

Non-govt pry teachers lock up schools for pay hike

Staff Correspondent

SEVERAL lakh students could not attend their classes on Sunday as the teachers locked up the registered non-government primary schools across the country demanding salary increase and nationalisation of their job.

The students said that they had gone to school in the morning but returned home as the schools were all locked up.

'We went to school in the morning but found the school locked up,' said Monira Khatun, a student of a non government primary school at Mirpur in the capital city.

There are about 24,000 registered non-government primary schools across the

100,000 teachers to teach several lakh students.

Teachers earlier announced that they would lock up the school to push for job nationalisation and increase in their salary to the level the teachers in government primary schools receive.

Teachers in some areas of the country, however, did not join the programme of keeping the schools locked up.

Continued on page 4 Col. 1

Students stand on the veranda as the classrooms were locked during the strike enforced by the teachers of registered non-government primary schools on Sunday to press for nationalisation of their job. The photo was snapped at a Mirpur school in Dhaka.



Non-govt pry teachers

Continued from page 1
 The teachers will also keep their schools locked up today in keeping with their earlier announcement.

Teachers said that they would also abstain from work on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

They submit will a memorandum to all MPs between January 20 and February 20 and to the speaker on March 14. They will also hold a march towards the Prime Minister's Office on April 10.

Teachers of the registered non-government schools receive their salary in financial assistance from the government but the amount is lower than what the teachers in government primary schools receive.

They said that they were leading an inhumane life with the low pay they get from the government.

The member secretary of National Non-Government Primary Teachers United Alliance, Abdur Rahman, said that an assistant teacher, of such schools gets Tk 5,300 a month and the headmaster receives Tk 5,900.

An assistant teacher in government primary school gets Tk 8,050 in salary and a headmaster gets Tk 10,000. Government school teachers get some other benefits that the registered non-government school teachers do not get.

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schools, teachers are locking up the institutions.'

He said that they would call off their programme the moment the government would announce that the demands would be met.

The alliance secretary Rahman said that the prime minister, Sheikh Hasina, and senior ministers had promised to meet their demands but they are not keeping their word.

The teachers went on hunger strike for a couple of days in December demanding an increase in their salary and the alliance chairman Sham-sul claimed that two of their fellows died during the hunger strike.

Teachers took a hard line when the primary and mass education minister in September 2011 said that they had no plans to nationalise the job of such teachers.

New Age correspondents said that teachers in all but a few places had observed the programme of locking up the schools.

The correspondent in Chittagong said that the teachers had locked up most of the schools in the district.

I went to school in the morning but the teachers did not take classes,' said Mudassar Faiyaz, a student of Panchlaish Registered Primary School.

A teacher of Firinghbaraz Munshibari Registered Primary School said that they would continue with their movement until their demands were met.

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