

## DUCSU polls demanded

# Govt for fair election to students' unions: Nahid

DU alumni ask for DUCSU election in 6 months As the Dhaka University Alumni Association (DUAA) demanded that the overdue DUCSU election be held in six months. Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid Saturday said the government wants to see free and fair elections to students' unions of the country's universities, reports UNB.

"The government will neither interrupt in the students union elections nor it'll try to politicize it," he said at a seminar titled 'Famous as Oxford of the East the His-

torical Dhaka University:

Past and Present DU Vice Chancellor Prof AASM Arefin Siddique inaugurated the seminar, organized by DUAA at the DU Senate building with DUAA senior vice president AF Shahed Ali in the chair.

Former DU VCs Prof Dr SMA Faiz and Prof Moniruzzaman Mia, former VPs of Dhaka University Central Students Union (DUCSU) Mahfuza Khanam and ASM Abdur Rab, former minister Eng LK Siddiqui, DU Teachers Association President Khandokar Bazlul Haq and

Abdul Khaleq, among others, spoke at the seminar as the DU alumni. DUAA secretary general Rakibuddin Ahmed presented the keynote paper. The minister said the government wants to see elected student leaders in the students' unions for the development of a democratic, cultural and sporty student society.

Nahid said the government has allocated a little amount of money for research purpose in the universities and it will extend its all-out cooperation in upholding the in-

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## Nahid

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age of the Dhaka University. About the higher studies of university teachers for a longer period, the minister said the ministry has already asked all universities not to allow more than 30 percent teachers for higher studies at a time.

Former DUCSU VP Mahfuza Khanam urged the university authorities to hold the overdue DUCSU election for upholding its image. She alleged that university teachers and political leaders have become the gainers, as there has been no DUCSU election in the last 19 years.

Senior alumnus Abdul Khaleq, also a former IG of police, demanded that the DUCSU election be held in six months for establishing democratic practice in student politics.

Prof Dr SMA Faiz urged the government to allocate a bigger amount of money for research as the university is losing its fame in the outside world for lack of adequate research works.

Prof. Moniruzzaman Mia said 'some quarters' do not want the DUCSU election as they will lose their control over the student politics. Rakibuddin Ahmed said about 16 lakh students have obtained degrees from different departments of the Dhaka University since its inception.