

Pwb 1997

তারিখ 15 OCT 1986 ...
পৃষ্ঠা... ৫ কলাম... ৩



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Campus problems

An interesting discussion meeting was organised recently (on September 18, 1986) by the Alumni Association of Dhaka University. The subject matter of this discussion meeting was, "Challenge faced by a Vice Chancellor in Bangladesh."

The discussion, it seems, must be attractive if all the vice chancellors spoke freely and frankly to describe their

experiences. We do not, of course, know if they all of them spoke without bias or reservation. We also do not know if all the former and present V.C.'s were invited by the organisers to take part in this discussion meeting or to describe their experiences if present in the meeting.

Anyway this discussion meeting we hope, will make a valuable contribution in understanding the present condition and crisis in our education world, specially in the

highest educational field. It may also help us in understanding the relation between our university and the present day national politics where perhaps lies the major ingredient of the problem.

There could be little doubt about the fact that all the currents and cross-currents of our national politics are very much visible in the universities than in any other field of our national life to make all universities the free and fertile ground of all kinds of politics ideologi-

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es and practices. A Vice Chancellor may or may not have any serious political bias of his own though he may be liked by one or more political parties. But that cannot be very much important for him ultimately. It may play an important role in being finally selected for the post of V.C. But when a person accepts the burden of such a responsible posts he can hardly afford to satisfy a particular party or group only disregarding the other political forces who are also very active within at least

the campus, if not elsewhere. Obviously some political forces may not like that the V.C. should act in this manner. In other word they want that the V.C. should not try to please all sections of students and must follow the wishes of that (particular) group only. But a V.C. can only do that if and when he prefers to ensure more unrest in the campus. But no V.C. can do that unless compelled.

It is true that still there is hardly any peaceful atmos-

phere in any university campus. But though this disturbing environments is created by the overall socio-political factors of the country the V.C. is to bear the main burden of the unwanted situation. Many people can not, of course, appreciate the peculiar situation under which a V.C. is to work. So all the V.C's should come forward to explain their real difficulties to the people.

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