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Helmand teachers warn to boycott annual exams

May 21, 2015

Nearly 3,000 teachers, who have been on strike, on Thursday said they would boycott annual exams if land plots allotted to them under a township scheme were not retaken from usurpers in southern Helmand province.

Mohammad Nassar Ahmadi, speaking on behalf of the protesting teachers, said former president Hamid Karzai had given them plots under a residential scheme eight years ago, but his orders could not be fully complied with.

He said so far only 500 teachers had been allotted plots.

Like other tropical provinces, the annual exams in Helmand would commence from tomorrow.

Farhad Dawri, a civil society activist, asked the teachers to resume attending classes so that students could take their exams. He demanded the government follow the former president's orders.

Attaullah Afghan, a provincial council member, said teachers had been ignored in distribution of land plots for the last many years.

Provincial Education Director Abdul Matin Jaffar said the government should retake usurped land part of the teacher's township through security forces.

Amanullah Saadat, a municipality official, said they had distributed plots to teachers in one of three areas, but confronted problems in the two areas because of parks and agriculture lands.