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BUET Architecture Deptt Rationality 'totally' absent in new admission system

By Staff Correspondent

Teachers and students of the Architecture and Planning Department of the BUET alleged that the authorities introduced the new admission test system for administrative convenience where rationality is 'totally' absent.

They said that the new method of tests for admitting students to the Architecture Department would not help admit students with knack for the subject.

BUET Vice Chancellor and the Chairman of its Academic Council Prof Iqbal Mahmood disagreed with the teachers' argument and said that the decision was taken after a series of discussions with the teachers over two months.

He said half of the Architecture Department's teachers approved the new method and under it the relevant teachers would enjoy a bigger say in admitting their own students.

"If the prospective architecture student does well in drawing but fails to put up a good show in physics, maths or

functional English he might still qualify, it is on the discretion of the teachers," Mahmood said.

Shamsul Wares, an associate professor of the Architecture Department, said "Under the new system a prospective architecture student will have to answer the same test paper as someone willing to study engineering."

He further added, "this is unacceptable because a prospective architect must be tested for his sharp-sightedness, imagination, creativeness and artistic abilities."

The controversy arose when the Academic Council of BUET abolished two separate admission tests on December 13 and introduced a single test for both the Architecture and Engineering students. The admission test for the current session is due on March 28.

Protesting the Academic Council's decision the students of the Architecture Department have started boycotting classes since March 1.

