

Teachers call for strike tomorrow

By A Staff Correspondent

The teachers and employees of non-government secondary schools in a protest rally on Tuesday at the Central Shaheed Minar gave a call for the observance of a country wide strike tomorrow (Thursday) the first day of the S.S.C. examinations.

Meanwhile the Education Department has shifted the West Sub-zone centre of Dhaka from the Engineering University School to the Teachers Training College. The schools falling under the Centre are - Government Laboratory High School, University Laboratory Udayan School Rifles Public School Bangladesh Rifles School B.C.S.I.R. School Dhanmudi High School, Rahmatullah Model High School and Saleha High School.

Leaders of the teachers addressing the rally urged the authorities for immediate and amicable solution of the issue for peaceful holding of the SSC examinations. Resenting the indifference of the Government and conspiratorial role of the vested quarter they said that through adverse publicity the vested quarter was trying to misguide the people.

The leaders demanding release of the arrested teachers and with drawal of the police employed in front of the Teachers Association office they said that the nationalisation of services of teachers would remove the disparity in the education sector and help restore better academic atmosphere.

The Coordination Committee
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Control room for SSC exams

The Ministry of Education has set up a central control room in connection with the SSC examination in the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, according to a Press release, report BSS.

The telephone numbers of the
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Control room

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control room are 418720 and 418775.

Sec 144 around exam centres

Meanwhile the Dhaka Metropolitan Police has imposed section 144 prohibiting assembly of more than four persons within a radius of 200 yards of the respective examination centres within the Dhaka Metropolitan Area from tomorrow (Thursday). The order shall remain in force on all scheduled dates of the examinations till April 2.

The decision has been taken to ensure peaceful holding of the SSC examination at 41 centres in the Dhaka Metropolitan area.

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of the Teachers Association in an emergency meeting decided to continue the strike till the realisation of the two-point demand.

Lawyers back teachers

The members of the Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association shall abstain from courts tomorrow (Thursday) in support of the demand of the striking teachers.

They will also assemble at a general meeting at 10-30 a.m. and would go in a procession to the Central Shaheed Minar at 12 noon on the day.

Our Varsity Correspondent adds: Presided over by Mr. Nazrul Islam Secretary General of the Bangladesh Teachers Association the rally was addressed by Mr. Badaruddin Hawlader Mr. Khalilur Rahman and Mr. Nazibur Rahman. Members of the Central Students Action Committee Sangrami Chhatra Jote Islami Chhatra Shibir Bangladesh Ainjibi Samannay Parishad were present at the rally to express their solidarity with the striking teachers.

The leaders demanded immediate release of the arrested teachers. They gave the Government 24 hours ultimatum to fulfil their two-point demand, otherwise the Government will be responsible for the consequences. They said that they would resist the S.S.C examination scheduled to be held from tomorrow (Thursday) They called upon the guardians not to send their children to the examination halls on the day. The teachers said 'we are ready to solve the issue through negotiations. But the Government has chosen the way of conflict. The rally in a resolution urged the Government to fulfil their demands.

The teachers then went to the Shikha Bhaban for demonstration. Riot police interrupted them at the gate of the building. At one stage a group of school students brickbated the police. The teachers stopped them from creating an unpleasant situation. For half an hour the teachers demonstrated there. The leaders then led the procession to the National Press Club from where it dispersed.

SYLHET

Our Sylhet Correspondent adds: About 400 teachers of the Bangladesh Shikha Samity on Monday in procession paraded the main street of Sylhet town demanding release of all arrested teachers unconditionally. They held a street corner meeting urging the Government to fulfil their legitimate demands.

KURIGRAM

Our Kurigram Correspondent adds: For unconditional release of central leaders of arrested striking teachers more than 300 teachers of Kurigram Sadar Upazila brought out a procession on March 3 paraded the main streets of the town and submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner for immediate fulfilment of their two-point demand and release of arrested teachers.

NETRAKONA

Our Netrakona Correspondent adds: The secondary school teachers and the students jointly brought out a procession on Tuesday which paraded the main thoroughfares of the town raising various slogan in support of their two-point demand. The demonstrating teachers later on staged an hour long sit-in strike in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office to press home their demands.