

Non-MPO college teachers demand inclusion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lecturers of two subjects of business studies group of different MPO-enlisted colleges yesterday staged a demonstration in the capital demanding that the government include them in its monthly pay order (MPO) facilities.

Around 200 teachers of Production Management & Marketing and Finance, and Banking and Insurance formed a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club and held a sit-in, under the banner of "Bangladesh Production Management & Marketing and Finance, Banking and Insurance Teachers Council".

The teachers said the government made the subjects compulsory at the higher secondary level in 2013-2014 academic session and asked the colleges to open any of the two subjects.

The colleges started recruiting teachers following a 2013 education ministry circular, but the government did not include them in the MPO-list, said Rubayet Ibne Tofazzel, a teacher of Natore College.

"We have not got any salary from the government since our recruitment," he told The Daily Star, adding that there are around 300 lecturers of these subjects who are not getting the MPO.

Syeda Dil Ashrafi, president of the council, said, "Whenever we contact the authorities concerned, they told us that we are not entitled as per a 2011 circular... But there is nothing in the circular that bars us."

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"Interestingly six teachers of these subjects in six colleges are now getting MPO," she alleged.

There is an allegation that they have got the MPO through their "connection with the higher authorities", she added.

The teachers announced continuing their sit-in for the next two days.