

Wednesday, January 06, 2021



No enrolment in 7 AUB programmes, orders UGC

Ershad Kamol | Published at 01:31am on January 06, 2021

The University Grants Commission has asked the Asian University of Bangladesh not to enrol students in seven programmes under four departments from forthcoming spring semester 2021 unless the university appoints sufficient quality teachers for the programmes.

A UGC order passed on Sunday asked the university not to enrol students in Bachelor of Arts with honours and Master of Arts in Bangla programmes, Master of Social Science in information science and library management programme, BA (honours) and MA in Islamic history and civilisation programme, and bachelor of education and master of education programmes.

The order, signed by the commission's director Fakhrul Islam, also asked the university to immediately comply with other requirements such as appointing a vicechancellor, a pro-VC and a treasure; conducting annual audits through the education ministry-prescribed audit firms; develop a salary structure for the staff and start paying salaries electronically and removing trustee board chairman from beneficiary posts.

'We will take actions if the university does not take corrective measures by February as no university will be allowed to keep breaching laws,' said UGC member Abu Taher, who has led a recent investigation against Asian University's operations and management activities.

AUB started its journey in 1996 and at present over 6,000 students study at 23 programmes under different departments, he said.

‘The university has never appointed a treasurer. And from 2012, trustee board chairman Dr Mohammad Jafar Sadeq has been holding the post of the acting VC along with the director of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell, the dean of school of science and engineering, and a regular teacher of the computer science department,’ he said.

There is only one teacher for 585 students in Bangla department, one teacher takes classes for 282 students in information science and library management department and two teachers take classes of 512 students of Islamic history department, Taher said.

Asian University board of trustees chairman and also acting VC Jafar Sadeq could not be reached for comments.

The university’s registrar, Faruk Ahmed, said that they would take corrective measures after getting the copy of the UGC order.



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