

STAY ON CANCELLATION OF MPO Why 5 teachers must refund salaries

*HC asks two DSHE high-ups to explain
appearing before it by Jan 5*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned the director general and an assistant director of the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) to appear before it on January 5 on the charge of violating its order over cancellation of monthly pay orders (MPOs) of five college teachers.

DC of DSHE Fahima Khatun and its Assistant Director Helal Uddin have been asked to appear by January 5 next year to explain why they ordered five teachers of Rangpur Model College to refund their salaries despite a stay order of this court. The HC also issued a rule asking seven government high officials, including the education secretary, Fahima and Helal, to explain in two weeks why contempt of court proceedings should not be initiated against them.

A bench of the HC came up with the order and rule after hearing a contempt of court petition filed by the college teachers.

Petitioners' lawyer ABM Akaf Hossain said the DSHE on January 11, 2010 issued a notice cancelling the MPOs of the five teachers Ahsan Habib, Toyob Miah, Kazi Khaled, Zikrul Islam and Mominur Rahman. The DSHE said in the notice that appointments of the five teachers had not been valid and asked them to refund salaries and allowances they had received to the government treasurer.

Following a writ petition filed by the five, the HC on January 27, 2010 stayed the effectiveness of the DSHE notice and issued a rule upon the authorities concerned and DSHE to explain why the notice should not be declared illegal, he said adding, the DSHE on November 24 this year issued another notice asking the five to refund their salaries and allowances and also asked to explain why their MPOs should not be cancelled.