

VC defends new admission system in BUET architecture dept

Staff Correspondent

The admission test for the 1997-98 academic year of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) will be held at the university premises from 9 a.m. on March 28 under the newly introduced system.

"This year the admission test of all faculties, including the Architecture Department, will be held as per the earlier announced guidelines and timetable. The authorities are always sincere in resolving any academic problem and if necessary, the authorities will take steps to resolve the problem of the admission test system, of Architecture Department on the basis of the review committee report", said Vice-Chancellor Prof. Iqbal Mahmud at a Press conference at his campus residence on Monday.

Explaining the different chapters of the new admission system, Prof. Iqbal Mahmud said that no basic change had been brought in the admission system of the Architecture Department. Physics had been included in place of general knowledge and science. he said adding that this change had been made in the light of

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the recommendations of world famous universities and architectural firms including RIBA of UK, NAAB and ACSA of USA. Brushing aside the allegations that the new admission system would affect the standard of architecture education, the VC said that the authorities did not bring any change in the existing education system and syllabus of this department.

He said under the new system students seeking admission to Architecture Department will have to acquire minimum qualifying mark seventy-two out of 180. If any student fails to acquire this mark he or she could not get admitted even he or she gets the highest marks in other three subjects—physics, mathematics and English, he clarified. In this connection he said though physics had been included in the test there was no separate pass mark for this subject.

The Vice Chancellor claimed that under the new system there was a scope to justify the aptitude of students in drawing and for this reason a separate module for drawing had been included in the admission system.

He said the academic council is the supreme authority to conduct the university's academic programmes and its decisions are respected by teachers and students. He said it would not be wise and reasonable to change the decisions of the academic council in the face of any pressure. This would put a negative impact on the image and good-will of the university, he observed.

Meanwhile, thirty-six teachers of

BUET in a joint statement on Monday expressed concern over what they said spreading false propaganda about the admission test of Architecture Department and called upon the conscious people of the society to resist this conspiracy.

In the statement, they said that a section of teachers of the Architecture Department and architects including Majharul Islam and Rabiul Hussain were spreading false propaganda against the BUET. They said that those people were hatching conspiracy to destroy the academic rules and regulations of the university that would not only hamper the academic life of the students of Architecture Department but also affect whole academic system of BUET.

The signatories are: Dr. Shamim, Dr. Salek M. Seraj, Dr. M. Asadur Rahman, Dr. Abdur Razzak, Dr. M. Habibur Rahman, Dr. M. Ashraf Ali, Dr. Eqramul Haque, Dr. Bashir Ahmed, A.F.M. Saiful Amin and Dr. Md. Mujibur Rahman.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh University Council and Institution of Engineers in separate statements expressed concern over situation of BUET and called upon all to resolve the crisis showing respect to the rules and regulations of the University Academic Council.