

Reconstitution of DU Proctorial law uncertain

Varsity Correspondent

The initiative of reconstituting the Proctorial Law of Dhaka University seems uncertain as the reform committee is yet to take any specific decision on amendment of the Proctorial Law after four months of its formation.

The university syndicate formed a 11-member committee headed by Prof. Abu Zafor Mahmud, chairman of Chemistry Department on September 21, last year to amend the university's Proctorial law.

But after four months of its formation, the reform committee sat once only to discuss the issue, which ended without taking any decision.

The Proctorial Law was enacted in 1924 with the University Ordinance, and the university is still guided by that Law. In 1961 and 1973 the University Ordinance was modified for two times, but the Proctorial law is still active after 79 years of its enactment.

The students of the university have been demanding withdrawal of the rules and regulations of the

Law since April 2002, when the Proctorial team of the university took punitive measures against the students and outsiders for creating "Social nuisance" on the campus.

The student against Repression, a platform of the university students submitted a memorandum to the then vice-chancellor of the university on August 17 last year demanding withdrawal of Proctorial Law.

The university Syndicate formed the Proctorial Law amendment committee as the movement for realization of the demands has been geared up since July 23, after the mid night police atrocities on the female students of Samsunnahar Hall.

According to sources the Proctorial Law contains 7 clauses and 13 sub-clauses. Of them some clauses are far from the reality that cannot be implemented.

The clauses of the Proctorial Law, the students demanded to withdraw, include: No students of the university individually or collectively shall call any Strike on the campus. No meetings shall be held in any part of the university without the prior permission of the university authorities.

Other than recognised Unions or Associations, no Clubs or Societies or student organisations shall be allowed to form as well as parties or entertainment shall be held within the premises of the university.

When contacted Prof. ASM Atiqur Rahman, the Proctor of the university said all ordinances relating to the university needs to be updated and we have already taken initiative to modify the Proctorial Law.