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NEGLIGENCE, MISBEHAVIOUR Govt primary teachers demand minister's apology

Court Correspondent

BANGLADESH Government Primary School Teachers' Association on Thursday expressed concern at the negligence the primary and mass education minister had shown towards the primary teachers as well as his harsh behaviour with them and demanded an apology from him.

In recent times, the minister, Md Afsarul Ameen, has frequently been misbehaving with teachers of government primary schools and issuing transfer and dismissal orders, without substantial reasons. BGPSTA leaders told a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity in the city.

Last year the ministry issued an order for transferring 18 assistant teachers and dismissal of a headmaster of the Lalbagh Government Primary School following the airing of a news

item on charging irregularly hiked up admission fee on a private television channel. Later, talking to the same TV channel Afsarul Ameen called those teachers thieves.

BGPSTA general secretary Saleha Akther read out a written statement at the press conference with association president Abdul Awal Talukdar in the chair.

But, the BGPSTA leaders said earlier on August 10, 2009, the government by a circular made it mandatory for a school headmaster to present a proposal for taking any kind of donation or grant for the school at the meeting of the school management committee for its approval.

According to that circular, a headmaster can't take any financial decision without approval of the management committee, they pointed out. They argued that, therefore, those transfers and the dismissal were totally unreasonable.