

## DU peace move gets little response : VC

**Krishna P Roy**

If all conciliatory moves fail the Dhaka University authorities may have to go for punitive actions against the terrorists at some point of time to restore normalcy on the campus.

This was stated by the Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof M Maniruzzaman Miah in an exclusive interview with the Morning Sun at his office yesterday.

Prof Miah made the above remark when he was asked why they were not taking action

against the terrorists as per rules and regulations of the University.

He said, "cases of murders and killings have got to be dealt with by the law-enforcing agencies, but other violation of normal law and order may be taken care of by the University."

Before implementing any decision, the out-siders and armed hoodlums have got to be driven out from the residential halls, the Vice-Chancellor observed adding "the magnitude of the problem is such at the moment that the

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University authorities and the hall administration cannot act on their own without the cooperation from the political parties and their student wings."

Turning to the overall campus situation he said, "I am afraid, I have no new prescription to give at this moment. I still hold the opinion as in the past that the preconditions for the elimination of Campus violence is public declaration by the parties and the organisation concerned that they will neither give shelter to any armed person within their fold nor would they speak or stand against any action that the appropriate authorities might taken in this regard.

"This in my opinion is the sine qua non for cleansing the campus of violence," he noted. But when asked what is the response from the concerned quarters, he said, "The response is not very encouraging that is what I can tell you briefly."

Replying to another question

he said, "since my primary objective is to keep the University open and at the same time keep it free from violence. I think time has not yet come for me as Vice-Chancellor to pinpoint who the culprits are because that might complicate the situation further.

But then, it is clear to everybody as who is doing what and who is responsible for what, he added.

When his attention was drawn to the problems of those who were forced out from their respective halls by their rivals particularly following the killing of Chhatra League (S-A) leader Maniruzzaman Badal, he said, "I have discussed it on various occasions with the hall administration and the student leaders in the Dhaka University Education Environment Council.

But, it appears that however much we try, the students themselves do not feel safe to go back to their allotted rooms for very obvious reasons.