

Teachers stage day-long sit-in

Staff Correspondent

Thousands of teachers and staff of non-government secondary schools and colleges observed day-long sit-in demonstration in front of the National Press Club adjacent to the secretariat on Saturday for the realisation of their four-point demands.

The 'sit-in' demonstration began at 10 a.m. and continued till 10 p.m. The road from Purana Platan Crossing to Foreign Office Crossing was

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blocked and movement of traffic was totally stopped.

The teachers participated in the demonstration from Friday morning to Saturday noon and assembled at the venue through processions.

The teachers action liaison committee observed the sit-in demonstration in three sessions. The first session was presided over by Dr. Akhteruzzaman and it continued from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. The second session began at 3 p.m. and continued till 6 p.m. which was presided over by Sheikh Amanulla. The last and third session was presided over by Mr. Quamaruzzaman and it continued from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. of the day.

The leaders of Action Committee and district leaders addressed the rally throughout the day. Some of the teachers enthused the minds of the striking teachers by singing revolutionary songs. The day-long sit-in demonstration programme was conducted by Kazi Faruq Ahmed.

The leaders of teachers Action Liaison Committee burnt down several copies of the government Press Note which was issued on Thursday night.

Mr Quamaruzzaman in his address called upon the government to accept their four-point demands, otherwise, he warned, they will announce more strong programme. He also said that the Action Committee would wait for the government decision till 10 a.m. Saturday. If government did not decide things they would chalk out next programme after holding the meeting of Liaison Committee at Saturday night.

Mr. Zaman said if necessary they will block the main streets and will paralise the city life today (Sunday). Moreover they will bring out a big procession in the city today (Sunday) in favour of their demands.

Mr. Amanulla urged the government to accept their demands otherwise their movement will assume anti government stance.

It may be mentioned here that the leaders of different opposition political parties, students organisations, socio-cultural organisations including Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina, Jatiya Party Acting Chief Mr. Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, Amal Sen, Rashed Khan Menon of Workers Party, Nirmal Sen of SKSD, Abdulla Sarkar of BSD, Shahidulla Chowdhury and M.I. Selim of CPB, Humayun Kabir Hiro of JSD (Rab), leaders of Gonotantrik Biplobi Jote, leaders of Bangladesh Chhatra League and Peer Shahib of Char Monai expressed their solidarity with the movement of teachers and called upon the government to accept the demands of non-government teachers and staff.

The leaders of teachers Action Liaison Committee announced that the leaders of different opposition political parties would address the striking teachers today (Sunday) by attending their rallies.

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