

HIGHER SECONDARY SUBJECTS *ICT made compulsory*

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THE National Curriculum and Textbook Board has introduced information and communications technology as a compulsory subject this academic year for higher secondary students who would be taking the

public exams in 2015.

Students of higher secondary certificate and equivalent courses beginning sessions this year will be taking exams of 1,300 marks in place of the existing 1,200 marks.

The textbook board, meanwhile, has also introduced
Continued on page 4 Col. 2

ICT made compulsory

Continued from page 1

a new group called Islamic Studies for HSC students in addition to the existing science, humanities, business, home economics and music groups.

The board's secretary Braja Gopal Bhowmick told New Age that they had introduced ICT as a compulsory subject and Islamic Studies as a new group, from this academic session at government instructions.

Board member Tahera Akhter Jahan said that the ICT would be a compulsory subject for all higher secondary students. She said that students of all groups would now be studying the ICT as a compulsory subject in addition to Bangla and English.

A student will need to choose three main subjects and an optional subject from any of the groups along with Bangla, English and ICT, she said.

Board officials said that the ICT would be a 100-mark paper in addition to the six 200-mark papers.

In keeping with the new syllabus, science students, who will have physics and chemistry as the two main subjects, will need to take either higher mathematics or biology as the third. They will need to take one from among biology, higher mathematics, agriculture, geography, psychology, statistics and others as the optional subject.

Humanities students will need to take either history or Islamic history and culture, one from among the three of civics and good governance, economics, and logic and one from among sociology, social works and geography as the main subjects.

They will need to take an optional subject from among civics and good governance, economics, geography, logic, sociology, social works, Is-

lamic studies, psychology, statistics, anthropology, agriculture studies, home economics and others.

Business students will need to take three main subjects from among business organisation and management, accounting, finance, banking and insurance and production management and marketing.

They have to take an optional subject from finance and banking, insurance, production management and marketing, tourism and hospitality, human resources, statistics, geography, economics, agriculture studies, home economics, secretarial science and office management.

For Islamic Studies students, the main subjects will be Islamic studies, Islamic history and culture and Arabic. Students will need to take one optional subject from among sociology, social works, agriculture studies, home economics, psychol-

ogy, logic, geography and economics.

The syllabuses for the home economics and music groups will remain unchanged.

There are 1,928 colleges offering HSC courses for which 5,25,443 students are enrolled, 1,401 alim madrasahs for which 4,02,431 students are enrolled. There more than a hundred thousand vocational and technical students.

The process for students admission to higher secondary colleges began on May 18 based on their secondary exams results. Colleges with more than 500 seats will need to complete the admission process online.

Students will be allowed to submit the forms till June 6. The colleges will publish the list of the selected candidates on June 17. The students can enrol on colleges by June 30 and classes of Class XI students will begin on July 1.