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New student front floated

A new student organisation was floated Tuesday with the sponsors saying, it will mobilise the students away from party politics and work for creating healthy academic atmosphere on the campuses, reports UNB.

The Dhaka University-based organisation has been named Bangladesh Student Forum with Iqbal Hossain Raju, former leader of the now-dissolved Natun Bangla Chhatra Samaj, as its convenor.

Natun Bangla chhatra Samaj was the student front of Jatiya Party. After dissolving it few years ago President Hussain Muhammad Ershad promised he will not set up any student front of his Jatiya Party.

Raju, announcing his organisation at a Press conference at National Press Club, said it will work for creating proper climate for education and knowledge, keeping itself above party politics.

Replying to a question he said the forum will not act as the wing of any political party.

Raju, however, told another questioner that they have been inspired by President and Chancellor of the universities - President Hussain Muhammad Ershad.

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New front

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But our organisation has no affiliation with President Ershad's ruling Jatiya Party, Raju said with Syed Golam Murtaza, Member Secretary of the forum at his side.

"Our organisation should be seen as a non-party platform in which students from all shades of opinion can participate" he said.

Raju claimed that a number of leaders from Bangladesh Chhatra League (H-A), Jatiya Chhatra League, Chhatra League (N-S) and BSD backed Chhatra League are members of his forum's convening committee.

He did not say who the leaders coming from the opposition backed student organisations are.

The full list of the convening committee with the political background of its members will be announced by May 26, he said.

Raju said his forum will participate in the June 6 DUCSU elections and the list of its candidates will be announced soon.

He claimed that some prospective DUCSU election candidates from other student organisations are also on the convening committee of his forum.

The forum believes that the demands of the Dhaka University students can realised through negotiations with the authorities including the Chancellor and the Education Ministry.