

Polytechnic students, primary schools decrease

By A Staff Reporter

The number of students in all categories of educational institutions registered an increase during 1983-84 fiscal year along with the number of educational institutions at lower secondary, secondary and higher secondary levels but the number of primary schools declined.

The number of teachers at lower secondary and higher secondary levels recorded rise but its number was reduced at primary and secondary levels.

At higher level, the number of institutions remained static but the number of students went up and the number of teachers also registered rise in

some cases.

According to the Bangladesh Economic Survey published by the Ministry of Finance, the number of students at primary level during 1983-84 stood at 88 lakh 8 thousand 28 as against 86 lakh 33 thousand 824 in 1982-83 but the number of schools fell from 44 thousand 27 to 43 thousand 470 and the number of teachers decreased from 1 lakh 76 thousand 478 to 1 lakh 71 thousand 349. On an average there were four teachers and 203 students in a primary school student-teacher ratio being 52:1.

The number of students at lower secondary, secondary and higher secondary levels marked a considerable increase during the period under survey, the

number of students at lower secondary level was 2 lakh 71 thousand 572 in 83-84 as against 2 lakh 23 thousand 984 in the proceeding year showing an increase of 47 thousand 588.

At this level, the number of schools rose by 64 during this period while the number of teachers went up by 8 thousand 294 over 1982-83 on an average there were six teachers and 131 students in a lower secondary school.

At secondary level, there was considerable increase in the number of students during 1983-84, about two lakh. There was, however, sharp decrease of teachers, from 81 thousand 527 to 75 thousand 728 and the num-

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Polytechnic students

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ber of schools increased by 124 only. On an average, there were 12 teachers and 315 students in schools at secondary schools.

At higher secondary level, there was an increase of 16,884 students in 83-84 over 82-83. The number of intermediate colleges was 253 as against 213 and the number of teachers swelled to 2 thousand 955 as against 2 thousand 125. there was one teacher for 28 students at all these levels.

At higher level, the number

of degree colleges did not increase during the period under survey but the number of students went up from 2 lakh 31 thousand 255 in 1982-83 to 3 lakh 11 thousand 984 in 1983-84. Similarly, the number of students of Agriculture University rose to 3,770 from 3,598 and the number of students of the University for Engineering and Technology rose from 2,766 to 3,015.

The number of students of four general universities rose to 35,000 from 33,335 during the period under review. The ratio of students and teachers was 1:32 at degree level, 1:10 at Agriculture and Engineering Universities and 1:19 at general universities.

While the number of teachers marked a rise at degree colleges, universities, the number fell in engineering college, Teachers Training Colleges, Law colleges and Medical colleges.

According to the survey report the number of students in technical and vocational schools marked a decrease during 1983-84.

In 17 polytechnic institutes, there were 10 thousand 432 students in 83-84 as against 12 thousand 347 students in 82-83 and the number of teachers fell from 755 to 752. In the lone Graphic Arts Institute, the number of students fell to 86 from 92 and the number of teachers was 20 as against 19 in 82-83.

In 47 PTI, there were 7,446 students in 83-84 as against 7,699 in 82-83 but the number of teachers rose to 1,497 from 1,362. In 50 vocational institutes, the number of students rose to 4,880

from 4,500 and the number of teachers rose from 258 to 336, but 50 out of 54 institutes functioned during this period.

The number of students in Madrassas increased during the period under survey at all levels but the number of teachers marked a fall at fazil and kamil levels.

At the lowest level, the Dakhil, the number of students swelled to 2 lakh 53 thousand 744 in 83-84 as against 2 lakh 753 in the preceding year, at Alim level the number of students increased to 1 lakh 02 thousand 200 from 79 thousand 826, at Fazil level the number increased from 1 lakh 27 thousand 171 to 1 lakh 48 thousand 986 and at Kamil level the number increased from 22 thousand 312 to 24 thousand 237.

The number of teachers at Dakhil level rose from 11 thousand 910 to 13 thousand 923, at Alim level the number rose from 5 thousand 214 to 5,718, at Fazil level the number declined from 8,152 to 7,908 and at Kamil level the number fell from 1,382 to 1,124.

Except at Kamil level whose number fell from 62 to 61, the number of Madrassas at all other levels marked rise. The number of Dakhil Madrassas stood at 1,645 in 83-84 as against 1,361 in 82-83, the number of Alim Madrassas rose from 452 to 508 and the number of Fazil Madrassas rose from 575 to 591 during the period under review.

The teacher-student ratio at Dakhil, Alim, Fazil and Kamil level is 1:19, 1:18, 1:19, and 1:22 respectively.