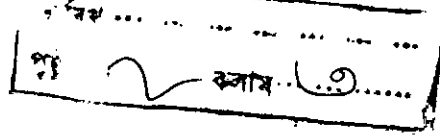


28/10/2000



Administration's Fresh Initiative to Reopen The University Failed

By M. A. Hossain

A universities including Dhaka, Jahangirnagar and Dhaka University continue to be shut down for the past two years in these educational institutions. The government has been kept suspended examinations and examinations in these universities.

The consequence of this shutdown is the session-jam in these universities are being thrown into. Dhaka University is managed to total-shutdown. A spokesman of the university is reported that the university is being thrown into a session-jam year, if not more, due to the session-jam.

Government seems concerned about the problem of students and staff who have their own work in keeping the uni-

What is most painful is that President Shahabuddin, an illustrious student of Dhaka University, is also indifferent to continued closure of his Alma Mater as well as other universities in the country. Approached by Dhaka University Authority to extend the closure of the university, he clearly seemed to get involved in this great institution of learning. He advised the university administration to go back and negotiate with students who are directly involved in the session-jam on the universities.

Advise of the President, Dhaka University Administration took up the session-jam problem, which imposed indefinite strike and harassment out an understanding following hard negotiation. The student group submitted a list of its activists driven out of their dormitories and urged their rehabilitation. The University Administration merely offered to rehabilitate them in their respective residential halls. The administration set a rest following their rehabilitation in

their residential Halls, and the university reopened. A few days after the student group came up with another list of its activists drive out of their dormitories well before 1996. They insisted in their rehabilitation in four residential Halls, namely Ziaur Rahman Hall, Bangladesh Hall, Surya Sen Hall and the Hq Hall.

The University Administration agreed to examine each and every case on the basis of its merit and offered to rehabilitate them all eleven university Halls. The student body negotiating with the University Administration was not happy with the University Authority's response to their demand. Hence they broke off negotiation and staged an exit.

Soon after a Chhatra League leader at Zia Hall was shot at from a close range and killed. This distasteful killing spread violence in other Halls. The student body, negotiating with the University Administration, seized the opportunity to clamp down strike on the university.

Following lapse of a few weeks, the University Authority took a fresh ini-

tiative to reopen dialogue with the Student Body. It fielded elected members of Syndicate from the White Banel to negotiate with the Student Body in a bid to rope them into a discussion with the universities. The Student Body asked for a week's time to think and formulate their position vis a vis fresh negotiation with the University Administration. After a week or so the representatives of the student body will meet the University Administration and resume the dialogue. They may not and prefer to wait for announcement of results of the national poll.

A spokesman of the University Administration told this columnist on condition of anonymity that the University Administration did not expect a meaningful discussion with the student body for resumption of academic life of the university before election. In other words, the current strike in Dhaka and other universities will continue until the first week of October if election is held on the 1st of October.