

Court Correspondent The High Court on Tuesday issued a rule asking head teachers and governing bodies of 20 schools in the city to return the extra fees they had taken from Secondary School Certificate (SSC) candidates. A HC bench comprising Justice Quazi Reza-UI Hoque and Justice Abu Taher Md Saifur Rahman issued the rule following a probe report submitted by Dhaka Education Board. In its order, the court asked the head teachers and heads of the governing bodies concerned to return the extra examination fees they had received beyond the amount set by the government on January 20. If they fail comply with the order, the governing bodies will be suspended for three years, the court rule says. Earlier, following a report published in vernacular daily The Daily Jugantor, the court on November 10 last year, the HC issued a suo moto rule asking the government to explain as to why charging the extra examination fees should not be declared illegal. The High Court on November 10 also directed the Dhaka Education Board to submit a report in this regard and asked the Jugantor reporter to confirm the authenticity of his report. The report said 26 institutions have taken higher examination fees from the SSC candidates of 2015 than the government-fixed Tk 1,400. On November 26, the High Court asked the government to immediately stop charging excessive examination fees from the SSC candidates across the country. Among the respondents, Viqarunnisa Noon School and College's governing body chief and Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon and Education Secretary Nazrul Islam Khan were present in today's hearing.