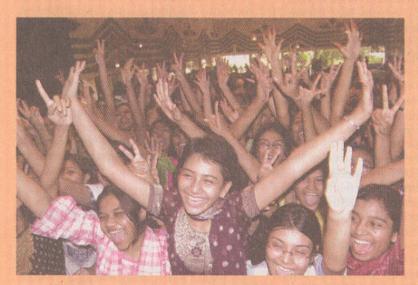
Cover Story 8-12



Much Ado about Pass Rate

This year's SSC results have come as a pleasant surprise to most. One reason certainly has been the refreshing break from the past records. The everdeteriorating pass rate in the last five or six years which sank to 26% last year makes a dramatic recovery. So, many felt relieved seeing this year's reasonably healthy pass rate of almost 50%, one of the best in the last 30 years. The feel-good factor has been, to a great extent, created and fanned by the government, and the pass rate has promptly been interpreted as a great achievement. But, we must not forget that our education system is badly battered and in need of a complete overhaul. If we fail to address the issues that ail this sector immediately, we would not be able to effect any lasting, qualitative improvement to our unhealthy, poor, and almost dysfunctional education system of the country.

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