

Staff Reporter

Taking a swipe at those who criticize the current standard of education in the country, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Wednesday said the standard of education would increase in the usual course and none would be able to hinder this.

“Standard of education will enhance in usual course as we've been imparting training to the teachers while the method of education is being changed. Standard will surely enhance and none would be able to hinder this,” she said.

The Prime Minister was speaking at a function after Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid formally handed over to her the results of the HSC and equivalent examinations of 2014 at her official Ganobhaban residence in the morning.

PM's Principal Secretary Abdus Sobhan Sikder, Waresat Hossain Belal MP, Education Secretary Dr Mohammad Sadiq, PM's Press Secretary AKM Shamim Chowdhury, chairmen of all education boards, and officials of the Department of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education were present.

The Prime Minister, through a video conference, also talked with the students of Dinajpur at the Deputy Commissioner's office and with Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali.

The results were published within 60 days from the date of the conclusion of the examinations as per the announcement of the Education Ministry. A total of 11,29,772 examinees appeared at the HSC and equivalent examinations this year compared to 10,02,496 examinees in 2013. This year's HSC and equivalent exams were held between April 3 and June 16.

The pass rate this year is 78.33 percent with 70,602 examinees securing GPA-5 while the pass rate was 74.30 percent last year. Hundred percent students passed in 1,147 institutions as against 849 last year.

This year, the girls outshone boys at the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) and equivalent examinations in terms of pass rate.

Boys, however, have done better this year in terms of GPA-5 achievers. A total of 38,787 boys received the distinction as against 31,815 girls.

The pass percentage of female examinees is 78.86 and of male students 77.86.

The overall pass rate in this year's HSC and equivalent examinations rose by 4.03 percentage points this year with 78.33 percent passing the exams held under 10 education boards.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said the country is gradually moving ahead towards the path of light from the era of darkness because of the various steps taken by the present government.

Expressing her satisfaction and delight over the results, she said there has been marked progress in the education sector and the country is moving ahead.

Hasina said that the pass rates in the public exams are rising every time and this will continue as the country's students are meritorious. What they need is encouragement and some facilities for flourishing their talents.

"The teachers are being imparted training while the education system is being modernized. If such efforts continue, we'll be able to move ahead," she said adding that there is improvement every year in public examination results.

The Prime Minister mentioned that the aim of her government is to experience cent percent pass records in future no matter who feels jealous.

Referring to the so-called criticism of the Education Ministry and the Minister over the standard of education, she advised the Education Minister to ignore such criticisms.

Hasina said: “We’ve certain goals and we know what needs to be done and how we could take the country forward. Our goal is firm and we’ll move ahead in such fashion,”

She added: “Those who criticize (standard of education) and express doubts should appear in these exams and let’s see whether they could pass.”

The Prime Minister said there are some people who always feel jealous about the success of others, which is commonly known as 'Porosrikatarata' in Bangla as they always tend to pass some comments or remarks whenever there are good works.

She said the country is now moving ahead in primary, secondary, higher secondary and higher education and this is visible. There is no need to think who are passing what kinds of comments and remarks.

Hasina said the next generation would move ahead using science and technology and they would once assume leadership of the country.

She reiterated her plan to set up at least one university either under public or private initiative in each district including specialized universities in textile and maritime.

Noting that no nation can lead a better life without education, the Prime Minister said the aim of her government is to establish a poverty-free Bangladesh for which education is the key. “Only an educated nation can free the country from poverty and hunger,”

Recalling the contributions of father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in the

country's education sector, she said that her government had first formulated the country's maiden Education Policy after assuming office in 2009 and the policy is now being implemented.

Hasina congratulated the successful examinees as well teachers and officials of the Ministry and its various bodies for the success in this year's HSC and equivalent exams. She advised the unsuccessful candidates to prepare for the next time from now on.

Mentioning that the Awami League government has been working for the socio-economic development of the country, the Prime Minister said almost everything are now being handled under digital system while the use of science and technology has reached the village level.

There are some 11 crore mobile phone SIMs in the country while the internet users crossed 4.80 crore, she added.