

VIOLATION OF GOVT GUIDELINE

25 teachers face axe for commercial coaching

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THE Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education has, for the first time, recommended dismissal of 25 non-government teachers and departmental cases against three teachers of schools and colleges in Dhaka for their involvement in commercial coaching in violation of the guideline the government has set to stop such business by teachers.

Of the 28 teachers, 16 are from Ideal School and College and 4 from Viqarunnisa Noon School and College, one each from Holy Cross College, Tejgaon Government Girls' High School, Khilgaon Quality Educa-

tion School, Khilgaon Ideal School, National Ideal College, Tejgaon College, Dhaka City College and Government Science College.

Director (secondary) of the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, Sajal Kanti Mandal, told New Age that they had sent letters to the managing committees of seven private educational institutions on Saturday asking them to dismiss 25 teachers and three government educational institutions to ask three teachers to show cause why departmental proceedings should not be initiated against them.

We found that these teachers were illegally in-

volved in coaching business violating the guideline set by the ministry to stop private tuition by school teachers, Sajal said.

He said the investigation had found that the teachers were doing a roaring trade in private coaching adding that they would try to find out others involved in the business.

Among the accused teachers, 16 are of Ideal School and College. They are Nizam Uddin Kamal, Abul Kalam Azad, Subhash Chandra Poddar, Kalim Morshed, Mofazzal Hossain, Moazzem Hossain, Rafiqul Islam, Abdur Rashid, Delwar Hossain, Golam Mostafa, Nurul Amin, Masud

Hasan, Ali Mortuja, Azizur Rahman, Rokanuzzaman Rahat and Hasan Mallik.

Four teachers of Viqarunnisa Noon School and College are Ferdousi Begum, Shah Alam, Kamrun Nahar and Milky Meer.

The probe committee also found that Masudur Rahman of Government Science College, Rodriguez of Holy Cross College, Golam Mostafa of Tejgaon Government Girls' High School, SM Zakirul Islam of Khilgaon Ideal School, Ahmed Mostafa of Khilgaon Quality Education School, Azharul Islam of National Ideal College, Awal Samad of Tejgaon College and Arif Hasan of

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Dhaka City College were involved in illegal coaching business.

The three-member probe team, headed by the directorate's Dhaka zone deputy director AKM Mostafa Kamal, submitted a report recently to Sajal Kanti Mandal.

According to the Dhaka District Education Office, in the capital city there are 23,031 teachers of schools, colleges and madrasahs and among them 8,648 were enlisted in Monthly Pay Order. They are teaching in 583 educational institutions of which 383 were enlisted in MPO facilities.

AKM Mostafa Kamal said they had investigated involvement of teachers in private tuition and coaching after being asked by the directorate to do so.

Viqarunnisa Noon School and College governing body chairman Rashed Khan Menon, also a ruling coalition lawmaker, told New Age on Monday that they had not yet receive any letter from the directorate. 'We would take necessary step when we get the letter,' he said.

Ideal School and College principal Shahan Ara Begum also said they had not yet received any letter. 'We would forward the letter to the governing body once we get it for action,' she said.

She said her school regularly monitored whether the guideline was followed or not. 'Our governing body has already sent show cause notices to at least 13 teachers reminding them of the guideline,' she said.

On June 20 last, an edu-

cation ministry circular on the guideline said teachers at schools, colleges and madrasahs would not be allowed to provide coaching and private tuition to students of their own institutions. But they can take extra classes in exchange for a fee at their respective schools under the guidelines.

Teachers can charge not more than Tk 300 from a student in the metropolitan areas, Tk 200 in the district towns and Tk 150 in upazilas and unions for extra tuition. The teachers can in no way force the students to take part in the extra classes.

However, 10 per cent of the money earned by the teachers by taking extra classes will be used to meet school expenditures.

A teacher cannot provide coaching to the students of

his or her own institution but is allowed to provide private tuition to not more than 10 students of other schools, the guideline said.

It also said that teachers could in no way be involved with commercial coaching centres.

A teacher can be dismissed and MPO facilities could be cancelled in case of violation of the guideline, it said.

Education secretary Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury told New Age that they had asked for the probe report and further action would be taken after getting the report.

The High Court had issued a rule last year barring teachers of schools under MPO programme and registered schools from taking classes in coaching centres.