

## 17 days off from Ramadan vacations

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RAMADAN vacation for schools and colleges has been cut down by 17 days to make up for time lost due to closure during strikes and political unrest. The Ministry of Education rescheduled the vacations on Tuesday.

It amended the list of holidays and the academic calendar for 2013 effective for governmental and private secondary and lower secondary schools and colleges.

According to the previous calendar holidays for Ramadan, Jamat-ul-Vida, Shab-e-Qadar and Eid-ul-Fitr were supposed to be for 28 days from July 11 to August 12.

But this has now been curtailed. The holidays will be now from July 27 to August 12.

The education minister, Nurul Islam Nahid, had told the news agency on Monday. 'Ramadan holidays have to be curtailed this time as there were very few classes so far in this academic season on account of various issues.'

The ministry official said the holidays have been cut down mainly because of disruption of classes due to strikes. Shutdowns forced the postponement of SSC examinations, Madrasa Board's Dakhil, Technical Board's Dakhil Vocational and examinations on 37 subjects for SSC vocational under eight general boards.

Besides, the examinations on a total of 41 subjects of HSC and equivalent examinations had to be postponed.