

TEACHER'S HUMILIATION

Report action against MP in 3 days: HC

Protests continue

Staff Correspondent

THE High Court on Wednesday asked the government to report in three days about actions taken against lawmaker AKM Selim Osman and his accomplices for publicly humiliating a teacher in Narayanganj on May 13.

The court also asked the authorities to explain why Selim Osman and his associates would not be prosecuted for humiliating Piya Sattar Latif High School head teacher Shyamal Kanti Bhakta by mob beating and forcing him to go up and down holding the ears on the school premises on allegation of hurting religious sentiment of the Muslims.

Narayanganj deputy commissioner and superintendent of police were asked to report the actions in three days.

Secretaries of home and law ministries, deputy commissioner, superintendent of police, Bandar upazila nirbahi officer and Bandar police station officer-in-charge were asked to reply the ruling in two weeks.

The humiliation, a video clip of which went viral on social media, drew widespread criticism and prompted different professionals to take to the street at different parts of the county.

The High Court bench of Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Iqbal Kabir passed order suo moto after lawyers MK Rahman, Muhammad Mohsen Rashid and Soyeb Ahmed sought necessary order submitting newspaper clippings.

MK Rahman argued that Selim Osman and his accomplices committed an offence under the Article 35(5) of the constitution that

prohibited inhuman or degrading punishment or treatment of any person.

Neither the government nor the police took any action in five days of the shocking incident, rather the victim teacher was suspended, Rahman said.

Education minister Nurul Islam Nahid told reporters at his ministry on Wednesday that steps would be taken following probe into the incident.

The committee, formed by Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, began the probe into the incident on Tuesday. The committee recorded statements of members of the school's governing body, its teachers, students, union parishad chairman and eminent personalities, directorate sources said.

New Age correspondent in Narayanganj reported that the probe committee on Tuesday night visited the school and recorded statements of the victim head teacher, Shyamal Kanti Bhakta, students and the members of the school's management committee.

Continued on page 2 Col. 5

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Continued from page 1

Different political parties, organisation and various professional groups continued protests demanding punishment of Selim Osman and his accomplices and for reinstating the teacher.

Selim Osman was elected uncontested with the ticket of the Jatiya Party, an ally of the ruling Awami League.

AL presidium member

Mohammad Nasim at a rally of the AL-led ruling alliance in Dhaka demanded the teacher's reinstatement.

Some business community people at a press conference at Narayanganj press club defended Selim and accused media of running concocted reports against the lawmaker.

A Ganasanghati Andolan delegation, led by its

chief coordinator Zonayed Saki, on Wednesday met Shyamal at Khanpur Hospital in Narayanganj. Saki talked to the teacher and demanded arrest and exemplary punishment of Selim Osman.

Primary Teachers Rights Protection Forum called a half an hour strike for today at all primary schools across the country.

Samajik Protirodh Committee, a platform of 68 organisations, Bangladesh Mahila Samity, Santras Nirmul Twaki Mancha, a citizen's platform, floated for justice for the murder of A-Level student Tanvir Mohammad Twaki in Narayanganj, demanded the teachers' restatement and arrests of Selim Osman and others.