

# Viqarunnisa University hits a dead end

## Govt detects irregularities, revokes licence

### STAR REPORT

The government has cancelled the permission of Viqarunnisa University (VU) home to 133 students upon detection of malpractice.

The Ministry of Education in a notification on Saturday showed a series of malpractices and cancelled the permission under the Private University (amendment) Act, 1992.

The university was established mostly with infrastructure and

funds of the Viqarunnisa Noon School and College (VNSC) for a five-year run with some conditions.

But upon a VNSC complaint about transfer of its funds and land to the university, the ministry formed a committee to probe the irregularities.

"The committee has recommended cancellation of the permission as it detected numerous malpractices, which breach the condition of the temporary permission," said a key official of the ministry.

He, however, said the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the authorities concerned have been asked to cooperate so that the university students could enrol at other private universities.

The notification also abrogated the university's authority to encash Tk 5 crore deposited with a bank. The official said, "Government approval will be required to encash the funds."

The investigation committee  
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The committee also said the Viqarunnisa University Foundation registered under the Joint Stock Company Act was abolished when one of its life members died and five others resigned. The foundation decided to return all assets and land to the VNSC.

The committee also said the former VNSC principal Hamida Ali gave five acres of land of the VNSC to the university and Tk 5 crore in violation of rules. The seed of the dispute leading to closure of the university was sowed when she retired.

Meanwhile, guardians of the students condemned the cancellation of the permission. "It is like killing the academic lives of 133 students," said Mohammad Nazmul Huq, a guardian.

Huq in a statement on behalf of the guardians said students enrolled at the university for a bright and prospective future and passed three semesters.

"How could the government cancel the permission of a university after its three semesters?" he asked.

Earlier, the guardians sought prime ministerial intervention to save the academic career of their children.

The students and their guardians will stage a fast unto death after the Eid-ul-Fitr, he said.