

Higher education severely hampered

300 RU teachers busy at doing part-time jobs

Students shudder with apprehension

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, June 24:—A large number of teachers of Rajshahi University (RU) illegally are taking classes in different private Universities, NGOs, and Company by disregarding 1973 University Act law as well as directly breaking employee act.

Due to the teacher crisis University activities are being hampered extremely. Many conscious teachers and students of the University were expressing their apprehension about the education system, which is continuing at present time.

A student of Business studies faculty claimed in condition of anonymity that firstly, our teachers have forgotten that they are teachers of Public University and gave some commitment to the nation. Though it is matter of sorrow but true 'Accepted wisdom of the teachers has proved that their working scope is optional at own University but whereas responsibly of private University is

compulsory'.

Most of the teachers of RU like Business Studies Faculty, Science faculty, Law faculty, Social Science and Arts faculty, Bio-Geological Science Faculty including most of the teachers of various institutes are involved at several private Universities of Rajshahi region and also in Dhaka. At a time most of the teachers of RU are dealing at least three or four institutions. As a result, educational activities are hampered harshly, some sincere students of several departments alleged in condition of anonymity.

Due to this negative motive of the teachers of RU, the respective departments would not complete their academic curriculum in schedule time. Ultimately the students' of maximum departments are falling their 'golden age' in the 'dark-hole trap' of session jam every year.

Although the University Grants Commission (UGC), Ministry of

Education and respective public University authority would announce several times about eliminating session jam in all departments but on the other hand the authority by creating new rules are given more opportunity to the teachers for getting part time jobs in other Private Universities.

As a result, one kind of cheating would fabricate and playing with the life of students, the conscious students also mentioned.

Administration (registrar) office sources said, according to the Rajshahi University Act 1973, except all allowances the teachers have to get basic remuneration each month as a senior Professor 23-29 thousand Tk, junior Professor 18-23 thousand Tk, Associate Professor 15-18 thousand Tk, Assistant Professor 11-15 thousand Tk, and lecturer 10,750 Tk only. The amount vary for 40 percent house rent and others various allowances and opportunities which rendered from the Univer-

sity.

Sources also mentioned at present time 1057 teachers are serving at Rajshahi University against 1303 teachers post. Till now there are more than two hundred fifty posts lying also vacant due to shortage of teachers. One thousand thirteen posts are lying vacant of a range of employee till now.

Besides, according to the last year UGC annual report published that Rajshahi University (RU) student-teacher ratio, per student budget allocation ratio and student-employee ratio is very low than other public university of Bangladesh.

Among these one thousand fifty seven teachers are Professor 334, Associate Professor 237, Assistant Professor 297 and Lecturer 189. At a present at least 150 teachers are staying home and abroad to their research work for achievement of higher degree. Sources alleged about 300 teachers are busy in part time job in different Private Universities, non-government (NGO) and Private organizations consultancy.

Some teachers are doing these kinds of job without taking any permission and through breaking law of the authority. To prevent this bad practice and circumstances, the university administration didn't take any initiative due to political identity, lobbying and nepotism. Administration sources said, according to the 157th decision at the 367th syndicate meeting, apex body of decision maker, on August 26 and 27 in 2001 have imposed some principles about the part time job, consultancy and also full time teachers.

In the principles as rule number-II stated 'part time job and consultancy would have done in which institution that will be permitted by legal authority'. Besides, rule-vii mentioned any teacher wouldn't perform part time and consultancy at a time, according to the principles, a Professor can take maximum 10 classes in a week, Associate Professor may take at best 14 classes and Assistant Professor can take maximum 16 classes. But some teachers of the University are much busy in part time job and consultancy in different non-permitted institu-

tions, NGO by negligence or syndicate improved principles and decision. They also do not follow weekly class taking schedule. Due to violating the rules, the students would not develop cherished relation concerning extraordinary advice and studies by the teachers, some students alleged. Conscious teachers and students urged special supervision of UGC and Ministry of Education as well as government to eliminate the irregularities of Public University teachers'.

They also demanded the changing the education system and modernize the Public University Act in national interest to stop of teachers' part time job business at the other institutions.

RU Madar Bux hall students locked up dining from serving unhygienic rice, vegetable

Another reports adds: Agitated Rajshahi University (RU) students of Madar Bux hall locked up the hall dining for serving unhygienic substandard and unwashed rice and vegetables. Due to massive irregularities at Madar Bux

hall getting a good number of students of the halls of RU have been suffering from malnutrition and various kinds of stomach complains viz. diarrhoea and dysentery for a long time.

Sources said that several frantic residential students of Madar Bux hall after finding unwashed and substandard rice in dining hall on Saturday noon, frantic students locked up the hall dining instantly and chanted slogan against hall Provost Prof. Abdul Matin Talukdar. Hall officials called the Provost and then he assured the students to abolish the problem.