

Teacher shortage, accommodation problem grip Rajshahi Women's College

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, Aug 22.—Rajshahi Government Women's College is under the grip of multifarious problems including shortage of teachers and other staff, inadequate accommodation facilities, small number of class rooms which have been hampering the academic activities of the students.

The Rajshahi Government Women's College was set up by the local elite at Kadirganj area of the Rajshahi city on 11 acres of land in 1962. The college was nationalised on April 25 in 1968 but the congenial facilities and requisite number of teachers and other staff have not been provided to run the college smoothly even after 34 years of government takeover.

The college has Humanities and Science groups at Intermediate level and Honours courses in Bangla, English and Economics.

The college authorities have failed to apply to the National University (NU) for introducing Honours course in Islamic History and Culture, Philosophy, Political Science and Geography.

Out of the existing 35 posts of teachers, 5 in HSC level and 4 in Honours level, totaling 9 posts are lying vacant for a long time. Two posts of lecturer in Geography, one post of lecturer in Home Economics one post of lecturer in English and one post of Associate Professor of Economics in HSC level are lying vacant.

On the other hand, in Honours level, one post of Associate Professor and one Associate Professor and one post of Lecturer in Bangla and one Demonstrator post in Physics Department are lying vacant for long.

Out of the existing 37 posts of class III and IV employees, a total of 20 posts are lying vacant for

years together hampering the education of the students and administrative functions of the college.

The college is yet to open Commerce Department depriving the students of Commerce education.

The irregular attendance or late attendance or negligence of duties by most of the teachers of the college, are causing immense sufferings to the students.

RU Medical Centre itself ailing

The Medical Centre of Rajshahi University (RU) is gripped with multifarious problems including scarcity of medicines, lack of modern equipments and shortage of doctors, ambulance, beds and fund constraints.

The RU Medical Centre was es-

tablished in 1959 with a doctor named Mohammad Abdul Quium. At that time, it had no own building.

At present, on average, 500/600 patients of the university including teachers, students, officers, employees and their relatives come to the age-old medical centre for treatment everyday. Many of them go back disappointed for lack of proper treatment facilities.

It has only 20 doctors who are not sufficient for the 30 thousand family members of the university including teachers and students. There are no posts of eye, ear, brain, dental and ENT specialists at the medical centre. Consequently the patients are forced to go to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) or different clinics of the city for treatment.

Presently, it has only 2 ambulances of which one is out of order and the remaining one only serves the officers and teachers of the university. As a result, the patients especially the students during emergency period are compelled to hire vehicles at a high rate to go to RMCH or various clinics of the city for treatment.

Many a times, the patients are compelled to go to RMCH, or different clinics for treatment by rickshaws. There are 10 beds in the medical centre which are used for infections but there is no bed for other patients.

Now it has no X-ray machines. As a result, the patients are to go to RMCH, different clinics or diagnostic centre for X-ray.

The students of the university complain that the doctors of the medical centre do not care for the patients or listen clearly about the disease from the patients. The date expired

medicines are supplied to the patients of the medical centre, it is also alleged.

They also alleged that the doctors of the medical centre give Paracetamol, Cotrim, Histacin and Disprin to the patients for all kinds of diseases.

It is also alleged that 4 out of existing 20 doctors post are lying vacant for long time, hampering the treatment facilities to the patients.

The medical centre is dirty and unhygienic. Nobody can enter there without pressing handkerchief on their nose.

The Provosts of Women Halls of Rajshahi University told this correspondent that the doctors of the Medical Centre do not take care of the patients properly. Even they advise the patients to go to RMCH or other clinics of the city for getting proper treatment. They also said, till the decade of eighty, the woman doctor of the medical centre used to come to the female dormitories at night if any female students fell sick.

One doctor of the RU Medical Centre told the Bangladesh Observer requesting anonymity that it needs three ambulances, modern equipments, 25 doctors and fund augment. Then the existing problems will be solved.

It may be mentioned here that the budget allocation for RU medical centre per year is Tk 10 lakh.