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Govt shifts pry teacher joining date to Oct 1 amid protests

Staff Correspondent  02 August, 2026, 16:12



Recommended assistant teachers of primary schools stage a sit-in programme at Shahbagh in the capital on Sunday, demanding for joining work and posting. Later on,

they called off their around three-hour-long programme as the government announced the dates for their joining and posting. | Sony Ramani

The Ministry of Primary and Mass Education on Sunday brought forward the joining date for 14,384 candidates recommended for assistant teacher posts at government primary schools to October 1, following protests by the successful applicants.

Earlier in the day, a group of teachers staged a sit-in at the Shahbagh intersection in the capital, blocking the road and demanding that they be allowed to join in August.

The protesters called off their demonstration after the ministry announced that it had advanced the joining date from October 29 to October 1.

The blockade, which lasted for about three hours from around 11:00am to 2:00pm, disrupted traffic in the busy area and caused widespread inconvenience to commuters.

Earlier, an emergency virtual meeting on teacher recruitment was held at the ministry on Saturday.

Following the meeting, the ministry said in a press release that the recommended candidates would join their workplaces on October 29.

Rejecting the date, several hundred recommended candidates began a protest on Sunday in front of the Bangladesh National Museum, blocking the Dhaka University–Shahbagh road.

They alleged that they had already completed all the required formalities but were still waiting for their joining date, leaving them in uncertainty.

One of the protest organisers, Debobroto Sarkar, said that the candidates had been recommended for the assistant teacher posts on February 8, but no joining date had been announced for the past five months.

The ministry announced the revised joining date while the protest was still under way.

According to a ministry press release, the selected candidates will join the district primary education office in their respective districts on October 1 and will receive their postings on October 4.

Meanwhile, the demonstration triggered severe traffic congestion across adjoining areas, including the Dhaka University campus, Nilkhet, Banglamotor, Kataban, Hatirpool, Elephant Road, Plassey and Segunbagicha.

Additional police were deployed to maintain law and order in the area, said Robbani Hossain, additional deputy commissioner of the Ramna Division of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

The recruitment process for the 14,384 assistant teachers had been largely completed during the tenure of the interim government, which ended on February 8, but implementation was delayed by legal complications.

A major legal hurdle was removed on July 2, when the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court overturned a 2019 High Court ruling on the seniority of teachers from nationalised primary schools.

The verdict cleared the way for the recruitment of nearly 32,000 teachers, including the appointment of the 14,384 recommended assistant teachers.

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