

Govt employees

President H M Ershad on Monday announced a number of steps for the benefit of the Government employees, reports BSS.

The steps are continuation of the old system of time-scale for Class III and Class IV employees, time-scale in modified form for Class-I and Class-II officers and reduction in the rate of Provident Fund contribution by Government employees.

Employees posted in cities of Dhaka, Narayanganj, Chittagong, Khulna and Rajshahi will get five per cent more house rent support than other areas. Those who are getting house rent ceiling will, however, continue to get this benefit at their existing amount.

Conveyance allowance for those who are getting it in Dhaka, Chittagong, Narayanganj, Khulna and Rajshahi has been doubled and raised to Taka 40 per month.

The Rest and Recreation Allowance and House Building Advance have been restored. Pension benefit has been enhanced to 70 per cent of the last pay drawn from the present rate of 60 per cent.

Due to paucity of fund the fixation benefit for the employees is not possible now. They will, however, get service benefit.

The announcement came from the President when a delegation comprising representatives of Bangladesh Sachibalaya Karmachari Sangjukta Parishad, Audit and Accounts Karmachari Parishad, Non-gazetted Sarkari Karmachari Oikkyo Front, Gano Karmachari Sangjukta Parishad T and T Federal Union, Institute of Diploma Engineers and Diploma Krishibid Samity met him at Bangabhaban on Monday.

Speaking on the occasion, President Ershad said he sincerely feels for the employees

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and their interest is always in his mind. He said as in the past he will continue to do everything possible for their welfare.

The President advised them to keep in mind the resource constraints of the country and said, "I want to see that you lead a peaceful and honourable life."

He mentioned various measures he took for the benefit of the Government employees and said whatever he did for them no government in the past had done so. He urged the Government employees to put in their sincere and devoted efforts for the welfare of the people as well as progress and prosperity of the country.

Emphasising the need for effectively combating population boom, President Ershad said, "All our efforts will be to limit the size of our population at any cost" The Government employees have a definite role to play in this regard, he observed.

He said we must maintain peace and discipline in the country without which no nation can prosper. He said today Bangladesh is held in high esteem in the world and we should always be on our guard so that it is not tarnished.

The representatives of the employees thanked the President for giving them a patient hearing and the kind gesture shown to them.

The members of the five-member high-level Committee constituted by the President earlier to look into the problems of the Government employees were also present.

Another message adds: Leaders and members of different officers' and employees' associations and workers unions separately met the members of the high-level Review Committee on pay structure at the Bangladesh Secretariat in Dhaka on Monday.

They discussed various aspects of the new national pay scales, an official handout said.

The associations and unions which met the Review Committee are: Deputy Secretaries Association, Institute of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh Jana Swadhin Sramik Federation, Pano-Biddut Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad, Bangladesh T and T Employees and Workers Union, Bangladesh Diploma Krishibid Parishad, Federation of Industrial Sector Corporation, Officers Welfare Associations and Bank Officers Federation.

While meeting the Review Committee the representatives of Bangladesh Bank Officers Federation stressed the need for a separate pay scale for the Bank employees, a Press release issued by the Federation said.

The Committee gave a patient hearing and assured the Federation to place their grievances before the appropriate authority, the Press release said.