

# Permanent exam centres under consideration: Education minister

The government may establish dedicated facilities at upazila, district or regional levels following a feasibility study, he says

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Education Minister ANM Ehsanul Hoque Milon today said the government is considering establishing permanent public examination centres across the country.

A proposal for a feasibility study is currently awaiting approval, he said while responding to a question from Naogaon-4 MP Ikramul Bari Tipu during the question-and-answer session at the parliament today.



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Once the study is completed, decisions will be taken on setting up dedicated examination centres at upazila, district or regional levels, based on factors including the number of candidates, geographical location, availability of infrastructure and land, and the government's financial capacity, he said.

Replying to a question from Jashore-4 MP Golam Rasul, Milon said resolving nearly 44,000 pending applications for benefits from the Teachers' Welfare Trust and Retirement Board submitted by retired teachers and staff of MPO-listed institutions would require an additional one-time allocation of Tk 3,150 crore.

He said the government is actively considering ways to arrange the funds and expedite the disposal of the applications.

In response to a question from Sylhet-5 MP Mohammad Abul Hasan, the minister said Bangladesh currently has 8,484 Ebtedayi madrasas, of which 1,327 have applied for MPO listing.

He assured parliament that if all criteria are met, the government plans to gradually bring eligible institutions under MPO coverage.

Answering a question from Chattogram-16 MP Mohammad Zahirul Islam, Milon said there are 8,229 MPO-listed madrasas across the country.

Replying to Rangpur-5 MP Golam Rabbani, he added that Bangladesh has 2,405 non-MPO educational institutions, comprising 1,773 schools, 176 school-and-college institutions, and 456 colleges.