

DU proctorial system to be reformed

Varsity Correspondent

The Dhaka University authorities have been taken initiative to reform the university's existing proctorial system. The present proctorial system was introduced in early 40s, after the establishment of the university.

Different sections of the "ordinances and regulations" of the university were amended in '73, but the four-page "proctorial system" remained unchanged.

The decision to reform the proctorial system was taken at an emergency Syndicate meeting held on Monday. At the same meeting the report of a fact finding committee, formed earlier to investigate into the sex-scandal of a teacher submitted its report.

The decision to reform the proctorial rules seem to have connection with the recent sex-scandal, a number of students told the Bangladesh Observer. "We think that the amendment is being made to prevent these types of offences", they added.

The reform of the proctorial system was a demand of some student organisations.

A six-member committee has already been formed to make recommendations for the reform of the proctorial rules at the Monday's Syndicate meeting. The rules will be amended on the basis of the report of the committee. The committee, headed by Prof Momin Chowdhury, has not yet started its work. The other members of the committee are Proctor Prof Noor-un-Nabi, Arts Faculty Dean Prof Kazi Shahidullah, DUTA President Prof Yousuf Haider, Syndicate Member Prof Shahadat Ali and Mahmuda Islam. Prof Noor-un-Nabi is the Member-Secretary of the committee. The committee is expected to start its work after the Eid vacation.

The rules written in the 'proctorial system' section of the 'ordinances and regulations' are being violated on the campus every now and then.

It is clearly written in page 37 of the ordinance book that "no student of the university individually or collectively shall declare a "strike" on the campus nor shall a student pre-

vent another student or the university from attending the university classes, laboratories and library".

But student organisations often declare strike on the campus.

During these strikes the student organisations lock the gates of the classes, library and the laboratories and prevent other students from attending classes.

It is prohibited by the present proctorial rules to use any kind of loud speaker on the campus without the previous permission of the Proctor.

Proctor office sources informed the Bangladesh Observer that no student organisation had ever taken any permission from the Proctor before holding any rally where they used loudspeakers in the recent months. Usually the rally of the student organisations are held at the Arts Building premises. They use loudspeaker in full volume when classes are held only a stone's throw distance from the venue of the rally.

At the same time the usual rally venue, the 'Aparajeyo Bangla' is only a stone's throw distance from the office of the Proctor. "I think the Proctor himself can't work in peace for the sound is so loud", said a student.

When asked, Proctor Prof Noor-un-Nabi said that they were planning to discuss the matter with the student organisations. "We have prevented poster in the corridor of the Arts Building through a dialogue", he added.

According to the existing proctorial rule the Proctor has the power to impose on a student a fine upto Tk 25 at a time for a breach of discipline or misconduct in the university outside the halls.

On the basis of this rule the students of the organisations holding rally on the campus without permission are supposed to be fined Tk 25 each.

"Now a days a fine of Tk 25 as punishment for a misconduct will probably be nothing but a fun", said a student of the university.