

Govt pry schools to get 37,000 supporting staff

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THE government has decided to recruit about 37,000 non-teaching staff to unburden classroom teachers of odd jobs in schools, education officials said.

Teachers in government primary schools need to do some extra jobs, other than classroom teaching, which hamper academic activities.

Besides, authorities of some schools take admission fees flouting rules to pay privately hired non-

teaching staff who do the extra chores.

Leaders of teachers associations have for long been demanding recruitment of non-teaching staff to do such extra everyday chores.

A total of 37,000 staff will be recruited in three phases. All the manpower would work as office assistants during school hours and work as guards at night, Shyamal Kanti Gosh, director general of the primary education directorate, said.

He said that the government had information that

authorities of some schools illegally collected funds from admission seekers to pay the privately hired supporting staff. The government wants an end to such illegal practice, he added.

These staff will be given a consolidated amount of Tk 7,000 a month. Twelve thousand staff will be recruited in the current financial year; 12,000 more in the next financial year and 13,000 in the 2014-2015 financial year, he said.

One lakh government primary schools that the

government in last month decided to nationalise will remain out of the purview of the decision.

School management committee will oversee three-member recruitment boards in each of the schools. The minimum educational qualification of such people would be education up to Class VIII, according to the recruitment policy the ministry drafted.

Despite being a teacher, I need to open and close the doors and windows, ring the bells, hoist the flags and

sometimes clean toilets, an assistant teacher at the BG Press Government Primary School in the capital Dhaka said. He welcomed the government decision.

There are about 3 lakh teachers in all the 37,000 government primary schools across the country.

The government last month announced the nationalisation of 26,193 non-government primary. The decision will be implemented in three phases. The schools have more than one lakh teachers.