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DEMAND FOR MPO BENEFITS

Teachers' demonstration enters 3rd day

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other perks to teachers of non government educational institutions. Earlier in the morning the protesters gathered at the busy Topkhana Road in front of National Press Club at about 10 AM and held a procession towards the prime minister's office in a procession the police prevented them near Dhaka Club. The continued their agitation at Shabbagh Cross-madrassahs, colleges and vocational institutes across the country have been holding demonstration under the banner of Non-MPO Shikkha Prathishthan Shikkhak Karmachari Oikya Jole. A six member team of Shikkhak Karmachari which began in the morning at the busy Topkhana Road, in front of National Press Club, paralysed the city traffic for hours. About a lakh teachers do not get the benefits of MPO under which the government provides salary and benefits for the third coffee shrouds, look the national institutions, wearing of teachers and employees Wednesday as hundreds of teachers and employees of non-government educational institutions, wearing coffins shrouds, look the streets for the third consecutive day demanding salary support and other benefits for the government provides to other colleagues under its Monthly Pay Order programme.

The demonstration, which began in the morning at the busy Topkhana Road, in front of National Press Club, paralysed the city traffic for hours. About a lakh teachers do not get the benefits of MPO under which the government provides salary and other perks to teachers of non government educational institutions. Earlier in the morning the protesters gathered at the busy Topkhana Road in front of National Press Club at about 10 AM and held a procession towards the prime minister's office in a procession the police prevented them near Dhaka Club at about 12.30 PM.

Scuffles ensued between the protesters and the police. The protesters tried to break the police barricade. Addressing the protesters their leaders vowed to continue the demonstration until the government accepted their demands. They denounced education minister Nurul Islam Nahid who had requested the teachers to end the demonstration and return home. They said Nahid failed to keep his pledge that the left out teachers would be given MPO benefits. They said that several meetings they held so far with the education minister and the education secretary proved futile exercises. They sought the prime minister's intervention in solving their problems. Efforts are on to meet the teachers' demands. Nahid told reporters on Tuesday after a meeting he had with finance minister AMMA Muthith on the issues. We are trying to solve the teachers' problems, they should go back home, said Nahid. I have been a teacher for 12 years. My school does not get teachers' salary support under the government's MPO package. It has become difficult for me to meet my family expenses. We have no option but to take to the streets, said Mohammad Hafizur Rahman, who teaches at a Chapainawabganj school.