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Exam body soon to release 30,000 questionnaires

By A Staff Correspondent

The examination development committee for Secondary and Higher Secondary Education headed by Prof. Muhammed Shamsul Huq former Foreign Minister will release 30,000 questionnaires very soon to elicit opinions from different groups on the reform of present examination system.

The questionnaire contains 39 questions divided in seven groups. The 12-page questionnaire would be distributed among 24 categories of people including university teachers, college teachers, school teachers, intellectuals, students, doctors, engineers, scientists and other professional groups throughout the country with immediate effect. The committee expects to get the reply of the questionnaires by mid-December 1985.

The committee will publish report recommending a particular examination system by March 31 1986. The examination development committee was formed by the government on October 3, 1983 by gazette notification. Dr. Muhammed Shamsul Huq, former Foreign Minister has been appointed chairman of the 25-member committee. The members of the committee mainly included chairmen of four Education Boards, prominent educationists

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Exam body

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including Dr. Abdullah al-Muti Sharfuddin, Dr. Anisuzzaman Dr. Ferdous Khan.

Addressing a Press conference at the auditorium of the Secondary and Higher Education Board, Dhaka, Prof. Muhammed Shamsul Huq, said that the Government had formed the examination development committee on the recommendation made by Dr. Kudrat-e-Khuda Education Commission in 1974. The Kudrat-e-Khuda Commission suggested change in the present examination system to make education to students more meaningful and reduce the rate of failure in the examinations he added.

Prof. Shamsul Huq said under the present examination system about 55 per cent students fail on the average every year in Secondary and Higher Secondary examinations. The number of students failing in these examinations is nearly 2.5 lakh. Such huge failure in the examination, he said is national loss. The present examination system, he continued is very insufficient to evaluate real knowledge of the students. Further more this system lacks incentives to the students as well.

Prof. Shamsul Huq said that the committee will collect information on the examination systems prevailing in the neighbouring countries during the preparation of its report. The committee will hold its third meeting on December 15, 1985 during which it will also hold a conference of the representatives of the different categories. It will hold its fourth meeting on January 14, 1986.

Prof. Muhammed Shamsul Huq said that the questionnaires were prepared by a sub-committee. The questionnaires would seek replies to seven broad queries. The queries are, objective of examination, nature of examination, nature of question papers, evaluation of reply sheets, determination of examinations results, atmosphere of examination, and arrangement for conducting examinations.