

Move for 2nd shift in DU triggers mixed reaction

Varsity Correspondent

The Dhaka University authorities' overture to launch a second shift in university's academic activities sparked mixed-reactions among the teachers and students.

The university authorities in an official memorandum sought suggestions from the heads of the departments about launching the second shift to make room for more students in higher studies and generate revenue.

Many of the teachers appreciated the initiative while a good number resented the move.

Sources said a teacher of the Business Studies Faculty proposed installation of second shift at a meeting of the Academic Council.

According to the sources, the proposed shift will function between 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. The tuition fees would be much higher than the regular students pay and the students would be admitted on non-resident basis.

At present a student pays more or less Taka 20 per month, as tuition fee while the proposed second shift students would have to pay about Taka 3,500, the sources said.

"The authorities are saying the scope of higher studies will open to more admission seekers by the initiative, for this no new shift is needed. They can just increase the number of seats," said another teacher.

Teachers of the Science and

Biological Science said there is no scope for introduction of second shift due to lack of infrastructure and teachers.

But the teachers of the Business Studies Faculty welcomed the initiative saying that it would generate revenue to the university and they would contribute to the nation by making new experts in business.

When contacted General Secretary of Bangladesh Chhatra Federation Taslima Akhtar said the objective of a university is ensuring quality of education and not production of a huge number of graduates.

Welcoming the initiative Vice President of the suspended central committee of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), Shafiul Bari Babu said,