

SQ METHOD FOR SSC EXAMS IN 2011

# Govt urged to cancel full implementation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of Obhibhabok Shamannay Committee yesterday called on the government to cancel full implementation of the structured question (SQ) method for SSC examinations to be introduced in 2011, saying that most teachers and students are still in the dark about this new question pattern.

They suggested introducing the SQ method in class six instead of class nine so that students can be familiar with the new method at the early stage of education.

The members placed the demand at a press conference at the National Press Club in the city.

They proposed that only two subjects from the SSC curriculum -- Bangla first paper and religious studies -- should be brought under the SQ method instead of all the subjects.

Only a small number of teachers received training on the SQ method and even the new pattern is not included in the new textbooks, said Sefayet Ullah Patwari, convener of the committee.

Mahbubul Alam, joint convener of the committee, said students are still confused about the new system, because they are not getting proper guidelines from teachers or textbooks.

The committee will stage a sit-in in front of the Shikkha Bhaban in the city on June 6 to press home their demand.

The SQ method was scheduled to be introduced in 2009,

but the government put this back to 2011 in the wake of protests by teachers, students and guardians.

Sources at the education ministry said the introduction of SQ method is a component of a Tk 793-crore Secondary Education Sector Development Project (SESD).

A structured question will ask for several bits of informa-

tion on a single topic. There will be 60 marks for structured questions instead of 50 marks as is now customary with essay-type questions.

There will be 40 marks for multiple choice questions instead of 50. The new system will not be applicable to English first and second papers and Bangla second paper.