

# Govt to introduce Class IV textbook featuring chapters on art, music and dance: state minister

Up to 60,000 jobs expected as arts education expands in schools, says Bobby Hajjaj

10 JUNE 2026, 12:56 PM UPDATED 10 JUNE 2026, 12:56 PM EDUCATION

SHARE 

Star Online Report



*Photo: Ministry of Primary and Mass Education*

The government plans to introduce an arts and culture textbook for class IV students in 2027, featuring chapters on art and crafts, music, dance and theatre, State Minister for Primary and Mass Education Bobby Hajjaj said today.

The subjects will be fully incorporated into the new primary curriculum in 2028, he said at a views-exchange meeting with teachers and experts from music, dance, theatre and fine arts departments of different universities, said a press release issued by the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education.



[For all latest news, follow The Daily Star's Google News channel.](#)

The meeting was organised by the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education to discuss the expansion of music, dance and cultural education in primary schools, the preparation of a new curriculum, and the development of skilled teachers.

Bobby Hajjaj said the government would reshape the education system in line with its election manifesto and the education vision announced by Prime Minister Tarique Rahman, enabling students to grow as global citizens and acquire the skills needed for their future careers.

He said expanding music, dance, theatre, fine arts and sports education at the primary level would require a large number of specialised teachers and trainers, creating new employment opportunities for young people in these fields and helping establish sustainable career pathways.

“Over the next five years, around 50,000 to 60,000 new jobs will be created in this sector,” Bobby said.

Seeking cooperation from universities, he said the government wanted their graduates to have opportunities to join primary schools as teachers in the future.

“We want to work together on how they can be given proper training, how teacher-preparation components can be linked with university curricula, and how skilled teachers can be developed jointly,” he said.

Bobby Hajjaj said music, theatre and dance should not be treated solely as co-curricular activities but as important components of students’ overall development.

To that end, he said, the government was already planning curriculum development and teacher preparation.

The primary and mass education secretary, chairpersons of relevant departments from 24 universities, and ministry officials attended the meeting.