

1 SEP 2012

Non-govt teachers plan

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the educational institutions in the monthly pay order.

At least five organisations of teachers and employees announced that they would hold programmes including strike for an indefinite period, work abstention, sit-ins, and submission of memorandums to the education minister, Nurul Islam Nahid, and the prime minister, Sheikh Hasina, in September.

Leaders of teachers and employees both backed by the ruling Awami League and the opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party told New Age that they would hold peaceful programmes to push for their demands.

They argued that Hasina announced that the government would nationalise the jobs of non-government primary school teachers after they had carried out a movement and therefore there were strong chances for the nationalisation of their jobs if they could pressure government.

The Awami League-backed National Front of Teachers and Employees, a platform of 11 independent organisations of teachers and non-teaching staff working in non-government schools and colleges, under the leadership of Quazi Faruque Ahmed told New Age that they would hold the

point demands.

Faruque said that they will hold press conferences in district headquarters on September 1, submit memorandums to the education minister and the prime minister through deputy commissioners on September 9, submission of memorandums to the education minister on September 11, sending text messages to the education minister and the prime minister on September 12, hold sit-ins and observe token hunger strike on the premises of Dhaka on September 30.

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programs spanning September to realise their eight-point demands.

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government should provide adequate housing facilities, in place of Tk 100, for non-government teachers as government teachers are given.

Shahjahan Alam, convenor of another platform called Shikkhak Karmachari Ojya Parishad, backed by the ruling party, said that they would go on strike for six days in secondary and higher secondary educational institutions beginning on September 8 to demand home their 17-point demands, including nationalisation of the education system.

Their other demands include facilities and allowances commensurate with what are there in public institutions, extension to teacher's retirement age up to 65 years and a separate pay scale for teachers and employees.

The BNP-backed Shikkhak Karmachari Ojya Parishad threatened to launch a tougher movement unless its four-point demands including nationalisation of their jobs were met by September.

The organisations other demands include monthly pay order for all recognised educational institutions.

Selim said that they would hold meetings in upazilas on September 6

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and in district and divisional headquarters on September 22. They will also observe hunger strike on September 15.

Leaders of Non-MPO Shikkhak Karmachari Ojya Jote and Bangladesh Ojya Jote and Bangladesh Karmachari Shikkhak Parishad, Besakari Shikkhak Karmachari Ojya Parishad, two organisations of non-government teachers and employees, meanwhile, said they would take to the streets in September to press home their demands, including their inclusion in the monthly pay order.

Leaders of both the organisations said that they would go on demonstrations from September 2.

The Non-MPO Shikkhak Karmachari Ojya Jote Parishad, Eshtarat Ali, said that they would form a human chain in every district town beginning on September 11.

Ojya Parishad will begin staging a sit-in for an indefinite period in front of the National Press Club from September 2.

The organisations' president Hanif Ullah said that teachers would not leave the streets till the government met the demand for their inclusion in monthly pay order.

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