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DU VC for parties' help in holding DUCSU polls

Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Emajuddin Ahmed on Sunday appealed to the leaders of political parties to lend cooperation for successful holding of April 12 DUCSU and hall union elections, reports UNB.

His appeal came in a letter sent to secretaries-general of all major political parties, in the wake of agitation launched by a student organisation demanding that the election be deferred.

In his letter the VC said all the student organisations worked as wings of political parties according to the Political Parties Act.

In this context, the parent parties can play a positive role in holding successfully the DUCSU and hall union elections, overdue for a long time, he observed.

Explaining his plea for holding election on schedule, Prof Ahmed said almost all the student organisations had started election campaign for the forthcoming polls, being held after long four years. The scheduled elections also generated unprecedented enthusiasm among the students of the University, he said.

The VC pointed out that the university authorities took initiative for holding elections in due time considering special importance of representation of students.

He said efforts and arrangements were also made for holding DUCSU and hall union polls in 1991, but election could not be held due to non-cooperation of some student organisations.

In view of that situation, the authorities started preparations much

earlier for holding election, the Dhaka University VC said.

Meetings with leaders of various student wings, hall provosts and concerned quarters in this regard started in August last year. The authorities started making voter list from October, he said.

Prof Ahmed said importance of DUSCU and hall unions in functioning co-education programme in Dhaka University's academic life is very high.

Besides, widespread terrorism, use of arms and musclepower have increased and meritorious youths are driven out from the student leadership in absence of regular elections, he added.

The DU VC said the authorities fixed the polling date considering academic calendar, summer vacation, state of course ending and possible dates of examinations.

The polling date was first considered in February but later refixed for April 12 upon a consensus of student organisations and the dates of examinations were readjusted, he said.

The authorities have also created and are creating a favourable atmosphere for the resident students for their peaceful existence in the halls, he added.

A senior teacher has been appointed Returning Officer and an advisory council formed with nine prominent teachers for assisting him in conduct of voting.

He made it clear that there should be no doubt about impartiality in the election process as senior teachers of the University are involved all through.