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DU clarifies position on Senate poll

The Dhaka University authorities yesterday clarified its position relating to the Senate election from June 6 to 16 and termed "the" statement of Barrister Mainul Husein as "unfortunate," reports BSS.

In a statement today, the university said that the comments of Husein on vote counting in the centres outside Dhaka were baseless.

"The fact is that, a meeting of the representatives of three, contesting panels with Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. K. Azad Chowdhury, in the chair on June 1 unanimously decided to count votes of all centres in Dhaka so that the results of the centres outside Dhaka could not influence the voters of the Dhaka centres," a press release said.

Following the decision, vote counting began on June 17 at the TSC and gymnasium centres in presence of candidates and representatives of the candidates. In 1995, all the votes were also counted in Dhaka.

The press release said, "it was not true that the agents were ousted from the polling centres. In fact, candidates and supporters of a panel and some leaders of a student organisation created panic in the counting centres and ransacked the micro-phones while they came to know that a particular panel was leading."

They also misbehaved with the Presiding Officer and a student made indecent remarks to the Vice-Chancellor when he came to the counting centre to quell them. The Vice-Chancellor urged all through micro-phone to be quite for smooth vote counting.

When the Vice-Chancellor saw that some leaders of a particular panel were absent in the counting centres, he tried to contact them over telephone. When some of them came to the counting centres following his request, he thanked them.

The university authorities observed that a section of the press was destroying the image of the university by publishing baseless information about the free and fair senate elections.