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Sexual harassment issue

DU teacher to be served with show cause notice

The Dhaka University authorities decided to serve show cause notice to a teacher following the submission of the fact finding committee report regarding his involvement in abusing a female student, reports APB.

An emergency meeting of the university Syndicate held on the campus Monday, took the decision after examining the report of fact-finding committee formed to investigate into the charges.

The Syndicate, after scrutinising the report, decided to take legal action against Prof Shahiduzzaman of the Department of International Relations.

The report was submitted to the Vice Chancellor on Sunday.

The fact-finding committee was formed on December 7 after an MA final year student of Public Administration Department lodged a formal complaint with VC alleging that she was sexually harassed by the teacher.

At the meeting, DU Syndicate formed an enquiry committee to look into the matter and serve a show cause notice on Prof Shahiduzzaman as to why his services should not be terminated.

Headed by Syndicate member Barrister Showkat Ali, the other members of the probe body are Advocate Syed Ahmad, Kazi Afroz Zahan Ara and Prof Mohabbat Ali. A representative of Prof Shahiduzzaman will also be in the body.

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DU teacher

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Another committee was also formed to suggest recasting of Proctorial Rules of the university. The rules would be reformed based on the report of the committee, sources said.

Prof Momin Chowdhury has been made the chairman of the committee. Other members are DU Proctor Dr AKM Noor-un-Nabi, Arts Faculty Dean Kazi Shahidullah, DUTA President Prof Yusuf Haider, Prof M Shahadat Ali and Mahmuda Islam. The Proctor will act as the member-secretary.

Our Varsity Correspondent adds: The Ganotantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO), an alliance of different left leaning organisations, staged a "gherao" programme at the entrance of the administrative building on Monday noon. The Syndicate meeting was in session at the administrative building at that time.

The programme was in support of their four-point demand including the reform of proctorial rule.

Bangladesh Chhatra Federation brought out a procession and held a rally on the campus to press home their six-point demand.

Speakers at the rally said that their movement would continue until the six-point demand including the demand of establishing a complaint cell are met.

Meanwhile the student demonstrating under the banner of "Students against sexual harassment" criticised the report of the facts finding committee saying that it was not clear.