

1.2cr students suffer as 29,200 teaching positions vacant

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AN ACUTE teacher shortage in government educational institutions, from primary schools to colleges, is hampering education of more than 1.2 crore students, education officials and teachers leaders said. The institutions have about 29,200 positions of teacher vacant.

Primary education directors officials said that government primary schools have about 22,700 positions of assistant teachers and 1,000 for headteachers, 250 for assistant teachers, 214 for headteachers, 1,460 positions more than 1,460 positions of government primary schools have vacant. There are 11,31,530 students in the colleges.

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The officials said that about 5,000 to 7,000 teaching positions fell vacant because of retirement, resignation, termination of job and death as well as promotion. But inadequate appointment, which is also consuming, failed to fill the positions.

Many positions fall vacant temporarily as some female teachers go on maternity leave, some go one leave for further studies, training, religious rites and medical and other purposes.

Primary education officials said that a process was under way to fill vacant positions.

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filed at least two cases and the government stopped and more positions fall vacant in the meantime.

The shortage of teaching continues to hamper academic activities, teachers and education officials said.

The Bangladesh Government Secondary Teachers' Association general secretary, Insan Ali, said that teachers had to work almost double to make up for the losses caused by teacher shortage and this was harming the quality of education.

The DSHE director general, Fahima Khatun, said that a large number of teaching positions were vacant in colleges and they are trying to fill in the posts as soon as possible. Some teachers have been appointed through two BCS exams, she said.

The DSHE director (secondary), Sajal Kanu Mandal, told New Age, 'In a few months, positions of headteachers would be filled in. We are also taking steps to fill in positions of other teachers that are vacant.

The Bangladesh Polytechnic Teachers' Association president, Idris Ali, said that in government polytechnics, about 50 per cent of the 2,200 teaching positions under the revenue budget and various projects are now vacant.

The Bangladesh Technical School and College Forum president, Nur Uddin, said that in government technical schools and colleges, about a half of 2,000 teaching positions under the revenue budget and projects are now vacant.

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The Directorate of Technical Education director general, Shabirhan Miah, said that they were taking steps to appoint teachers in polytechnic and technical institutions in positions under the revenue budget and projects.

DSHE officials said that many colleges, mostly in the countryside, had informed them of the teacher shortage but they could hardly take any effective steps as teachers in government colleges and schools are appointed through the Public Service Commission, which takes posed the decision and schools. The teachers from becoming headteachers in government primary and the master of education the bachelor of education er teaching degrees such as having the training disaffiliated many having even high-DSHE officials said that many colleges, mostly in the countryside, had informed them of the teacher shortage but they could hardly take any effective steps as teachers in government colleges and schools are appointed through the Public Service Commission, which takes posed the decision and schools. The teachers from becoming headteachers in government primary and the master of education the bachelor of education er teaching degrees such as having the training disaffiliated many having even high-