

Notice served on Edn Secretary

DU closure order challenged

DHAKA, Oct. 18 (UNB): A group of lawyers today served a demand of justice notice on the Ministries of Education and Law and Justice calling for withdrawal of cancellation of the order for closure of Dhaka University.

The notice was served on the Secretary to the Ministry of Education and the Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice. It was also served on a Joint Secretary who had signed the order under which the campus was shut on Saturday.

Dr. Kamal Hossain, Barrister Ishtiaq Ahmed, Shamsul Haq Chowdhury, Aminul Haq, Shudhanu Sekhar Haldar, Julmat Ali

Khan, Barrister Amirul Islam, Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia, Mahmudul Islam, Shah Alam Naim, Kazi Shahabuddin and Shamim Hasnaen served the notice on behalf of the petitioners.

The petitioners are: Dr. Anwar Hossain, Associate Professor of Bio-Chemistry, Dhaka University, Gias Kamal Chowdhury, Syndicate member, Dr. Saidur Rahman, DU Teachers' Association, Rashed Khan Menon, Dr. Khan Sarwar Morshed, Fazlul Haq Milan of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Khairul Kabir Khokon, GS, DUCUSU and Afzal Hossain.

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Chhatra League (H-A).

In the notice, the petitioners maintained that the sudden closure of Dhaka University was detrimental to the interest of the students and university education.

They termed the closure order as unwarranted in law and facts and also arbitrary and unlawful interference into the university autonomy as prescribed in the University ordinance of 1973.

They alleged that the order also was in violation of articles 31, 37 and 39 of the constitution which guaranteed fundamental rights including peaceful agitation for democracy.

The petitioners also complained that the government issued the closure order without prior consultation with the DU Vice-Chancellor and the Syndicate.

They questioned validity of the Educational Institution (Law and Order) Ordinance, 1990 under which all educational institutions in the city including Dhaka University were closed down on October 13.

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