

Acting chiefs run DU offices for years

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ELEVEN important Dhaka University offices are being run by acting chiefs, some them for years after years, hampering regular activities of the university administration.

Dhaka University teachers and officials alleged that running so many offices by acting chiefs was against the university's tradition.

They alleged that current university administration lead by vice-chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique, also Awami League backed blue panel teacher leader, in the past eight years and a half did not appoint full time chiefs at the offices as the acting ones appeared to be 'more obedient.'

History department supernumerary professor Syed Anwar Husain and Institute of Social Welfare and Research professor Muhammad Samad said that au-

thorities did not appoint full time officials as they wanted to 'have strong grip on the offices.'

The authorities, however, claimed that they could not fill up the vacancies due to lack of qualified people.

The acting chiefs have been running the administrative offices, for more than five years in many cases, in absence of any guideline on for how long an officer can perform duties in acting capacity in the Dhaka University Order 1973.

Arefin Siddique said that there was no specific guideline on any timeframe for running an office by an acting chief. The administration tries to appoint full time officials but now some offices are being run by the acting officials for various reasons.

The university gives officials the acting charges of offices considering betterment of the officials and nothing else, Aefin said.

On January 17, 2009, Arefin assumed the office as the 27th vice-chancellor temporarily and served for four years and a half as an unelected vice-chancellor. He completed his second tenure on August 2.

The University has acting registrars for about 10 years, acting proctor for six years, acting planning and development director for six years, acting director of accounts for six years, acting librarian and librarian (planning and development) for five years, acting chief engineer for six years, acting director public relations for more than five years.

Besides, acting inspector of colleges and acting director and acting secretary of Dhaka University Prokashana Sangstha are running the offices concerned.

Generally appointments to these posts are made through promotions. According to The First Statutes

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of the University, schedule of the Dhaka University Order 1973, stipulates that those officials will be appointed by the syndicate on recommendation of a selection board headed by the vice-chancellor.

Officials said that the acting chiefs sometimes failed to perform their duties freely and properly and hesitated to make important and critical decisions because of their temporary appointment.

Muhammad Samad said that these posts remained vacant for years as Arefin wanted full control over the administration. 'The univer-

sity is running with acting chiefs as such officials in charge are not encouraged to use full authority and cannot take strong position against irregularities and violation of rules,' he said.

'This is an ill tactics to keep people working as acting officials under pressure,' he added

Teachers and officials said that these offices were immensely important for the university, as a proctor was responsible for discipline and conduct of the students on the campus outside the dormitories.

Registrar acts as the secretary of the Senate, the

Syndicate and the Academic Council and maintains a register of registered graduates in accordance with the statutes and exercises such other powers as may be prescribed by the statutes and the university ordinances.

Inspector of colleges deals with affiliation and disaffiliation of colleges to the university. He provides guidelines and necessary information regarding affiliation and renewal of affiliation of colleges and institutes.

Librarian has to facilitate service to readers of the library that has over 600,000 books and periodicals.

The Planning and De-

velopment Office is mainly entrusted with the task of exploring and acquiring resources from the government and donor agencies/countries for development of infrastructure of imparting quality teaching and conducting advanced research.

Former vice-chancellor SMA Faiz said that authorities should have mentality to appoint full-time office chiefs for the smooth running of the university.

Those vacant positions should be filled up with regular appointed officials as soon as possible through the syndicate, he said.

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প্রাপ্তি নং.....	
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