

## HSC exam begins today

**Staff Correspondent**

THE Higher Secondary Certificate and equivalent examinations begin today with the participation of about 12.19 lakh examinees.

Around 6.54 lakh boys and about 5.65 lakh girls, from 8,533 colleges and madrassahs, will be taking the exam at 2,452 centres across the country.

More than 10.20 lakh students will sit for the HSC exam under eight general education boards and some 91,600 students will appear in Alim exam under the madrassah board, while one lakh students will be taking business management exam under the technical board.

Today, the HSC examinees will take Bangla first paper, Alim candidates will sit for Quran Majid and vocational examinees will take Bangla second paper.

Theoretical exams will end on June 9 while practical examinations will be held between June 11 and June 20.

Education minister Nurul Islam Nahid, while speaking at a press conference on Thursday, said that they had all preparations for smooth holding of the HSC and equivalent exams.

'We will take action against any kind of malpractice as per the existing law. If anyone is found guilty of question leak, he or she will lose their jobs. Nobody can protect them.'

He also said that the suspected people and the coaching centres would remain under surveillance to check the question leakage and other forgeries.