

20 pc BCS examinees get 'zero' in English!

By Staff Correspondent

A total of 3,295 or 20.11 per cent of candidates appearing at the 18th BCS examinations got 'zero' marks in English, the Public Service Commission said in its report for 1998.

Five of them have been qualified for BCS jobs, three in the education cadre and one each in health and agriculture cadres. The three in the education cadre are likely to teach English in government colleges.

Marks less than 25 out of 100 are considered 'zero' by the BCS standard. A total of 16388 candidates appeared at the 18 BCS examinations held in 1996-97 academic year.

The PSC report was placed in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

Among the qualified persons, 320 (1.95 per cent) got 41-45 marks and only 27 (0.16 per

cent) got 71 or more marks in the compulsory subject.

UNB adds: The number of higher-educated applicants for general cadres of Bangladesh Civil Service marked a tremendous rise in the last several years, it said.

In 1985, there were only 27 government job seekers for each post of the general cadres. The ratio shot up to 1:184 and 1:199 in 1996 and 1998 respectively.

The highest number of applicants was for the 17th BCS exam in 1995. In that year, there were 55,525 candidates for only 204 posts, showing the ratio of post and applicants at 1:272.

For technical cadre posts also, the number of job seekers

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BCS examinees

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is on the rise. But the ratio is still at a tolerable level. In 1985, there was only one applicant for one technical post, which rose to 14 in 1994.

The report said there is a ray of hope for technical posts as the number of vacant posts is also increasing. In 1995 and 96 the ratio of posts and candidates were 1:10 and 1:7 respectively.

The ratio of post and aspirants for the Education cadre in 14th Special BCS examination in 1992 was 1:8. It rose to 1:14 in the 16th Special BCS exam in 1994.

The PSC report said the number of candidates from lower-income families getting government cadre jobs fell to less than 50 per cent in 1996-97 compared to that in 1990-91 while the wards of higher-income group secured most.

Only 12 per cent of the posts went to wards of guardians whose yearly income is Tk 25,000 or less in the 18th BCS as against 25.6 per cent at the 11th BCS.