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## **Peru: Teachers' Strike Declared Illegal; Strikers Pledge Stepped-up Protest Actions**

*by Barbara Khol*

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On Aug. 7, the Education Ministry announced that the strike launched by public school teachers over three months ago had been declared illegal. The ministry said teachers had five days to return to work, and administrative personnel, three days. Failure to resume normal work activities within the prescribed period will be interpreted as "job abandonment," and teachers and administrators are to be dismissed. On Aug. 11, trade union spokespersons for the nation's 260,000 public school teachers and administrators, said strikers would respond to the government's threat of dismissal by stepping up protest demonstrations the following Monday. In addition to large-scale daily street marches and mass hunger strikes, teachers plan to occupy selected sites. (Basic data from AFP, 08/07/91, 08/10/91)

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