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CU opens under tight security

Rival teachers urged to settle differences

A 19-member delegation of Chittagong University Syndicate Tuesday met Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, who is also the chancellor of the Universities, at the President's Secretariat, reports BSS.

The Acting President, who invited the delegation, said the criticism of the report of the Commission of Enquiry was not based on proper understanding of the purpose and scope of such an enquiry report.

"The report is not a judgement of a court and the authority, constituting the Commission of Enquiry, is not bound either to accept the report or to publish", Justice Shahabuddin told the delegation. He also said the report was intended to find out certain facts relating to the matter of enquiry.

The Acting President expressed his concern at the situation in which the university remained closed for the last seven months to the great detriment of the students and teachers. He said it was revealed in the report of enquiry as well as an admitted fact that on the demand for resignation of the Vice Chancellor, the teachers were sharply divided which ultimately resulted in the clash between two groups of students on December 22 last year.

Justice Shahabuddin disapproved of the actions of both the groups of teachers who, he said, are the respected scholars. He found that it was primarily a matter of rivalry between the two groups of teachers.

The Acting President urged both

the groups of teachers to settle their differences amicably, resume classes immediately and thereby restore normalcy on the campus.

He said after 15 days of normal work in the university he would look into the matter to find out a permanent solution to the problem.

After prolonged discussions, both the groups of teachers present in the meeting, promised to follow the advice of the Acting President and resume classes from today (Wednesday).

Education Minister Prof. A.Q.M. Badruddoza Chowdhury was among others present.

Reports from our Chittagong office adds: The University of Chittagong opened today after prolonged vacations amidst unprecedented security arrangements around the campus by the law enforcing agency.

There were 17 platoons of police and two platoons of Bangladesh Rifles personnel deployed at all the check points at Chittagong University to prevent any possible outbreak of violence.

The law enforcing agency personnel took position one day before the opening of the university. The Chittagong Superintendent of Police Sabir Ali was at the command of this contingent of force.

The students underwent close check at university gates before entering the campus. None of the students were allowed to enter the

campus without producing proper identity card. Those students who came for admission into first year honours class had to show the examination admit card to the University Proctor for their entry.

The first shuttle train with university bound students aboard got stuck-up at Chittagong Station for some time in the face of resistance from some unruly persons. The train carrying students finally made safe passage to the campus.

In Chittagong University, about three thousand students out of the total twelve thousand turned up on the opening day today. Over five hundred resident students also occupied their allotted seats in the five

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dormitories. The APSU and CUCSU supporters under the leadership of CUCSU Vice-President Mohammad Nazimuddin first gathered at University Main Gate point and then went to Arts Faculty building in a body.

However tense situation prevailed on the campus despite Tuesday's lull. The CUCSU and APSU took out separate processions that paraded the thoroughfares of the campus.