

New plans for Egyptian Cadre of Teachers

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Mr. Yousri el-Gamal announced that the Egyptian Ministry of Education has completed an intensive work plan slated to be executed in the upcoming stage, which includes the completion of the academy of the teacher next month

He said the academy of teacher will lead to a genuine improvement in the performance of the teaching cadre in Egypt. It is the first time that a specialized educational body will be established to lay down the sought criteria for the teaching profession across all six teaching levels that make up the new teachers cadre, el-Gamal added.

Egyptian minister pointed out that for the first time teachers will sit for a technical and professional examination in a prelude to moving to the second phase of the teacher cadre, according to which the service period for teachers will be determined in light of their performance in the technical exam.

During a meeting with top ministry officials and heads of provincial educational directorates yesterday, the minister disclosed that a technical committee has completed a list of 9000 questions for the technical tests, which he said will cover all educational stages, specializations and languages with the aim of verifiably rehabilitating teachers and insuring that the duration of their services reflect their true level of skills and their performance.

El-Gamal also pointed out that passing the technical exam signifies that the specializations of the teachers, their understanding of the requirements and aspects of the educational process, and their proficiency in languages have been verified. He further added that one million teachers will sit for the exam.

He added that after completing the academy, the existing contracts of nearly 80,000 teachers are expected to be amended to that of assistant teachers in light of the criteria laid down by the academy.

Moreover, el-Gamal disclosed that a national competition for innovative educators will be carried out through the ministry's web portal to encourage innovation and distinct performance.

He pointed out that financial rewards will be allocated for this competition and that a top-level educational committee will be tasked with nominating the best interactive educational programs that are conducive to innovation and critical thinking.

Meanwhile, el-Gamal reiterated the importance of encouraging and sponsoring successful and promising models, projects and pilot projects on the levels of individual schools or entire educational sectors in the media.

He said that this will help shed light on efforts exerted by educationalists, encourage individual and group initiatives and provide incentives to educationalists, as well as shed light on the roles they play.

El-Gamal called for the optimum use of computers in schools and stressed on the importance of maintaining computer equipment through providing means of transport between schools and technological development centers of the ministry in order to enable maintenance personnel at these centers to properly maintain and repair computer equipment in the multimedia centers and computer labs of schools.

To be better able to achieve this, we are coordinating efforts with the ministry of telecommunications and information technology to augment the schools information technology infrastructure by supplying schools with 70,000 new computers, with the aim of increasing the numbers of computers in schools to 300,000 by the end of this academic year, he said.

El-Gamal revealed that 1000 interactive, electronic blackboards will be distributed on schools during the current academic year.

He also met with top education officials to follow-up on the accomplishments of the first academic semester and the field follow-up works in provincial educational districts.