

Think of the Students

DISMISSAL of Dr Imam Uddin, an associate professor at the Orthopedic Department, University of Science and Technology in Chittagong (USTC) gave rise to a chain of inauspicious events. A report in the daily *Prothom Alo* on Thursday said as a reaction sixty-nine of the teacher's colleagues resigned en masse. This action has not only induced a shutdown of different departments at the institution but subsequently has put to stake the future of about 800 students there.

The fact that a professor has been dismissed may have derogatory implication. But while the resignation of his colleagues may speak of solidarity, it also speaks of their lack of concern for the students, whose future is, without any doubt, their responsibility. They must remember that students had no role to play in the incident.

It is, however, worth taking into cognizance as to why the reason behind the dismissal has been kept covered. Since the unseated teacher's colleagues are apparently eager to know, the university administration should disclose the reason and, at least for once, listen what they have to say. But despite that, teachers are expected to set aside their discordance with the authority and come to an understanding soon. We expect they should be able to see beyond their personal differences and think about the future of hundreds of students. Educators cannot afford to embark on actions that, one way or the other, go against the interests of those whom they are supposed to educate.