



Date: 24 October 2018

Press Release

High Court issued a rule asking the concerned government authorities to explain why the inactivity of monitoring cell formed to oversee physicians' presence or absence in the workplace should not be declared illegal.

The HC bench of Justices Moinul Islam Chowdhury and Md Ashraful Kamal, on October 23, 2018, passed the order with a rule following a writ (Writ petition no. 9118) filed in public interest by Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST). In the rule, the HC asked concerned government authorities to explain why the inactivity of Government hospital and monitoring cell formed to oversee physicians' presence or absence in the workplace which is under the Health Service Department and Ministry of health and family welfare should not be declared illegal. High Court asked Health Secretary, Public Administration Secretary, Director General of Health Department, President and Secretary of Bangladesh Medical and Dental Council (BMDC), President of Monitoring Cell of Health Department and Member Secretary to give explanation of the rule within four weeks.

Besides, High Court has asked the concerned authorities to submit a list in the form of an affidavit of the doctors absent in their workplaces in different Upazilla health complexes across Bangladesh within 30 April 2019. Health Secretary, Director General of Health Department, Convener of Monitoring Cell of Health Department and Member Secretary were made respondents to this rule.

On 12 July 2018, Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) filed this writ petition in public interest. After the first hearing, High Court division issued this rule and fixed 7 May 2019 for the next hearing.

Barrister Abdul Halim, Advocate Abu Obaidur Rahman, Advocate Ainun Nahar Siddiqua Lipi, Advocate Zamiul Haque Foisal and Advocate Ayesha Akhter appeared for BLAST and the Deputy Attorney General Ekramul Hoque Tutul for the State.

For further information, please contact

Mahbuba Akhtar

Deputy Director (Advocacy and Communications), BLAST

Email: mahbuba@blast.org.bd

For further information:

- Advocate Abdul Halim, Advocate, Supreme Court, Bangladesh. Email: halim_md@yahoo.com
- Advocate Abu Obaidur Rahman, Advocate, Supreme Court, Bangladesh. Phone: 01914129856, Email: obaid.rahman67@gmail.com