

# QUESTION PAPER LEAK Govt to scrap printed questions to prevent leaks

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GOVERNMENT is planning to stop the use of printed question papers at public examinations to prevent question leakage.

Instead of printed question papers, the government is planning to introduce electronic devices through which the question papers would reach the exam centres, said secondary and higher education division secretary Sohorab Hossain after attending a meeting on Tuesday at secretariat in capital. The step might be taken as soon as the Secondary School Certificate examinations next year.

The meeting, that was attended by education minister Nurul Islam Nahid, home minister Asaduzzaman Khan

and telecommunication and ICT minister Mustafa Jabbar and senior officials, was held in the wake of question paper leaks in almost all the papers of ongoing SSC exams and upcoming HSC exam.

We have to introduce a way where printing and circulation of the question papers would not be required, thus question paper leak would be stopped, Sohorab said.

He also said the prime minister's announcement of repealing multiple choice questions would be implemented through a process.

The two-hour long meeting was held to decide the steps through which public examination question papers leak can be stopped.

The phenomenal question paper leak in this year's SSC

examinations has drawn fierce criticisms from educationist, guardians, examinees and people from all walks of life.

The examinees and their guardians said that, apart from February 18 and Tuesday's exams, partial or whole question paper leak occurred in all the papers including Bangla 1st and 2nd paper, English 1st and 2nd paper, religion and moral studies, mathematics, chemistry, Bangladesh and global studies and biology.

Sohrab also told the press that a question bank would be made for next year's SSC exams.

He also said that the law enforcement agencies had so far arrested 152 persons for their involvement in question leaks, and 52 cases were filed against them under Public Exam (Offences) Act, 1980.

Till Sunday, the perpetrators continued to leak question papers despite a series of government steps like ban on cell phone use around 200 metres of exam centre, closure of coaching centres during exams and students needing to take seats 30 minutes ahead of starting of exams and enhanced monitoring while opening question packet.

When all the government efforts failed to check the malpractice, on February 15, the High Court for the first time appointed two five-member committees, including a judicial committee, to find those involved in leaking papers.