

# Govt college teachers observe work abstention

**Staff correspondent**

TEACHERS at government colleges started their two-day work abstention on Sunday, protesting at a government move to include teachers of newly nationalised colleges in education cadre service.

Teachers of 313 public colleges, under the ban-

ner of BCS General Education Association, abstained from academic activities, forcing authorities to defer final examinations for degree and honours courses of all colleges under National University and Dhaka University.

'Our work abstention was successful as teachers of all colleges observed it sponta-

neously,' association president IK Sabim Ullah Khondaker told New Age on Sunday.

'We would go for work abstention for indefinite period if the government includes the newly nationalised college teachers as Bangladesh Civil Services cadres,' he warned.

Students at Kabi Nazrul Government College said that they had scheduled exami-

nations on Sunday, but were unaware of the work abstention called by the teachers.

Comilla Victoria College principal Md Abu Taher said that as they observed abstention, no classes and examinations took place in his college on Sunday.

Terming the work abstention as 'genuine protest with valid cause', he added that the abstention would continue today.

The protesting teachers also held a rally at Barisal Government Brojo Mohan College.

Government Titumir College student Ashraful Islam claimed that teachers were not considering the interest of the students. 'If they were, they would not have protested in this way causing the students to suffer,' he said.

In April 2017, the government selected 285 private colleges across the country for nationalisation. Besides, the government so far nationalised 51 private colleges, said sources in education ministry.



Kabi Nazrul Government College teachers in Dhaka on Sunday have a chat with their colleagues boycotting classes in protest at a government move to give cadre status to the teachers of recently nationalised colleges.

— New Age photo