

1.05 lakh teaching positions lying vacant

Affects 2.70 crore students' education in schools, colleges

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CLASSROOM teaching at primary, secondary schools and colleges has been facing disruptions due to failure to recruit teachers to fill 1.05 lakh vacancies.

The vacancies have been a source of headache for the beleaguered institutions for many of them for about five years.

Both government run as well as private institutions have been facing the short-

age of teachers, said teachers and education officials.

They said that court cases, which delayed recruitment of primary schools run by the government, had been withdrawn.

The government's failure to amend the rules for recruiting secondary schools, they said, was delaying the appointments to fill the vacancies at government run schools.

They blamed Public Service Commission's lengthy

recruitment process for creating more new vacancies in government colleges than filling them.

The recurring shortages compel existing teachers to take additional classes which affects teaching quality, they said.

Government run schools and colleges in the district towns and rural areas are facing greater teacher shortage, said education officials.

Teachers demanded immediate recruitment of

teachers to fill the vacancies affecting education quality.

Admitting the problems, primary and mass education minister Mostafizur Rahman and education minister Nurul Islam Nahid said that recruitment of teachers was under way.

Officials said, teacher shortage had been affecting classroom teaching for over 2.69 crore students of government primary schools, government and non government secondary school

and colleges across the country.

Now these institutions have 4.87 lakh teachers while they should have 5.92 lakh teachers, they said.

They said, 60,000 vacancies exist at government primary, 40,000 at non government secondary schools and intermediate colleges, 3,475 vacancies at government colleges and 2,250 vacancies at government run secondary schools.

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According to the Primary Education Directorate, the government run primary schools have 44,095 vacancies of assistant teachers and 16,603 vacancies of head teachers.

The head teachers positions fell vacant five years back, it said.

Hariapur government primary school in Kishoreganj with over 200 students has been running with only two teachers, said headmaster Anisul Haq Bhuiyan.

He said his repeated requests to authorities to send teachers bore no results.

Primary and mass educa-

tion ministry sent a proposal to PSC on April 7 to recruit headmasters to fill the vacancies, said Mostafizur Rahman.

He said that the process had been initiated to recruit 18,000 assistant teachers for the primary schools.

He said that the process to recruit 18,000 more assistant teachers would be initiated soon.

Education ministry officials said that about 40,000 teaching positions were lying vacant at non government secondary schools and intermediate colleges.

Secondary and Higher Education Directorate officials that 3,475 teaching

positions were lying vacant at government colleges.

They said 2,250 teaching positions were lying vacant at government secondary schools.

Officials said that recruitment of teachers for the government run secondary schools would not be possible until the recruitment rules were amended.

They said that no recruitments could take place since 2012 for the same reason.

They said the amendment of the recruitment rules became necessary since 2012 after the government upgraded the status of secondary school assistant

teachers to class II.

Meherpur Government Girls School is running with 30 teachers though it should have 53, said headmaster Subash Chandra.

He said that many teachers' positions fell vacant five years back.

He said due to acute teacher shortage his school often holds joint classes which affects teaching quality.

Amendment of the recruitment rules is now at the final stage, said Nahid.

DSHE acting director general Wahiduzzaman said that steps to recruit college teachers would be taken soon.