

## DISPARITY IN PAY SCALE

## Govt college teachers begin 3-day work abstention

## Staff Correspondent

TEACHERS of government colleges began work abstention for three days on Tuesday for removal of disparities in the new pay structure.

Bangladesh Civil Service General Education Association called the work abstention for the restoration of selection grade and time for scales government college teachers in the new pay scale.

No classes would be held at government colleges till Thursday because of the work abstention, said association president Nasrin Begum.

The association demanded an unambiguous declaration from the authorities that associate professors on promotion to the positions of professor would be placed in Grade 3 in the new pay structure.

The teachers said that they felt aggrieved as the government college professors were placed in Grade 4 in the new pay scale.

They said that in the 7th National Pay Scale, associate professors were placed in Grade 5 and got salaries in Grade 4 after becoming professors, while 50 per cent of the professors were being placed in Grade 3 under selection grade.

As the selection grade has been scrapped in the 8th National Pay Scale, professors will go on retirement as Grade 4 officials.

'We want the government to place professors in Grade 3 in the pay structure and to restore selection grade and time scale,' Nasrin said.

She said that if their demands were not met they would go for work abstention for six days in

February 6-11 and for six more days in February 13-18.

Teachers would begin a nonstop strike at the government colleges from February 23, she added.

Nasrin said that teachers would skip classes at 320 government colleges during the work abstention and they would skip classes as well as exams during the work ab-

stention in February 13-18.

Government college teachers observed full day work abstention on January 4 and 5 and two-hour work abstention for seven days in January 11-17.

The government on December 15, 2015 issued the gazette notification of the new pay scale for public servants. The new pay scale dropped the provisions of selection

grade and time scales. The annual increment will be a percentage of the basic pay.

Since September 2015, when the new pay scale was approved, college teachers have been holding different programmes including work abstention, human chain and meetings for the retention of time scale and selection grades.