

DU classes resume today

V-C calls for peaceful coexistence

Varsity Correspondent

The newly appointed Vice Chancellor (VC) of Dhaka University on Wednesday laid his immediate emphasis on a campus immune from tension for free exercise of knowledge.

VC Prof SMA Faiz stressed on peaceful coexistence of students and sought cooperation from political parties, apart from effective contribution of the teachers, to ensure congenial academic atmosphere.

He made his first major "policy address" before a sizable gathering of the university teachers just the day before the university resumes classes today (Thursday) after 67 days.

Prof Faiz himself came to the scene of the university following a whirlpool of students' demonstration against the Shamsunnahar Hall incidents in late July.

His immediate task is to address the session jam, which now turned out to be about six months, and the VC made his points to overcome the situation. He appealed the teachers to take additional classes or reschedule the examinations and reduce vacations, if needed.

Like many others, he too identified violence and terrorism as a major threat to safe campus and squarely blamed the forces outside the campus for committing the evil activities.

A veteran of pro-ruling BNP White Panel in the university's teachers politics, Prof Faiz admitted that there could be misunderstanding and dissenting views, "but if we have honesty and courtesy, dissent could have been strength."

"We want to uphold and improve the quality of education in the university," said the new VC

who assumed office on September 23.

He urged all to work together to thwart any unscheduled closure of the university in future.

The administration of then VC Prof Anwarullah Chowdhury closed the university on July 27 vacating the halls.

After Prof Chowdhury's departure, the university Syndicate decided to resume classes on September 12, but they retreated from the decision.

Finally, the administration of acting VC Prof AFM Yusuf Haider took the decision to reopen the university today a few days before the takeover by Prof Faiz as the VC.