

Teachers forced to resign since uprising to get salaries

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Says education ministry



Ministry of Education

The Ministry of Education has issued a directive on the payment of salaries and allowances for principals, headteachers, and other teachers of non-government educational institutions who were forced to resign since the July uprising.

The directive was issued yesterday in a letter signed by Syed AZ Morshed Ali, deputy secretary (additional charge) of the ministry's Secondary and Higher Education Division, reports BSS.

According to the letter, although investigations on teachers and staffers who were forced to resign since July uprising are underway, salaries and allowances of many have been stopped -- leaving them in dire conditions, as per their applications.

The letter instructs that until allegations brought against them are resolved, salaries and allowances of the teachers concerned must continue.

Authorities have also been instructed to ensure the payment of their salaries and allowances by including their names in the electronic fund transfer (EFT) system.

It also warned that if any official or authority obstructs or refuses to cooperate in the payment process, necessary action will be taken against them in accordance with the rules.

The directive has been sent to all relevant offices, including the director general of the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE), divisional commissioners, deputy commissioners, and district education officers.

Following the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led government on August 5 last year, teachers at various levels were forced to resign from different educational institutions across the country.

Consequently, the salaries of many were stopped.

Later, they submitted applications to the education ministry, reporting that they are living in difficult conditions.

According to The Daily Star's count, at least 150 teachers were forced to resign in the months following the July uprising. Education ministry officials said the actual number was far higher -- over 2,000 teachers and headteachers forced out across the country, with around 800 seeking court-ordered reinstatements.

The Alliance of Deprived Institution Heads and Teachers estimated that nearly 3,500 teachers across some 2,000 institutions have faced harassment; over 500 were injured or fell ill. Many others were jailed in false cases.

"Of the 3,500, around 1,000 are still not receiving any salary or allowances. The rest may be on payroll, but they haven't entered their classrooms or even their institutions for over a year," said Anwarul Islam Talukder, convener of the alliance.