

# CAMPUS

## Comilla SSC results: Unequal contest

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The combined merit list of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) published this year by BISE, Comilla (Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education) could be termed as the merit list of science group as none of the examiners appearing from Humanities Group could secure a position among the first twenty.

Only two students in the Humanities Group secured star marks (750 or above).

Out of a total 40766 examinees, 26080 came out successful (62.39%). Whereas out of 32102 appearing as regular candidates from Science Group 26492 came out successful (80.15%).

A sizeable number of them

got star marks.

Out of a total 124 candidates 55 from science group of Comilla Zilla School obtained star marks this year from Comilla Board.

However the reason does not lie necessarily in the overall merit of the students of a particular group. The root of unequal contest goes deep into the grouping system procedure introduced from last year by all the Boards in the country.

In this system even some meritorious students (brilliant) of Humanities Group could hardly secure position in the combined merit list.

From 1985 all the Boards in the country have introduced two group (Science and Humanities) System instead of six-group

(Science, Humanities, Commerce, Agriculture, Arts and crafts and Home Economics) system and began to publish combined Merit list abolishing publication of separate group lists as of previous years.

Under the said process students of Humanities Group are deprived of getting places in the combined merit list. Even the girls students are deprived of a combined merit list of their own.

As the science and Humanities groups are divided on the basis of choosing General Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology, and Social Science (History), Civics and Economics) subjects mainly, the students of science group can easily obtain 160-180 marks out of total 200 marks in General science papers whereas the student of Humanities Group can hardly get 140 mark in Social Science papers (I & II).

This disparity of 40-50 marks contributes to securing almost all the first 20 places in the combined Merit list by the science group. Students of Humanities group have no other alternative to equalise this mark-gap.

It may be mentioned that, the 25% of the students appearing from Science Group secured letter marks in General Science, whereas none from the Humanities group obtained letters marks in social science this year from Comilla Board.

This the Combined Merit list, which for appropriate reasons, is occupied exclusively by the students of Science Group, has become a list of unequal contest, opined a sizeable number of agrieved guardians.

As for instance, Imtaz Ahmed Mithu (Roll Comilla-1 No, 1) and Humayun Kabir (Roll

Comilla-1 No. 4) of Comilla Zilla School though secured total marks of 784 and 774 with letter marks in 4 subjects (General Mathematics, Elective Mathematics, Geography and Wood Work, and 3 subjects (General Mathematics, Wood Work and Book Keeping respectively but could not get a position in the combined merit list this year due to odd contest of Science and Humanities Group.

Both of them Scholarship holders in class V and VIII chose Humanities to become economists.

The Controller of Examinations of Comilla Board Mr. A. H.M. Mohiuddin, when contacted, told The New Nation that from 1985 introduced abolishing Multilateral Track system in Secondary level was established in accordance with the decision of the Ministry of Education.

Under this new system, students of Science group have every scope to perform better results answering questions full of mathematical equations than the students of Humanities group who generally have to answer essay type Questions (descriptive) which ultimately deprives them of getting positions in the combined merit list, he opined.

However, proposals have been pending with the relevant Ministry to reconsider publishing of separate merit list for both the groups, he added.

Admitting the unequal contest between Science and Humanities Groups in the SSC, the Headmaster of Comilla Zilla School, Kazi Md. Tahajjud Hossain also shared the same opinion as the Controller of Examinations, Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Comilla.