

৪২

# Factions threaten to continue movement Govt bows at last, teachers to get 100 pc of basic pay

The government, in the end, bowed to the key demand of non-government teachers and ployees for payment of 100 cent of their basic salary from government exchequer, reports BDNews.

About 25 thousand non-government school, college and drasa teachers have been going a movement for one month to meet their various demands, including cent percent remuneration from the government coffers.

Education minister Dr Osman Faruk at a press briefing Sunday closed that the government had accepted the demands of teachers and employees at the conference of the ministry.

The minister said the key demand of the non-government teachers and employees was to raise their basic salary to 100 percent from that of 90 percent, an increase of 10 percent.

He said the government had accepted their demand and it would be implemented shortly.

Urging the teachers to leave the movement and go back to schools, education minister said, their

key demand for payment of 100 percent of their basic salary from the government exchequer has been accepted, but no decision has been taken about the increase of house rent, festival and medical allowances.

He said, the decision came after discussing the issue with the prime minister and the finance minister. But the government

started the process much earlier than the teachers started the movement, he said.

Dr. Osman Faruk told, there are 5 lakh teachers in 27 thousand non government educational institutions. Though these are non-government institutions but maximum portions of their salary and allowances are provided from the government fund, he added.

The government spends 2900 crore taka a year as the payment of salary and allowances of these teachers and employees, the minister said.

He said, if the government accepts all the demands of the teachers it will have to spend 2200 crore taka more, which is more than the real budget allocation.

(See page 15 Col. 2)

## Teachers to get

(From Page 1 Col. 8)

for education sector. Due to lack of money the demands could not be accepted, he added.

Urging the teachers to stop the movement the education minister said, the teachers should avoid the present process and ensure the environment of education in the institutions for the interests of the students. A problem should be discussed with the government first, he underscored.

ANM Ehsanul Haque Milon, state minister of education and education secretary were present.

But leaders of different organisations of the agitating teachers and employees, however, said that the movement would go on if their other demands were not met.

Initially it will be increased by five percent and disbursed in cash, he said, adding that the remaining five percent will be given through bonds due to the shortage of cash.

When the government exchequer has adequate financial ability, teachers and employees can then encash the bonds.

Apart from non-government Shikhhak Karmochari Front,

Samity (Mansur), Karigari College Shikhhak Samity have been waging various movements including strike in educational institutes, hunger strike, laying siege to the houses of lawmakers and human chain.

The SKOJ (Selim Bhuiyan) staged a huge rally at Muktangan on Sunday while the other faction of the SKOJ (Shariful) staged a grand sit-in at the central Shaheed Minar.

Chief convener of the Jatiya Shikhhak Karmochari Front (JSKF) principal Kazi Faruq Ahmed told BDNEWS that the five percent enhanced salary which the government is supposed to pay through bond is nothing but a deception.

Apart from this, he also mentioned the other demands including house rent and medical allowance which what he said were their main demands too but were not met.

General secretary of the Bangladesh College Shikhhak Samity Asadul Haq told BDNEWS the government had broken its promise. They are not sincere in fulfilling the demands of the teachers, he added.

He alleged that the government had announced meeting the demand of 100 percent basic salary but it had avoided some other important demands including house rent, and medical allowance and that is why the strike in educational institutions would continue to go on.

The Shikhhak Karmochari Oikya Front in a press release said it had called a meeting of district representatives on August 8 to get the next course of programmes.

But Selim Bhuiyan, Convener of a faction of the Teachers Employees Oikya Front congratulated the