

# Teachers for education sector free of politics

*Place reform proposal to caretaker govt*

AFF CORRESPONDENT

Teachers of non-government high schools, colleges and madrasas yesterday placed a 13-point education reform proposal to the caretaker government with a view to free the education sector of political influence.

The teachers under the banner National Front of Teachers and Employees (NFTE) also demanded formation of an enquiry committee to probe the corruption and

irregularities of the immediate past education minister Osman Farruk, state minister for education Ehsanul Haque Milon and education secretary Shahidul Alam.

"Caretaker government will have to investigate the irregularities and corruption in different projects in the last five years including Tk 500 crore Uni-track education project, Tk 20 crore teachers training project, Tk 28 crore English learning project and 650 crore upgrading the education

standard project," said Prof Quazi Faruque Ahmed, chief coordinator and convenor of NFTE. He was addressing a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club where the NFTE leaders placed the education reform proposal and two election commission reform proposals.

They also demanded bringing the ex-ministers and high official to book for illegally giving go-ahead to two private universities and eight new institutes under MPO to

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operate, ignoring 7000 other institutes.

On his last day as minister on October 29, Farruk approved the establishment and operations of East Delta University in Chittagong, owned by former livestock and fisheries minister Abdullah Al Noman and Dhaka-based ASA University, owned by an NGO, ASA. It had been decided earlier not to allow any new private universities or institutes to operate.

BNP cadres have captured the governing bodies of all schools, colleges, technology institutes and madrasas and they will try to engineer the next general election, Quazi Faruque said.

"Through issuing an ordinance, the caretaker government should remove all the governing bodies within seven days and give the responsibility to the deputy commissioners and upazila nirbahi officers (UNOs) for ensuring free and fair election," he added.

NFTE leaders Azizul Islam, Prof Asadul Haq, Prof MA Sattar, Prof Mohammad Ali Chowdhury Manik, SMA Jalil and Prof Sirajul Haq Ali were present at the confer-