

## Legal notice on RU for recruiting 355 employees

Rajshahi University authorities were on Sunday served with a legal notice demanding cancellation of the "malafide process of recruitment" of 355 officers and employees, as a hail of campus protests hailed the RU move, reports UNB.

"The process of appointment is being done illegally, without following the rules and regulations of the university as well as the circulars, guidelines of UGC and obtaining any approval from UGC, and beyond the budgetary provision," says the notice.

Advocate of the Supreme Court Md Ruhul Quddus today (Sunday) sent the legal notice on behalf of Workers' Party politburo member Fazle Hossain Badsha, also a former VP of Rajshahi University Central Student Union (RUCSU).

The legal notice, the precursor of a planned writ petition, was sent to Rajshahi University Vice-chancellor, the pro-VC, the Treasurer and the Registrar.

Fazle Hossain Badsha will be compelled to move with the High Court Division of the Supreme Court on the matter, challenging it "malafide and anti-people recruitment process" if the authorities didn't reply to this notice.

The challenger alleged that the authorities have published as many as eight circulars, namely advertisements, in a "bionic speed" within one month—from May 24 to June 29, 2006—for the appointment of 355 officers and employees.

In response to the eight circulars, about 50,000 job seekers have applied for the posts advertised; but most of them have not received any interview card, the protestor pointed out.

But "you meticulously issued

interview cards to applicants who were illegally appointed by the controversial appointments," the notice reads.

Earlier, the RU authorities had appointed 446 employees in an unprecedented manner without any advertisement, and without following the rules and regulations of the University and the circulars and guidelines of UGC, the protestors mentioned.

It was alleged that for the appointment of 446 employees the job-seekers had to give bribes although most of them were 'cadres' of the political parties in power.

In that event, Abu Aslam, an advocate of Rajshahi bar, challenged such 'illegal' appointments in 'Other Class Suit' in the Court of Senior Assistant Judge, Rajshahi. And he obtained order of temporary injunction restraining the authority from confirming the controversial appointments, giving salaries and assigning duties to the appointed employees, it is mentioned.

The impugned order of temporary injunction was ultimately upheld by the High Court Division, and the matter is now pending with the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. The suit is also pending.

The challenger said that, under the above circumstances, the authorities found it difficult to confirm the appointments and "hatched up a new conspiracy to appoint the same set of persons as employees in the university under the cover of fresh appointments, bypassing the said legal proceedings".

UNB Rajshahi correspondent contacted RU officials about the legal move, but they said they were yet to know about it.