

Prof Musharrif Hussain Khan, appointed recently the Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, talks about prospects and problems to Our BUET Correspondent Arif Amin Bhuiyan and hopes

# BUET will take 5 years to regularise session

Prof Musharrif Hussain Khan, Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) said the academic session of BUET, now running one-and-a-half years behind schedule, will be regularised in the next five years. Prof Khan said that in order to reduce session loss the authorities would try to hold examinations according to schedule and cut down holidays.

It can be mentioned here that the first year classes of all the departments of BUET of the session 1986-87 are not expected to start before February 1988.

The BUET VC said that the education system of BUET acclaimed both at home and abroad contained no imperfections as it had been developed through a long process. However, efforts were underway to introduce some new measures to solve some academic problems he added.

Prof. H. M. Khan added that the higher education system of a country should be suited to the specific needs of that particular country. He said that system should not be modified merely because there had been a change in some other countries. Without changing the existing system prevailing in our schools and colleges it may not be advisable to effect a change in our university, he said.

Prof. H. M. Khan said that problems in our industrial sec-



tor were getting topmost priority in post-graduate research work at BUET. He also said that research and development work through the Bureau of Research, Testing and Consultation, (BRTC) a BUET department, was going ahead. The University also pioneered research on the development of mechanised rickshaw, biogas, carbon black, from natural gas, he pointed out.

About the expansion programme of BUET Prof. M.H. Khan said that opening of new engineering departments and

the expansion and division of existing ones of BUET were going on to meet the growing demands of the country. Only recently BUET opened a new department of computer engineering, Prof. M.H. Khan said. However, he emphasised that all-out efforts would be stepped up to consolidate and expand Graduate curriculum, especially Ph.D. programme of BUET.

Expressing his keenness to modernise the "age-old" laboratories of BUET, he regretted that limited funds were stand-

ing in the way of procuring new equipment for the laboratories. Explaining the reason for this he pointed out that as the university solely depended on Government funds for its development and day-to-day running, the rising cost of equipment were causing difficulty in updating of the laboratories.

Prof. M.H. Khan efforts were on to develop linkage programme with universities abroad to enrich BUET in all respect. He hoped that various R and D (research and development) organisations of the country would come forward to develop the laboratories by providing fund for equipment. They will in turn, be benefited by the results of research carried out in the University, he said.

On the expansion of the computer centre of BUET Prof M. H. Khan said there will be some expansion programme in hardware as well as software.

About the inadequacy of books in the central library of BUET he said that the problem could be minimised if the various universities and research organisations decided amongst themselves the journals which a particular university or research organisation were to subscribe, thus avoiding unnecessary duplication and ensuring better utilisation of their limited funds. He said a large number of books and Xerox machines have been procured for the library, which would come in handy for students.

Regarding the quality of food supplied in the different halls of BUET, Prof. Khan hoped that any suggestion to improve the situation would be taken up seriously by the authorities.

Prof. Khan expressed the opinion that more close cooperation between various organisations and BUET and increased investment in technology development would go a long way in strengthening the base of our science and technology.