

NON-GOVT SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTTS

Class III-IV rep ordered in managing body

Siddiqur Rahman Khan

THE government has directed the non-government secondary school, madrassah, and college authorities to include a representative of Class III and Class IV employees in their respective management committees.

The directive came in the wake of a decade of persistent pressure from associations of Class III and Class

IV employees of non-government educational institutions. Leaders of teachers' associations have lambasted the education ministry for issuing the directive, which they feared would intensify chaos in recruitment and enrollment.

In contrast, leaders of associations of Class III and Class IV employees, on Friday celebrated the govern-

ment step through holding a pompous function at the Azampur Girls' High School in the capital. Education minister Nurul Islam Nahid was the chief guest and education secretary Karnal Abdul Naser Chowdhury the special guest of the function. The principals of some Dhaka schools attending the function said they had taken steps for implementing the

ministry directive issued in January. The government has fulfilled a demand of the employees, the minister said, adding, 'A right of the employees has been instituted. Bangladesh Shiksha Pratishthan Karmachari Federation, a platform of Class III and Class IV employees) president M Shahaan Khan, in his address as the chair of the function expressed his gratitude for granting their right. The 13-member management committees of the country's non-governmental educational institutions have the sole authority to hire or fire faculty and staff members, although the government pays the teachers' salaries and other benefits in monthly pay orders from the exchequer on certain conditions.

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Continued from page 1 the country have for long been suffering various problems created by their management committees headed and dominated by ruling alliance lawmakers or their representatives. The heads of institutions act as member secretaries to the committees. The rest of each committee comprises three representatives of teachers and five of guardians, a founder, a

patron of education, and a donor. But, according to the latest education ministry directive, a representative of the Class III and Class IV employees will have to be included in the committee from now on. Bangladesh College Principals' Council president M Mazharul Haqan on Friday lambasted the move, saying it would invite more chaos in the institutions.

A Class III or Class IV employee will be one of those who will decide whether to hire or fire a teacher. How will it look, if an MLSS or peon is found on the recruitment board, asked Mazharul, who has an impressive 40-year experience of teaching at non-government colleges. He called on the government to reconsider the step. Bangladesh School Teachers' Association

secretary general Nazrul Islam Rony said the lawmakers or their representatives on school management committees often got involved in the business of admission and recruitment. 'Now, the MLSS, too, will join the racket,' he added. There are more than one lakh Class III and Class IV employees at around 35,000 secondary schools, madrassahs, and colleges across the country.

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