

## Community pry teachers postpone programme

After a 10-day hunger strike until death, the community primary teachers carrying out movement postponed their programme, reports BD News.

They also cancelled their earlier declared determination of self-immolation by 15 of their colleagues. They postponed the movement following the request from the 14-party alliance and representatives of different professional bodies and human rights organisations.

Responding to the request from the leaders of the 14-party alliance and different organisations the community primary teachers postponed their programme of fast-unto-death till July 31 asking the government to realise their demands by the deadline. They also threatened to announce tougher programmes from August if their one point demand of absorbing them in the national salary scale by the deadline was not met.

The opposition leaders broke the hunger strike of the agitating teachers by feeding them orange juice at the Central Shahed Minar at 12 noon.

Earlier in the morning, two more teachers were hospitalised as they became sick.

The teachers whose monthly salary is only Tk 750 were carrying out the movement since June 18 with the demand to nationalise their service and remove the salary discrimination.

Earlier, they submitted memorandums to the Primary and

## Pry teachers

(From Page 1 Col. 1)

Mass-Education Department several times. Therefore, they opted for the extreme movement by self-immolation if their demands are not met by 12 pm on Tuesday.

The political and NGO leaders took away kerosene and match boxes when the teachers were getting prepared for setting fire to the bodies of 15 of them.

To avert any accident, ambulances and fire fighters, however, were deployed since the movement began.

Among the 14-party alliance leaders present were Bangladesh Awami League presidium members Amir Hossain Amu and Tofail Ahmed and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal President Hasanul Haq Inu.

Besides, Barrister Amirul Islam, Supreme Court Bar Association President, Professor AAMS Arfin Siddique, former President of Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA), DUTA General Secretary Professor Akhteruzzaman and Teachers-employees Front convenor Kazi Faruque were also present.

The leaders of political parties, NGO and professional bodies convinced the teachers saying, "They would not be benefited through self-immolation."