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Readers' Forum

TUTORIALS AND FEES

As a guardian, I welcome the recent government directive to non-government educational institutions regarding an enhancement of tuition fees, I am curious to know, however, about whether the directive in question applies to the many English-medium tutorials and kindergartens that currently operate in the country, especially in Dhaka. Quite a good number of these tutorials and kindergartens are regularly in the habit of increasing fees and other charges. The amusing thing is that every year the authorities of such institution explain to guardians that the increase in necessary owing to the need for laboratory, sports and other facilities. In reality, though, such facilities are hardly ever made available to the students. Worse when the people who run such tutorials are approached for an explanation of the annual enhancement of fees, they are unresponsive. If there is a response, it is to tell the guardian that it is upto him to keep his child in the school or take him out.

I think the government should take serious measures regarding tutorials and kindergartens. There are English-medium schools which are known to be quite happy to receive donations from people before granting admission to their children. A number of these schools also employ teachers who have had no previous experience in teaching. Again, there are teachers who make mistakes themselves and then expect those mistakes to be regarded acceptable by students and guardians alike.

Mr. Editor, my son is a student in one of these tutorials. I don't worry about him. I worry about his galloping fees. As it is, price rises, telephone overbilling and house rent relieve my pockets of their worldly burden. How can I satisfy my son's teachers with money that I don't have?

Decisive action regarding tutorials will be appreciated by many who have suffered as much as I have.

A Guardian
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