

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES BEING HAMPERED

Appointment of full-fledged RU VC demanded

RU CORRESPONDENT

The teachers, students and officials of Rajshahi University (RU) have sought the intervention of the president, also the chancellor of the university, to get a full-fledged vice-chancellor, registrar, deans and syndicate members for running the university smoothly.

They said the academic activities of many departments of the university are being hampered due to absence of a full-fledged vice-chancellor and other key officials.

Besides, appointments were made to these important posts under political consideration during the rule of BNP-led four-party alliance government, they alleged.

The duties of sixteen vital posts including that of the vice-chancellor are now being performed by persons appointed on an ad hoc basis, they said.

The university teachers said the

acting RU Vice-chancellor (VC) Prof Mammunul Keramat holds three other key posts in addition to the office of vice-chancellor. The acting VC has to look after the offices of pro-VC, treasurer and dean of the agriculture faculty.

Sources said RU acting registrar Prof Mohammad Shafi has to perform the duties of three offices including that of the dean of arts faculty.

The education ministry on May 16 removed Prof Altaf Hossain from the post of vice-chancellor following allegations that he had been appointed to the post under political consideration during the rule of BNP-led coalition government.

The terms of the deans of faculties of arts, law, science and social science expired in March last year. But, it could not be possible to hold elections to fill up the posts due to imposition of the state of emergency, sources said.

Most of the departments and

faculties failed to make vital decisions for student welfare due to absence of faculty deans and syndicate members.

Mahbub Zamil, a teacher of the social science faculty, said new rules and regulations for the faculty could not be implemented due to absence of faculty dean.

"We are now waiting for a new dean to take office," he added.

The tenure of RU Teachers' Association (Ruta) also expired last year. But Ruta election could not be held as the emergency remains in force.

Many teachers of the university called upon the chancellor to give them permission to hold the Ruta election soon.

Acting VC Prof Mammunul Keramat said the university authorities could not take important decisions due to lack of a full-fledged vice-chancellor and other key officials including registrar and deans.