

Pry. teachers observe 'breach of accord' day

By A Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Primary Teachers Association (BPTA) observed "breach of agreement day" throughout the country on Tuesday. Primary school teachers of Dacca district held a rally at the Baitul Mukarram as a part of the day's programme on the day.

Prof. Abul Kalam Azad, President of the Association, presided over the meeting and Kazi A. K. Fazlul Huq conducted it. The meeting was addressed, among others, by Mr. Mahmudur Rahman Manna Vice President, DUCSU, Khondaker M. Faruque V. P. EUCSU, Mr. Abu Bakr Siddique, Executive General Secretary, Bangladesh Chhatra League (Azad Siddique), Mr. Maniruddin Ahmed President, Bangladesh Chhatra League (Munir Hashib), Mr. S. M. Shahabuddin Ahmed, of Kader-Chunnu Chhatra League and Mr. Abdullah Al Mamun convener of Jatiya Chhatra Union.

Student leaders in their speeches expressed their total support to the movement of the primary school teachers.

Mr. Abul Kalam Azad, expressing his great concern over and resentment at the handing over the primary schools' management under the civic body said it has been done with a political motive. He called upon the people to support the cause of the primary teachers. He said that the Association would launch a massive movement from February 19 to February 21 if all the black laws in this regard were not withdrawn.

Our Rangpur correspondent adds: At least 40 to 50 primary teachers and passersby injured when police lathi charged on a huge procession of primary

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teachers in front of Deputy Commissioner's office and Police Line on Tuesday. Thirteen police personnel were injured due to brick batting by the processionists.

Since morning 2,000 striking primary teachers from all over the district gathered at public library ground and brought out huge procession wearing black badges and holding black flags. As the processionists tried to enter Deputy Commissioner's office, police force on duty resisted them. As a result, processionists started brickbating on police.

In protest against police lathi charge on primary teachers' procession, complete hartal was observed in Rangpur town from noon to evening and a protest meeting was held.

Our Faridpur Correspondent adds: Over 7,000 primary school teachers from throughout the district held a meeting at Ambica Maidan on Tuesday. Besides primary school teachers the meeting was addressed by Mr. Zainul Abedin Secretary Secondary School Teachers Association (Kamruzzaman Group) and student leaders from Chhatra League (both Chunnu and Rob group).

Later the teachers brought out a procession which paraded the main streets of the town with slogans voicing their demands not to hand over the management of primary school to the local bodies. The demonstrating teachers handed over a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner and dispersed peacefully. Students abstained from their classes in all educational institutions in support of the primary teachers cause.

Our Jessore correspondent adds: "Biswas Bhango Dibas" was observed at Jessore by the teachers of primary schools. A total of 65,000 teachers from 1500 primary schools of Jessore district participate. The teachers brought out a procession from the Eidgah maidan and paraded the main streets of Jessore town and handed over memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner in connection with their various demands. Six student organisations namely Bangladesh Chhatra Union, three groups of Bangladesh Chhatra League, Biplobi Chhatra Moity and Biplobi Chhatra Union held a "ganozamayer" at Daratana square in support of the teachers.

Our Pabna Correspondent says: Over 5000 male and female primary school teachers from all 17 thanas of Pabna district assembled in Patna Town Hall maidan and brought out a procession which paraded the main thoroughfares to express resentment before offices of Deputy Commissioner, Sub-Divisional Officer, Pabna Sadar and District Education Officer.