

Non-Govt pry teachers rally for job nationalisation

Staff Correspondent

NON-government primary school teachers will announce further action today if the government does not accept their demand for salary, status and other benefits equal to what government primary teachers receive.

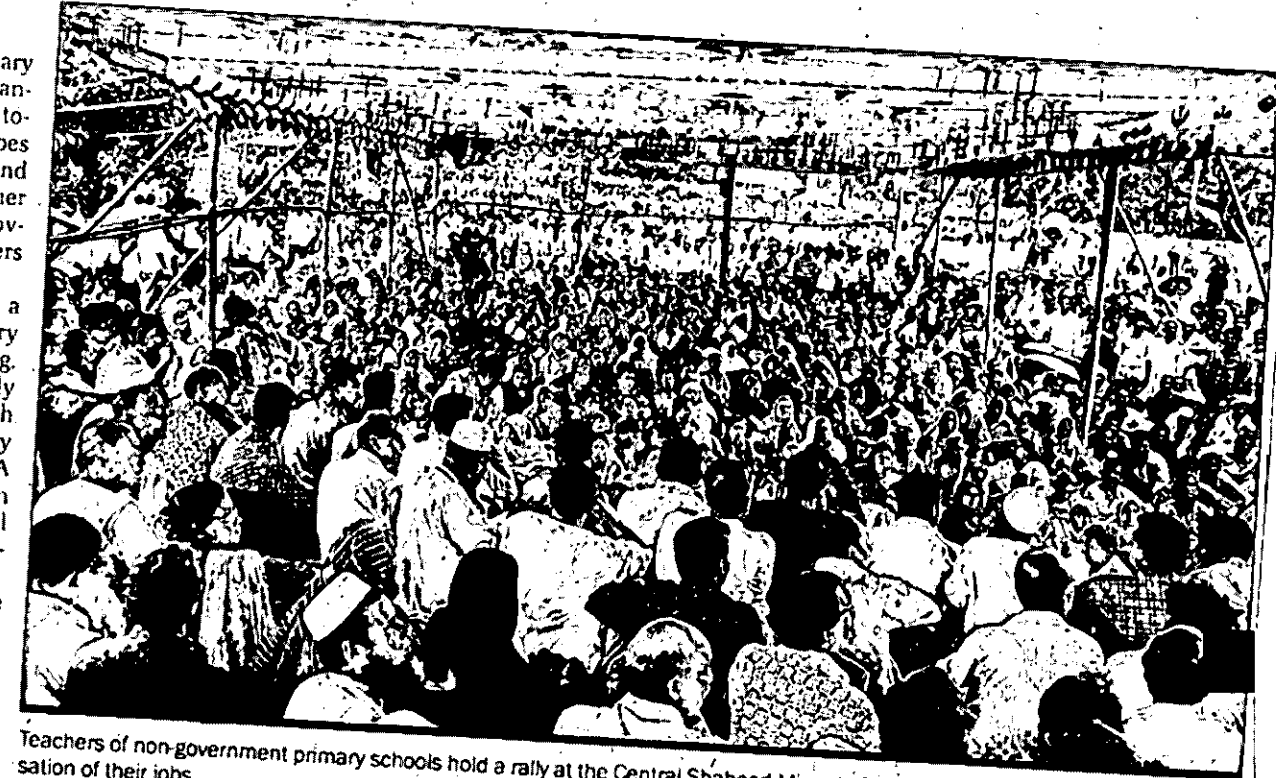
Teachers are leading a miserable life on the salary they are currently getting, they said at a mass rally organised by Bangladesh Non-Government Primary Teacher United Alliance. A several thousand of them gathered at the Central Shaheed Minar and chanted slogans on Monday.

'In May 2011, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave us word that our jobs will be nationalised, but we are yet to see any progress,' said the alliance's chairman Aminul Islam Chowdhury.

'We will have no other choice but to announce a tough movement if our demands to government are not met' he added.

Non-Government Primary teachers have long been calling for the nationalisation of their jobs.

After the rally, teachers



Teachers of non-government primary schools hold a rally at the Central Shaheed Minar in Dhaka on Monday, demanding nationalisation of their jobs. — New Age photo

started a sit-in programme at the Shaheed Minar and said that they would spend the night at the monument.

'We will submit a memorandum to Prime Minister on Tuesday,' Aminul said.

There are 24,000 registered non-government

primary schools in the country. The government provides financial assistance to these teachers, but the amount is lower than what government teachers receive.

A non-government assistant teacher gets a monthly

salary of Tk 5,300, whereas an assistant teacher at a government primary school gets Tk 8,050 a month.

In December 2011, non-government teachers observed several programmes, including hunger strikes and sit-ins.

In January, they locked their schools up for a couple of days and abstained from work. They later agreed to return after getting assurance from top officials of the primary and mass education ministry to resolve the issue.