



Huge corruption in Tk 25 cr development work of KU alleged

KHULNA, Aug 10:—Huge corruption has been alleged in the Tk 25-crore development work of the Khulna University sanctioned by the government in 1998, says UNB.

Student leaders awarded the work, which, an expert engineer said, is not worth even one-third of the money spent.

Few buildings constructed are also not suitable for use, added the engineer requesting anonymity and demanding probe into the wanton spending of public money.

This being the situation, the university authority has finalised a fresh plan of Tk 30 crore for its development, which will be placed soon before the Prime Minister for approval.

Informed sources said advocates of student politics within and without the government have prodded the University authority

to prepare the plan.

UNB correspondent Wahiduz-zaman who visited the campus said no money was spent on central library, which is considered the heart of a university, educational equipment or the academic building.

A 2-storied small building for Vice-chancellor's residence-cum-office was constructed at a cost of Tk 75 lakh. Location of the building as planned originally had been changed to benefit the contractor.

The building is now found quite inadequate to accommodate the staff and also not suitable for living of the VC. "There was limitless corruption in faulty construction of the building forcibly taken over by student leaders," said an official.

Another official said the ruling party cadre and former student leader of Dhaka Medical College was involved in the construction work.

Two small 2-storied residential quarters for teachers were constructed at a cost of about Tk 1.50 crore. Original plan was to construct one 4-storied building, which was changed, thus occupying additional space.

they find the accommodation is not suitable to live in.

An amount of Tk 5 lakh was sanctioned for construction of Shaheed Minar in the campus. But Tk 20 lakh has already been spent on it. Yet the construction remained incomplete.

In the wake widespread allegation of corruption, Divisional Commissioner along with senior officials visited the campus to see the progress of Tk 25 crore development work.