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Appointments of 158 PSC selected teachers delayed

Staff Correspondent

Appointments of 158 Public Service Commission (PSC) selected experienced teachers for the education cadre of the government have become uncertain following tussles between the officials of the Ministry of Education and a section of senior cadre teachers.

The Ministry of Education allegedly did not take any step to prepare appointment letters for the successful candidates and was keeping silent over the issue for unknown reasons. Officials of the Ministry loved to remain tight-lipped in this connection.

The Public Service Commission selected 158 teachers with academic excellence and experience through competitive examinations in July 1997 following a requisition from the Ministry of Education.

The Commission after evaluating the answer scripts of the competitive examinations selected 17 Professors, 60 Associate Professors and 81 Assistant Professors for the PSC's direct recruitment under the provision of 10 per cent reserve posts. The commission sent a list of the successful candidates to the Ministry of Education for the necessary measures.

Sources in the Ministry of Education said that the officials did not give attention to the fresh recruitment due to legal complexities. They pointed their fingers to the status-quo imposed by the court upon lateral entry. Some teachers of BCS education cadre recently challenged one of the provisions of filling up senior positions — "Lateral Entry". Under the provision of "Lateral Entry" the Ministry of Education is allowed to fill up 20 per cent of the vacant positions on an emergency basis without the consent of the Public Service Commission.

The court imposed status-quo upon the both provisions of filling up of the senior positions — promotion and lateral entry. Processing of all such appointments made prohibited by the court.

Some successful candidates alleged that the court did not impose status-quo upon the provision of direct recruitment by the Public Service Commission. But Ministry of Education showing the status-quo postponed the appointments even beyond the court sanction.

They stated example of appointments by the Ministry of Education during the status-quo and questioned that how the ministry appointed PSC selected lecturers and 29 head masters for different colleges and high schools?

They also alleged that their files were sent to the Ministry of Establishment once and the Ministry of Law and Justice twice for their opinion. Both the ministries gave positive opinion in this connection.