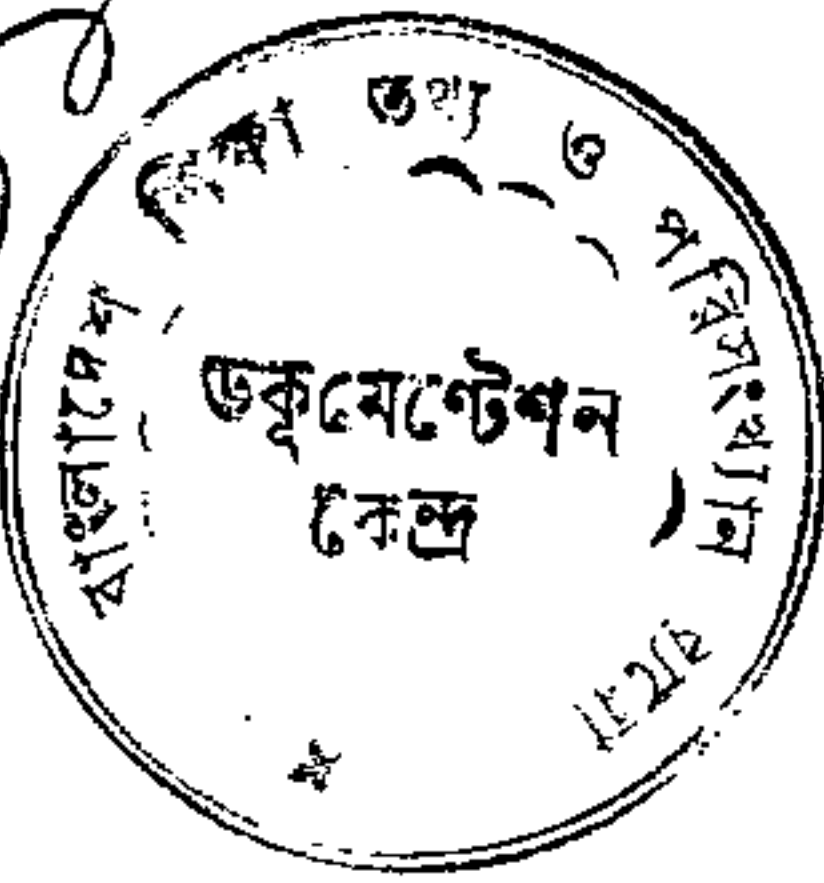




Shortage Of College Teachers

The disclosure by the Chairman of University Grants Commission that nearly two thousand posts of teachers in Government Colleges are lying vacant makes disquieting reading. That the situation in non-government colleges is worse can be safely assumed. The standard of education in most colleges has deteriorated because of shortage of teachers.

In a country with a chronic unemployment problem this type of educational vacuum is hard to explain. Why enough candidates are not attracted to the teaching career? The tendency nowadays is to seek employment in Dhaka only. Often candidates wait for years for a job in Dhaka rather than go to a mofussil area.

The authorities concerned should offer more attractive salaries, fringe benefit and better facilities to attract people to join college, government or non-government.

The educational atmosphere in many educational institution has deteriorated because of lack of teachers, lack of apparatus and educational instruments and student politics. We often receive reports of the deplorable condition of the buildings housing colleges, of the acute shortage of accommodation in the hostels and the unsanitary and unhygienic conditions prevailing in and around these institutions.

Erosion of social values, lack of dedicated teachers, lack of a dedicated intellectual elite have resulted in a complete decline in codes of conduct. Adopting unfair means in examinations has now become an inseparable part of the educational scenario in Bangladesh.

Social and political leaders for their part are yet to do their bit to make education attractive to youths for its own sake. The administration and national leaders should work together to ensure peace and discipline on the academic camps.