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## Teachers' strike continues

# Talks with govt fail

Staff Correspondent

The second round of talks between the Government and Leaders of Central Teachers' Action Liaison Committee failed on Friday on the eve of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination beginning May 2.

A two-hour talks from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. broke down when the government side expressed its inability to grant more facilities in excess of what had been offered on Thursday, sources at the meeting said.

On Thursday, the government decided to give time scale to teachers and employees of non-government schools and colleges from July 1994 and to increase medical allowance from Taka 100 to Taka 150 from July this year.

State Minister for Education Prof.

Yunus Khan represented the government at the meeting held at his official residence while Sheikh Amanullah, Mohammad Kamruzzaman, Dr. M. Akhtaruzzaman and Kazi Farook Ahmed represented the Liaison Committee.

Earlier in the day, the Liaison Committee held a meeting at its office to review the government's offer of Thursday. The meeting observed that the government Press Note issued on Thursday night did not meet the demands of the striking teachers fully.

After the meeting, a delegation of the liaison committee went to the official residence of the State Minister for Education to inform him of their decision.

Meanwhile, another teachers' association Bangladesh Shikhhak Samity (Ashraf-Nazrul) postponed temporarily the strike, what it called in the greater interest of the nation, and for the sake of seven lakh SSC candidates and for introduction of computerisation in marking scripts.

But the liaison committee vowed to continue the strike and boycott SSC examination. It also called upon all teachers and employees of non-government schools and colleges to continue the strike and boycott examinations.

Liaison Committee's decision was taken at its meeting held from 10 a.m. to 5-30 p.m. with interval for Juma prayer. The Liaison Committee stuck to the decision after the talks with State Minister for Education broke down.

Bangladesh Shikhhak Samity (Ashraf-Nazrul) called upon all striking teachers and employees of non-government schools to take part in the SSC examination activities.

The decision of the Shikhhak Samity was taken at a meeting held at its office at Laxmi Bazar in the morning.

On the other hand, the government has taken all preparations to hold SSC examinations on due date despite teachers' strike and boycott of examination, official sources said.

Sources said that answer papers, admit cards and other necessary papers had already been dispatched to the respective centres. Admit cards has already been distributed and seat arrangements will be made today (Saturday), sources said.

About two lakh teachers and employees of non-government schools and colleges have been on strike since April 18 to press home their four-point demand including introduction of fullfledged scale for them, rise in government's contribution to teachers' salary from present 70 per cent to 100 per cent and security of their service.