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Comilla Board's SSC exam

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Despite frantic efforts of the Board authority and vigilant attitude of the administration mass copying in the Secondary School Certificate Examination could not be carved out this year too.

To check adoption of unfair means in the examination, the Board Authority reduce number of examination centres in the rural areas and almost all the present SSC examination centres have been located at the respective upazila headquarters. But this ill-practice continued unabated in the current year also. Number of centres last year was 137 and this year 121.

According to a competent source of the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (BISE), Comilla incidents of firing, arson, hooliganism and assault of the Board officials, externals and law enforcing agencies have been reported from some of the centres.

While copy-suppliers, outsiders and over enthusiast well-wishers of the examinees outnumbered the candidates in few of the centres, where law and order situation failed disastrously during the examination.

On the other hand, due to negligence of duty and respon-

sibility of the centre Secretary of Feni, who happened to be the Head Master of Feni Govt. Pilot High School, question paper of General Science 2nd paper was leaked out. Instead of suppling General Science 1st paper on March 25 last, General Science 2nd paper question was distributed among the examinees from a packet of 200 question papers in the said centre. 189 pieces of question papers could be recovered, when the matter was understood. The examination on the said paper had to be held on a rescheduled date on April 6 last. The scheduled date was March 27 for the said paper. The Board Authority had to announce rescheduled date in this regard in national mass-media wasting public money of Taka 3/4 lakh for fresh printing 70,000 question papers and relevant expenses for the said paper, it is gathered.

Sporadic incidents have also been reported from different centres of Chittagong, Comilla, Brahmanbaria and Noakhali districts during the examination. Among the major (notable) incidents, assault of 3 externals at Raojan centre in Chittagong was the most tragic-unfortunate incident, which was resented and condemned from all quarters of

the society.

The incident took place on March 18 last, when examination for English 2nd paper was in progress in the evening session at the said centre. Following the expulsion of 51 examinees in the morning session on the same day, a mob set ablaze the centre and stabbed two externals, professors of Chittagong College. As a result examination for the rest of the subjects had to be shifted from that centre to a nearby centre.

In Daudkandi, Laksam and Barura centres of Comilla law and order situation failed disastrously as out-sider in most of the time outnumbered the examinee all through the examination days. The situation turned bad to worse in Daudkandi centre, where one Magistrate Mr Hemayet Hossain was attacked by the copy suppliers and his life was threatened, who had to take shelter in secured custody for hours together as he expelled two examinees on March 16 last.

Disturbances was also seen at the Chhagalnaiya centre in Feni district over the examinee on March 27 last, the date for Social Science 2nd paper examination. One magistrate on duty at the cen-

tre was assaulted by the mob. Firing, ransacking and damage to property have also been reported there.

Moreover police and ansar sepoy on duty at Barura and Nangalkot centres in Comilla also sustained injuries following brick-batting of the copy suppliers, who forcibly tried to enter into the centre area during examination.

Over a hundred out-sider were apprehended by law enforcing agency personnels from Brahmanbaria, Chandina, Comilla, Barura etc. centres for different charges including breaking of section 144 imposed in and around the centre during examination hours.

While talking to the New Nation, the Chairman and Controller of Examinations and some other officers of the BISE, Comilla, who visited several centres to the SSC examinations, opined that unless awareness about the deadly-effect of this ill-practice (mass copying) could not be created with the united participation of the representatives from all professions and beliefs in the society, this trend of turning the wheel in the opposite direction could not be wiped out at all.