

## Certificates of 540 school librarians fake

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DIRECTORATE of Secondary and Higher Education has found that 540 librarians have managed to get appointment at non-government secondary schools showing fake certificates of diploma in library science.

A five-member committee, formed on February 3 to recommend school librarians for enlistment for the monthly pay order (salary from the exchequer), revealed it scrutinising 701 applications, said deputy director Md Mesbahuddin Sarkar, who heads the committee.

The committee has scrutinised the applications of

the 701 school librarians, who have submitted their certificates of diploma in library science claiming them to be issued by the National University, he said.

The committee members cross-checked the diploma certificate with the results sheets of the National University and found 540 certificates fake, he said adding that only two certificates out of 27 submitted from a district were found genuine.

The secondary and higher education director general, Fahima Khatun, told New Age that the present government created the post of librarians at the non-government secondary schools

to improve the quality of education, but unfortunately a huge number of librarians managed to get appointment in the schools, with fake diploma certificates.

We will ask the management committees of the schools to take legal action against the librarians with fake diploma, she said.

Actions will also be taken against the district and upazila education officers, who have recommended the librarians with fake certificates for enrolment on the monthly pay order, she added.

A district education officer, Md Abdus Samad, however, said that they did not have enough time for

verifying all the certificates. The certificates of MPO applicants are verified if any allegation of forgery is received, he said.

Started in 2010, the process for enlistment of school librarians for the monthly pay order was halted in January 2011 due to fund shortage, the directorate officials said.

They said that the finance ministry in January 2013 released Tk 60 crore for the monthly pay order scheme for the school librarians for January-June period.

A librarian will get Tk 8,000 a month in the form of monthly pay order, the officials said.