

# Corruption in DU alleged

DHAKA, Dec. 30 (BSS): A lively discussion on "University administration" today heard calls for taking steps to improve the conditions in the campus, conducive to health growth of education.

Presenting the key-note paper at the seminar, Professor Abdullah Farooq painted a gloomy picture of the "university administration" resulting in an erosion of academic values. But the Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor Abdul Mannan disagreed with the contents of the paper, saying conditions that exist today, could not have been better in the given situation.

Organised by the World University Service (WUS) Bangladesh, a galaxy of senior university teachers took part in the discussions. National Professor Shamsul Huq was the chief guest on the occasion which was presided over by Mr. Amanullah Ahmed, Vice-Chancellor of the Rajshahi University and President of the WUS.

The participants on the key-note paper included Prof. A. Aziz Khan, former Vice-Chancellor of Chittagong University, Prof. Zahurul Huq of the Engineering University, Prof. A. N. Shamsul Huq of Rajshahi University, Prof. Abdul Momin Chowdhury of Dhaka University and Prof. Amirul Islam

Chowdhury of Jahangirnagar University.

Prof. Farooq, Treasurer of Dhaka University, giving his views on the "university administration", mainly dwelt with the conditions in Dhaka University, with which he has been associated with for many years. He said administration in the campus was the most important factor in running the university as this generally affected all branches of the highest seat of education.

Prof. Farooq listed the present procedures of choosing Vice-Chancellor, maladministration, non-incentives to able persons, allegations of nepotism and corruption as among the factors causing decay in the academic atmosphere.

He said the present system of choosing Vice-Chancellor, the key person in university administration, gave way to soliciting cheap popularity of the teachers and others preventing the scope for the VC to become neutral and strict in running the university affairs.

He opined that the 1973 University Ordinance incorporated 90 per cent of earlier rules and regulations and said rules were not often followed in the efficient running of the affairs. Among others steps, he suggested, to improve the conditions were that the VC should be appointed for one term and preferably not from the university where he worked.

Most of the discussants agreed with many of the observations of the key-note speaker and stressed that campus environment could be improved by taking pragmatic steps.

In his speech, National Professor Shamsul Huq said that the universities were the highest seats of education and academic values devoid of terrorism and unhealthy trends must persist there for the sake of the nation and future generation.