

cal more cable, as the government

10,205 got GPA-5 this yr

## Tougher competition awaits for varsity admission seekers

A tougher competition awaits the students who will seek admission to the public universities as a record number of them have passed this year's Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examina-

tions under the seven education boards, reports BSS.

The pass percentage in the HSC examinations this year is 64.27, the highest in 36 years.

The percentage of pass was

63.92 in 2006, 59.16 in 2005, 47.74 in 2004, 38.43 in 2003, 27.09 in 2002 and 28.41 in 2001.

A total of 10,205 students have secured the best results, Grade

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### Tougher competition

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Point Average (GPA)-5, against last year's 9.450.

As many as 1,87,597 students have secured GPA-3 and above, the minimum requirement for admission to public universities.

The country's 24 public universities can enroll about 95,562 students in an academic year, according to the government statistics.

"We want to enroll our wards at public universities, where tuition fees and other expenses are within our reach," said Aminul Islam, a guardian.

"We just cannot afford the high expenditure required for studies in private universities," added Islam, also a teacher.

The 54 private universities in the country can take some 50,000 students, according to the University Grants Commission (UGC).

However, 1,297 degree colleges affiliated with the National University can enroll 8,17,000 students.

But students seek admission to those colleges, only when they fail to get admitted to public universities.

"Dhaka University (DU) is my number one choice. If I fail to get enrolled there I shall opt for Jahangirnagar University," said Nasrin Sultana, who obtained GPA-5 from a college in city.

"It is my dream to study at DU. If I fail, then I'll go for other options," said Hasnat Amin, who also secured the same result.

However, the DU authorities have not yet decided when the admission test for the 2007-08 session would take place.

"The admission committee will hold a meeting with deans of faculties and chairmen of departments to fix the date," said a DU official.

"Only the best will qualify in this year's admission test," asserted acting Vice Chancellor (VC) Prof AFM Yusuf Haider.

"We have no plan as yet to increase the number of seats," he said in reply to a question.

Some of the public universities, according to sources, have been facing accommodation problem because of session jams caused by campus violence and unscheduled closures.