

NEW PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

Shortage of teachers, hampers education

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ACUTE teacher shortage together with inadequacy of research, library and lab facilities and dormitories were impeding teaching quality in public universities opened after 2000.

Academicians blamed hasty and unplanned opening of higher seats of learning

without creating the needed infrastructure and recruiting teachers for the situation.

Many of the newer universities could not as yet create proper academic atmosphere, said Dhaka University professor emeritus Serajul Islam Choudhury.

He and other senior university teachers also blamed the appointment partisan

teachers and inadequate funding for the situation.

Teacher-student ratio at secondary school is 1:39 and at government primary school is 1:49 while at Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University it is 1:52.

TSR at Rajshahi, Jahangirnagar, Noakhali Science and Technology University and Barisal University is bet-

ter than 1:19, the average for the older universities.

At least two new universities are yet to start student enrollments.

There are 38 public universities in the country.

Teacher-student ratio is 1:44 at Begum Rokeya University, 1:37 at Jagannath University, 1:34 at Islamic University, 1:28 at Bang-

dhura.

The floodwaters of the Brahmaputra, Beki, Puthimari and Jia Bharali have breached several embankments, swept away approach to bridges and damaged major roads at many places. Defence PRO Lieutenant Colonel S Newton said,

likely next

the draft.

The draft contains a list of prohibited or restricted goods — like firearms and contraband items.

Each country will establish a national land transport facilitation committee, said the draft protocol further.

The agreement 'motor vehicle agreement for the regulation of passenger and cargo vehicular traffic' has outlined 'broad features' on vehicular movement.

'Irregular passenger vehi-

Shortage of teachers, facilities

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Each of Barisal University with 16 departments and Begum Rokeya University with 21, also has one full professor, according to the UGC report.

PUST vice chancellor Al-Nakib Chowdhury and NUST vice chancellor M Wahiduzzaman said due to absence of senior teachers they could not start M Phil and Ph D programmes until now.

At least three of the new universities have no student dormitories.

Teaching quality in these universities is far from satisfactory, said Serajul Islam Choudhury.

New universities were opened to meet the growing demand for higher education but due to resource constraints neither the required teachers could be recruited nor the facilities developed, said UGC chairman Abdul Mannan.

How universities lacking professors and seniors

teachers would impart proper education to their students, asked Serajul Islam Choudhury.

According to the UGC report 10 new universities could not take a single research project in 2013.

These universities are, Jagannath University, Noakhali Science and Technology University, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Bangladesh University of Professionals, Begum Rokeya University, Pabna University of Science and Technology, Barisal University, Bangladesh Open University, Bangladesh Textile University and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University.

Usually, even the older public universities show little interest in research due to fund constraints, said former DU vice chancellor Emajuddin Ahmed.

And the quality of little research done by them is also questionable, said Emajuddin Ahmed as well as Serajul Islam Choudhury.

Mannan said that most of the university teachers lacked the motivation for research and he attributed fund shortage for the common shortcoming facing the universities in the country.

At least 10 of the universities ran no M Phil or Ph D programmes in 2013, said the UGC report.

They include, Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University, Noakhali Science and Technology University, Comilla University, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Sylhet Agricultural University, Jessore University of Science and Technology, Begum Rokeya University, Pabna University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh Textile University, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University and Bangladesh Textile University.

Many of these universities were unable to run M

Phil and Ph D programmes as they did not have senior teachers to guide students, said UGC officials.

Inadequacy of libraries and laboratories in the new public universities also hampers standard of education, said Serajul Islam Choudhury.

Most of the new universities lack proper academic atmosphere because they were hastily created in an unplanned manner, he said.

The people do not trust these universities, he added. 'Lack of senior teachers hampers quality education' said Mannan.

'Professors don't want to go to remote areas lacking facilities of health care and children's education,' he said.

New universities could be opened in short time but the needed facilities can't be developed overnight, he said.

It would take time to solve the problems, said the UGC chairman.