

Govt makes ICT compulsory as subject at schools, colleges

50 pc schools do not have ICT teachers

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THE education ministry had made information and communication technology compulsory as a subject at the junior secondary, secondary and higher secondary level when almost half of such schools do not have specialist teachers.

'We issued a circular making ICT subject compulsory at junior secondary, secondary and higher secondary level today,' said AKM Zakir Hossain Bhui-

yan, joint secretary of education ministry, told New Age on Thursday.

He said that to make the students more interested about new knowledge which had demand all over the world the government decided to make ICT compulsory as a subject.

'School authorities will need to provide salary and others benefit to the ICT teachers until further order,' he added.

From now on no approval will be needed for intro-

ducing ICT subjects at the schools, he said.

Principals of government colleges, meanwhile, at a meeting held in the capital on Saturday raised a demand for creating a post for ICT teacher at every college.

In line with the education policy 2010, the government introduced ICT for Class VI students in 2012, for Class VII in 2013, for Class VIII in 2014 and for Class IX in 2015. For the students of Class XI and XII, ICT subject was introduced in 2013.

The ICT subject gives the students primary ideas about computer and its related devices, internet, mobile and their usages, which builds a foundation for further ICT studies.

The government issued the circular when there is no specialist teacher for teaching ICT subject at all 322 government schools and over 300 government colleges, said Directorate of Secondary Education and Higher Education officials.

They added that about

8,500 non-government secondary schools out of 16,900 did not have ICT teachers while 5,000 mad-rassahs out of 6,470 did not have ICT teachers.

Teachers and DSHE officials said that teachers of other subjects were now teaching ICT at the schools.

AKM Zakir Hossain Bhuiyan admitted that there were no ICT teachers at 'majority schools' and added, 'We are working on the issue of appointing ICT teachers.'