

## DU deans polls today

Varsity Correspondent

Elections to seven posts of deans of different faculties in Dhaka University will be held on the campus today (Sunday).

Two main panels in teachers' politics-BNP-Jamaat-supported White Panel and Awami League-backed Blue Panel are contesting the elections in all the seven faculties. Left-leaning Pink Panel is vying only for the post of Dean of the Social Sciences Faculty.

Some 1,200 voters - all the teachers of the country's oldest university are expected to exercise their franchise. The voting will be held at the TSC from 9:00 am to 1:00 p.m.

The candidates from the White Panel are Prof Sadrul Amin of English Department (Arts Faculty), Prof M Asaduzzaman of Public Administration (Social Sciences Faculty), Prof AFM Yousuf Haider of Physics (Science Faculty), Prof Abdul Bashar of Zoology (Biological Science Faculty), Prof Chowdhury Mahmud Hasan of Pharmacy (Pharmacy Faculty), Prof Syed Abul Kalam Azad of Marketing (Business Studies Faculty) and Prof Taslima Mansur of Law (Law Faculty).

The candidates from Blue Panel are Prof Kazi Shahidullah of History (Arts Faculty), Prof Gias Uddin Molla of Political Science (Social Sciences Faculty), Prof

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RIM Aminur Rashid of Physics (Science Faculty), Prof AZM Naosher Ali Khan of Botany (Biological Science Faculty), Vidyut Kanti Dutt of Pharmacy (Pharmacy Faculty), Prof SM Mahfuzur Rahman of Finance (Business Studies Faculty) and Dr Mizanur Rahman of Law (Law Faculty).

The only candidate from the Pink Panel is Professor Dr. Akmal Hossain, of Department of International Relations is contesting for the post of Dean of Social Science Faculty.

On Saturday, the candidates and their supporters were engaged in last-minute hectic campaigns and lobbying for support in their favour.

Candidates of all panels published the election manifestos, identically accusing each other of politicising the university during the rule of their like-minded governments.

In an open letter to the teachers, White Panel candidates alleged that Prof Kazi Shahidullah (present Dean of Arts Faculty who is

seeking re-election) had embezzled Taka eight lakh (800,000) by giving the order of a construction work without floating any tender.

They made a 17-point pledge to the teachers including cent per cent increase in remuneration of house tutors, provosts, deans and other administrative posts reserved for the teachers.

The Blue Panel accused the pro-ruling party White Panel of disgracing the spirit of the Liberation War and of 'naked' politicisation in the country's highest seat of learning.

