

CU now free of student unrest

Chittagong Office

CHITTAGONG, Sept. 8.—The University of Chittagong, unlike other universities in the country, has now been running unfettered by any student unrest.

For the past 18 months, the University did not experience a single incident that could disrupt the academic life. Some minor skirmishes that dropped up among the students were settled amicably.

Now classes are being held regularly. The university offices run undisturbed. The Syndicate, Sanata and other statutory academic bodies sit unhindered.

However, only difference is the jam in holding and announcing some examination results by the University authorities. It seems that the present university machineries lack the drive and initiative to ease this jam. For that reason, a good number of students affected by this jam have now been seething with discontent.

But questions look large unlike other universities, what prompted Chittagong University to restore such peace and tranquility. It was nothing, but a consensus accord on code of conduct both for teachers and students. Patching up all the differences of feuding groups, the accord was reached at the office of Chittagong City Corporation Mayor Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin in February, 1992. And all the persons having concern to university academic life and put their signature on that accord that comprised altogether 18 preambles. Under this accord with a fresh code of conduct, Chittagong university opened on April 18, 1992. Since then, the life in Chittagong University remained uninterrupted. "Our prime concern is the education of the students, not the

politics", said the incumbent Vice-Chancellor Prof. Rafiqul Islam Chowdhury commenting on the code of conduct.

Before this consensus accord, Chittagong University got blemish see its academic life for long one and a half year. That was the reason that student leader Farukuzzaman, a budding genius died in fratricidal fighting in Chittagong University on December 22, 1990. However the present University administration after a long and patients backdoor parley with all these feuding groups could put an end to this crippling situation.

The code of conduct, now in vogue for, both the students and the teachers includes prohibition on carrying of any kind of fire-arms and lethal weapons, ban on entry of outsiders both in the halls and on the campus, free hand of law enforcing agency to undertake search of the campus and halls, prohibition of meetings and processions without prior permission of the Proctor, registration of political student bodies with the Proctor's office, ban on including students to participate in strike, ban on utterance of provocative words and thwarting the movement of buses, shuttle trains and other vehicles to the campus, etc.

The University of Chittagong, however, is now contemplating to amend the present code of conduct on demand particularly from Chittagong University unit of All Party Students Unity (APSU). The University felt the necessity to amend this to ensure the participation of student bodies, the students in the coming CUCSU election. The University is likely to put the matter the Syndicate meeting on September 22.