

Govt nationalises 4825 primary schools in Dhaka div

Staff Correspondent

THE government on Monday issued notifications nationalising 4825 registered primary schools that are enrolled for monthly pay order in the Dhaka division.

The primary and mass education ministry issued the notifications of the nationalisation, deputy secretary Muhammad Abul Kalam, who signed the notifications, said on Tuesday.

The notifications were issued in line with the announcement the prime minister Sheikh Hasina made on the nationalisation of non-government primary schools, he said.

Hasina on January 9 made the formal announcement of the nationalisation of 26,192 primary schools that employ 104,000 teachers in the face of a movement non-government schoolteachers have carried out for two decades.

With this, the ministry as so far issued notifications for

the nationalisation of 15247 non-government primary schools in line with Hasina's announcement.

The primary and mass education ministry issued separate notifications for the nationalization of 3189 non-government primary schools of the Chittagong division and 2421 non-government primary schools of the Barisal division on June 24.

The ministry issued notifications for the nationalisation of 1363 non-government primary schools of the Sylhet division on June 17 and of 3449 non-government primary schools of the Khulna division on June 20.

Notifications for the nationalisation of schools of the Rangpur and the Rajshahi division will be issued very soon, officials said.

All land, house and cash funds will be handed over to the government with nationalisation of the schools, the notification said.

The existing managing

committees will be abolished and new managing committee will be formed in keeping with the law, it added.

The nationalisation would be in force with retrospective effect from January 1.

According to the primary and mass education minister, Afsanul Amin, the nationalisation of schools would take place in three phases. In the first phase, 22,981 schools already on the monthly pay order will be nationalised and 91,024 teachers of the schools would get benefits as government school teachers do from January 1.

A total of 2,252 schools and jobs of 7,025 teachers of the schools yet to be on the monthly pay order but having permanent or temporary registration, or approval, community schools, and government-funded NGO-run schools will be nationalised in the second phase

beginning on July 1.

The nationalisation of the remaining 960 schools and jobs of 3,796 teachers of the schools, either having or waiting for approval, will take place in the third phase, beginning on January 1, 2014.

After the nationalisation of the schools, teachers will get the same salary and benefits as teachers of government primary schools do.

A nationalised government primary school teacher is entitled to a monthly entry-level basic salary of Tk 4,700, house rent allowance, medical allowance, refreshment allowance, rest and recreation allowance, yearly increment, time-scale and pension.

An additional Tk 691 crore would be needed for the nationalisation process.

In 1973, the government first nationalised 36,165 primary schools. Later, 1,507 more schools were nationalised at different times.