

CU VC relieved

The President and Chancellor of the universities has relieved Professor Dr Alamgir Mohammad Sirajuddin from the post of Vice Chancellor of the Chittagong University, an official handout said in Dhaka yesterday, reports BSS.

Dr Rafiqul Islam Chowdhury, Professor of the Department of Political Science of the Chittagong University, has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the university for a period of four years.

The President has also appointed Professor Dr M Badiul Alam, Professor of Political

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CU VC

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Science of the same university, to the post of Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Chittagong University for a period of two years, the handout said.

UNB adds: According to a report from the CU campus, both the newly appointed VC and Pro-VC attended their offices at 1 pm yesterday.

The Chancellor's orders were received by the university Sunday night, officials said.

Prof Sirajuddin's pre-emptive relief came amid a staggering campus crisis due to a prolonged violent campaign by Islami Chhatra Shibir supporters for his removal.

He was appointed Acting Vice Chancellor of the university after the resignation of the then VC Prof Muhammad Ali on May 22, 1988.

He was then appointed Vice Chancellor to a four-year term in June 1989. Prof Sirajuddin got the highest votes in the VC panel election by the Senate.

But in mid '90, Shibir as well as a section of the university teachers and employes started agitation demanding his resignation branding him partisan.

On December 22 last year, a day-long hartal was observed to press the demand. A clash between the activists of All-Party Student Unity (APSU) and Islami Chhatra Shibir during the hartal left Faruq-uz-Zaman, a student leader of Chhatra Maitree, dead.

The residence of VC Sirajuddin was attacked last October 18, and the teachers' group supporting him and the APSU called for an indefinite strike protesting the attack.

Since then, classes of the university have been closed.

The university is scheduled to reopen on January 1. But the teachers supporting the former VC have extended their strike till January 15.

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