

BUET classes resume today Syndicate to decide fate of 13 teachers, says VC

By Staff Correspondent

Classes at the BUET are scheduled to resume today, after nearly six weeks.

It could not, however, be confirmed whether students of architecture department will attend classes till a decision is taken regarding 13 teachers of the department who had resigned protesting introduction of new admission rules.

Asked about this, Prof Iqbal Mahmud, who resigned as Vice Chancellor on May 4 and later resumed his 'routine duties', said yesterday, 'The exact situation will be clear, when classes start tomorrow (Sunday)'.

He however said teachers of architecture department have assured him that they would take classes.

About the 13 teachers, Prof. Mahmud said, 'The Syndicate will take a decision regarding them'.

'The date for a syndicate meeting is yet to be fixed', he said in reply to a question.

Prof Mahmud had resigned on May 4 protesting external interference in the BUET affairs. Following his resignation, 71 teachers resigned from

their administrative posts the same day.

On May 5, the BUET Teachers' Association called an indefinite strike demanding 'return of Prof Mahmud as VC' of the university and assurance from the highest authorities regarding non-interference in the BUET affairs.

During the month-long stalemate at the university, informal negotiations were held between leaders of the BUET Teachers' Association and some political personalities to bring about an end to the crisis, but without any result.

BUETTA twice sought an appointment with the Prime Minister to explain their position and also submitted a memorandum at her office on May 26. But they could not yet meet the prime minister who is also the Chancellor of the University.

Prof. Mahmud resumed his 'routine duties' as VC on May 12, but any official communication regarding non-acceptance of his resignation letter is yet to be made from the Chancellor's

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secretariat.

The stalemate at the BUET came to an end following Prof Mahmud's appeal to the BUET teachers on June 7 to resume classes. The BUETTA announced suspension of their indefinite strike on June 8.

Sources at the BUET earlier said that the Chief of Army Staff Lt. Gen. Mustafizur Rahman had met Prof Mahmud on June 2.

Prof Mahmud however, denied that his meeting with the Army Chief had anything to do with the BUET affairs.