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## 4,49,342 appear in SSC exam today

By A Staff Reporter

Education Minister Sheikh Shahidul Islam has sought cooperation of all to check adoption of unfair means in the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination which begin throughout the country today.

Addressing a news conference at his ministry's conference room, the Minister disclosed that a total of 4,49,342 candidates including 1,37,211 girls are appearing in the SSC examinations under four education

boards.

The Government has not permitted examination centres outside upazila towns for ensuring strict supervision and administrative control of the examination centres which total 491 as against last years' 506.

To minimise the sufferings of candidates the examinations this year will be completed in 14 days as against last years' 21 days, the Minister said adding that the chairman of the districts and the upazilas, and the local administrations have

been requested to extend all possible help to ensure boarding facilities to students during examinations.

Sheikh Shahid lauded the

Contd. on page 8 col. 8

### SSC exam

Contd from page 1

Federation of Teachers Associations for their pledge to give an all-out support to the drive against copying in examinations. Listing a positive statement made by the newly-elected DUCSU office-bearers he said that a guardians' council had also promised to lend support to the initiative taken by the Government.

For improving the standard of education at primary and secondary levels, syllabi and curricula were being constantly updated primary school-age children were being taken to schools in increasing numbers, and the plan for achievement of universal free primary education being pursued, the Minister said.

For easing the schooling problem in Dhaka city the Government is going to construct six standard schools soon, the Minister told a questioner.

This year the largest number of students—1,38,573—are appearing from the Dhaka Education Board followed by 1,13,635 from Comilla Board, 1,07,019 from Rajshahi Board and 93,114 from Jessore Board. Dhaka Board has seven overseas centres at Jeddah, Riyadh, Tripoli, Doha, Abu Dhabi, Kuwait and London, the Minister added.