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DU Senate polls end today

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Elections to the 25 registered graduates' representatives in Dhaka University Senate were held peacefully at TSC and Gymnasium Centres of the university on Tuesday, the first day of two-day long polls in the city, amidst a huge enthusiasm.

Thousands of voters cast their votes in a long queue on Tuesday at both the centres. However, the number of votes cast on Tuesday was not available from the authorities concerned.

Earlier, polls were held in 45 centres outside the capital city in three phases on June 6, June 10 and June 14.

The elections will end today (Wednesday) and on this concluding day voting will again be held at TSC and Gymnasium centres from 9 a.m to 5 p.m today. All voters who failed earlier to exercise franchise will be allowed to cast their votes today (Wednesday) provided they have valid identity cards supplied by the concerned authorities of the university.

On the first day of two-day polls in Dhaka on Tuesday the polling centres were jampacked with voters, supporters and campaigners of all panels. All the four panels erected separate panels at TSC areas to conduct their respective campaigns. Many politicians, noted educationists, professionals and student leaders were found on Tuesday to conduct campaign in favour of their respective panel candidates. Besides, a large number of enthusiastic old students of the university, many supporters and their family members thronged the TSC and Gymnasium areas on this occasion. Despite the polls, it seemed a get-together function of the old boys and girls of the university and all the time they

(See Page 16, Col. 3)

DU senate

(From Page 1 Col. 8)

were found wallowing in nostalgia in TSC areas.

Many hired vehicles were seen in frequent movements to carry voters from distant places to the polling centres with the banner of the contesting panels.

A total of 211 candidates are vying for the 25 posts of registered graduates representatives in Senate, the highest decision-making body of Dhaka University, under the banner of four separate panels. The panels are Ganotantrik Oikya Parishad (GOP), supported by the Bangali nationalists and pro-liberation forces, Jatiyatabadi Oikya Parishad backed by BNP, Jammat and other like minded political parties; Pragoti Parishad favoured by different left leaning parties and the independent unity council panel.

The total number of voters is 31,424.

Votes will be counted tomorrow (Thursday) and the day after tomorrow (Friday) at TSC and Gymnasium of the university. The results of the total polls are likely to be announced on Friday.