

Inside DU

Campus Report

It has been reported that amendments to the University Ordinance are in the offing to streamline the administration in the country's highest seats of academic learning.

It is rumoured that under the upcoming amendments, the provisions are likely to be made for "adequate administrative power" of the vice-chancellors over various departments and chairmen. At present there is very loose control of the vice-chancellors over the different departments at the university.

The Deans of various faculties are also to be chosen from the senior most faculty members on the basis of experience, expertise and competence. At present the deans are elected and such elections are mainly responsible for grouping at the different campuses of the country.

However according to knowledgeable circles the ordinance will not be changed in any fundamental way.

Although no one is ready to be quoted directly nevertheless a good number of teachers do have their own ideas about the University Ordinance and other issues. Many feel that it needs a change.

SENATE

Many are questioning the existence of the Senate, the highest legislative body of the university. The present senate's span has expired on 24th of June. Legally speaking it is dead now and new members are to be elected. But due to court's order the Senate session had to be stopped.

According to the Attorney General since 24th June Senate is no longer in existence. But the injunction on DU Senate by the sub-judge's court has not yet been withdrawn or the reply of DU heard at court. The DU administration was supposed to appeal to the higher authorities regarding this issue which they have not yet done.

It is gathered that in the DU Syndicate meeting two members nominated by the Senate were not invited to attend. Does this mean that DU authorities have accepted the non existence of the Senate?

It is further gathered since the matter is lying at court, The VC is not ready to say anything about the existence of the Senate.

TEACHERS' REACTION

Before the Act of 1975, the university authorities used to determine the salaries and remunerations of their staff but after the enactment of that Act things have changed.

The University Teachers Association Officers Association and Employees Association feel that the university authorities should fix the salaries of their teachers and staff.

They also feel that the University Act of 1973 is responsible for today's state of affairs at the DU. The election to the different committees is responsible for grouping among the teachers. Throughout the year there is election of some committee. The teachers are more interested in taking part in such elections rather than taking classes. Instead of concentrating on research they indulge in grouping which helps them to get promotion and other benefits.

In the Syndicate, six of the fifteen members are teachers. It is extremely powerful and the VC can in no way surpass its decision. So there is a rush among the teachers to be members of the Syndicate and exert their influence. They need the vote of others and hence do not hesitate to use their students for their self advantage.

From three members of the Senate the VC is selected. The person who is the VC cannot afford to ignore the wishes of his group members who elected him.

Many teachers of DU are of the opinion that some sections of the University Ordinance of 1973 need to be changed.

Appointment of VC through Senate nomination should be replaced by direct appointment of the Chancellor.

Some process of appointment of Syndicate members and deans and Provosts should be evolved which can avoid grouping among the teachers.

The process of revolving chairmanship of departments



Children of Kalyani arranged a cultural function.

should be stopped. Chairmanship should be restricted among the professors or senior teachers.

On various issues the two groups of DU teachers have further split into three. The VC's group has been divided.

One group is led by the DUTA President, Dr M Aminul Islam and the other by the Pro VC Dr. Emajuddin. The three groups held respective meetings to discuss the state of affairs at DU lately.