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## Prof Arefin Siddique new DU VC

DU Correspondent

Abu Ahsan Mohammad Shamsul (AAMS) Arefin Siddique, a professor of Mass Communication and Journalism (MCJ) Department on Thursday has been appointed as the 27th Vice-chancellor of Dhaka University (DU) on a temporary basis.

President Prof. Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed, who is also the chancellor of the university, gave the appointment Prof. Siddique as the VC of the university under the Article 11 (2) of Dhaka University Ordinance 1973, secretary to the President Md. Sirajul Islam told The Bangladesh Observer on Thursday.

The post fell vacant after former VC Prof. SMA Faiz resigned. Prof. Arefin Siddique will continue as temporary VC until the senate elects a three-member panel to appoint a new Vice Chancellor.

A former president of the DU Teachers' Association (DUTA), Prof. Siddique is a prominent leader of the pro-Awami League (AL) led 'blue panel'.

The government took the deci-

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## Prof Arefin

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tion in response to a letter of outgoing Vice-chancellor Prof. SMA Faiz seeking resignation from office.

Earlier, an education ministry official said a file on the matter was sent to the prime minister's office. After the approval of the prime minister, the file was sent to the president, he added.

Prof. Faiz, who took over as DU VC in Sept 2002 during the BNP-led coalition government, sent a letter to the ministry of education on Sunday last seeking resignation.

Faiz made his announcement after the pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) accused him of "doing nothing" against "ongoing campus violence".

Faiz, also a former chairman of Public Service Commission (PSC), was a member of the pro-BNP White panel of teachers.