

TAKING EXCESS FEES FROM SSC CANDIDATES

School managing committees to stand dissolved: HC

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A HIGH Court order on Monday said that the managing committees of schools would stand dissolved if fees in excess of the rates fixed by the education boards were charged from the candidates of Secondary School Certificate Examinations.

The court also directed the 10 education boards to take prompt action against the faltering schools on receipt of complaints from the candidates or guardians.

The order said that collection of excess fees would tantamount to contempt of the court.

The court also directed the chairmen of the education boards to submit compliance reports on January 6.

A bench of Justice Quazi Reza-ul Hoque and Justice Abu Taher Mohammad Saifur Rahman passed the suo moto order following media reports that schools were collecting fees in excess of the rates fixed by the education boards without

providing receipts.

In a suo moto order issued on November 10, 2014 the HC prohibited charging excess money from candidates on no pretext.

In the previous rule the same bench had directed the education secretary and all the education board chairmen to explain the legality of charging fees from the candidates in excess of the officially set rates.

The court issued the fresh rule after Supreme Court lawyer M Moazzam Hoss-

sain drew its attention to newspaper reports on collection of excess fees by schools.

He also drew the court's attention to the reports that many leading schools in the capital did not return to the students the excess fees collected last year disregarding the court's order.

The HC in its previous year's order said the managing committees of the schools would stand illegal if the schools failed to return the excess fees within the deadline.