

Govt forms committee to address polytechnic students' demands



The government has formed an eight-member committee to prepare an implementation roadmap addressing the six-point demand raised by students under the banner of Karigori Chhatra Andolon (Technical Student Movement).

The committee comprises representatives from the Technical and Madrasah Education Division (TMED), the Directorate of Technical Education, the Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB), the Institution of Diploma Engineers Bangladesh (IDEB), and student leaders.



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According to an office order issued by TMED, the committee will be headed by the division's additional secretary (development). The members have been tasked with preparing a detailed outline for executing the students' demands and submitting a report to the TMED secretary within three weeks. The directive was signed by Deputy Secretary Mohammad Mizanur Rahman Talukder.

In a separate press release signed by Senior Information Officer Siraj-Ud-Doula Khan of the Ministry of Education, it was stated that the committee would focus on short, mid, and long-term strategies for implementing the student demands.

According to the press release, the student movement resulted in road and rail blockades in Dhaka and other districts, causing public inconvenience and unrest at various technical institutions.

On April 21, student leaders met with the TMED secretary. The meeting was attended by the director general of the Directorate of Technical Education, senior ministry officials, and IDEB representatives.

During the meeting, the TMED secretary urged the students to withdraw their protests and resolve the issues through dialogue.

Following the discussion, student leaders announced the suspension of their programmes and a return to classrooms, committing to a peaceful academic environment, according to the press release.

However, Mashfik Islam, a student leader of the movement, told The Daily Star that while a meeting had indeed taken place with the mentioned stakeholders, the protest had not yet been suspended.

"We will decide soon," he added.