not, although I secured 702 marks with three letters."

The rush is equally great at the Holy Cross Viquarunnessa Noon and the Badrunnessa girls college.

Even the lesser known low profile colleges are attracting a number of new entrants. City College and Tejgaon College are drawing the maximum as they offer a wide choice of optional subjects.

The present admission crisis gives one food for thought. What will happen after five years or so? Where will our children go?

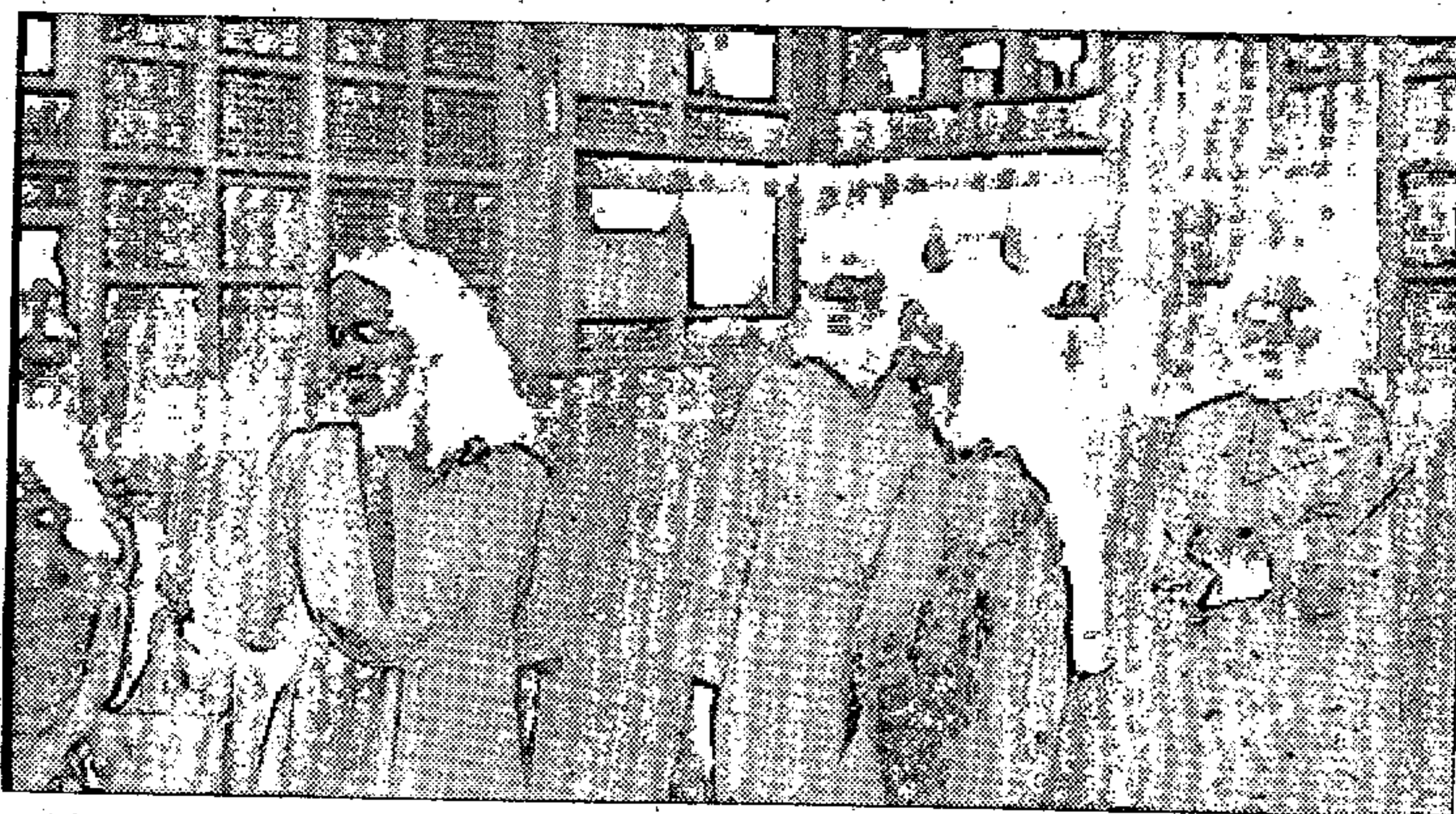
Apart from a handful of colleges throughout the country most of the colleges have no established tradition of our own and are below the minimum standard even lacking in basic amenities. The fate of students who study in such places can be imagined.

Time has come to act if the falling standard of education is to be arrested.

The concerned ministry should improve the existing colleges that fall in this category.

New colleges should also be set up and it has to be investigated whether the existing government schools having the necessary facilities can be upgraded into intermediate colleges.

Today college education at most places is a "vacation in an ivory tower" where academic experience boils down to two years of isolation divorced from the world of reality. This situation has to be changed for the greater interest of all.



After admission life is not all that bad.