

তারিখ: ২/৮/২০০
পৃষ্ঠা: ২/১০

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Over 400 teachers to get promotion

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Six years after the postponement of promotion the government is going to elevate assistant teachers of secondary schools to the posts of assistant headmaster and assistant district education officer.

A proposal for promotion of 408 teachers across the country has been sent to the education ministry on Wednesday, a top official of Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) told The Daily Star.

Of them, 357 assistant teachers will get promotion as assistant headmaster and 51 as assistant district education officers, he said.

Since the post of assistant district education

officer is a cadre post, the ministry will send the proposal to Public Service Commission (PSC) for approval, said the official.

After PSC's approval the ministry will start awarding the promotion, he said.

"We have sent the proposal to the education ministry. It will be sent to the PSC soon," said Prof Mohammad Jakir Hossain, director (secondary) of DSHE.

The total number of government secondary schools in the country is 317 including 144 double-shift schools, according to the DSHE data.

There are 461 posts of assistant headmaster for the schools as every double-shift school has

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400 teachers

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two assistant headmasters while the single-shift school has one, the data said.

Sources said that only 67 institutions have the headmasters. As the assistant headmasters are running the rest of the schools as acting headmasters, a good number of posts of assistant headmasters fell vacant, they said.

On the other hand, there are 9,000 posts of assistant teachers in the country and their promotion was stopped back in 2004 due to a recruitment rule.

Changes have been made in the rule recently, said sources.

"It is indeed a good initiative as the assistant teachers were due for promotion earlier," said Shamsul Hoque, an assistant teacher of Mirpur Government High School, Dhaka and president of Bangladesh Government Teachers' Association.

Of those who will get promotion 218 are male and 190 female teachers.