

# Education at Chittagong University made costlier Student organizations to launch movement soon

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Enhancement of education costs at one of the public universities - Chittagong University (CU) - has generated deep resentment among the general students.

Many believed that the fees hike might force scores of low-income family students to quit university without a degree.

Different student bodies are now preparing for a strong movement against the fees hike.

The finance committee at its recent meeting made education in the university costlier by 50 to 65 per cent. "The committee enhanced all sorts of fees without prior consultation with the students," student leaders alleged.

The university authority reportedly increased fees and charges to achieve the internal resource accumulate target.

Under the new fees and charge structure, the university may double its internal resource, majority of which will not be spent for creating facilities demanded by the common students.

The finance committee placed the proposal before the extra ordinary syndicate meeting for approval on April 2 this year. The syndicate approved the proposal without making any change to it.

Many students of the university who talked to The Bangladesh Observer in this regard termed the move as illogical particularly in the absence of new facility.

"Why should we pay for Bangladesh National Cadet Corps (BNCC) when they function under military supervision" said an angry Afroza Yasin Sumi, a postgraduate student of Journalism Department.

General students did not like approximately 75 per cent increase of transportation fees when the university shuttles were getting slower and poorer in all respect.

They alleged that worst carriages were being given for the university goes while the condition of 22 kilometers railroad had become totally unfit for use.

"The shuttle trains derailed more than 20 times over the last

one year and most of the compartments lacked window pans and doors, forget about light and fan. How could they think of increasing transportation fees?" Said Safat Aman Razin of BBA Faculty.

On the other hand, some students argue that during different departmental examinations a huge amount of money goes to the faculty members, which is unethical.

"It is the duty of the teachers to remain vigil at the examination halls including the admission examinations. The teachers of the university took Taka 150 for each admission test, which lasted for one hour. But during the departmental examinations the teachers took more than Taka 800," said Alauddin Siqdar, president of CU unit of Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS).

"The teachers must take money but before that they must not forget that they are appointed to do this type of jobs. On the other hand, during the exam season they refrain from routine classes," Alauddin added.

General students of the university showed their highest resentment about the increase of the Student welfare fund. They said that the money from the student welfare fund goes to the student bodies to stop their different agitation programs.

"Recently the university authority had given handsome amount to some student bodies for stopping their agitation program. Student bodies allegedly bought arms or ran their political activities with that money," said a student of Physics Department on the condition anonymity.

The increase of different fees at a glance

Name of the fees	Present (Tk)	Past (Tk)
Admission fees	100	50
Library fees	200	100
Laboratory fees	300	100
Library card fees	25	—
Registration fees	200	100
Marks examine fees	120	40
Hall union fees	50	40
Hall sports fees	50	40
University union fees	50	40
Resident vigilance fees	10	2
Student helping fund	20	10
Student welfare fund	10	2
Student welfare fees	10	4
Rover scout fees	20	10
Identity card fees	20	10
Education developing sector	600	400
Transportation fees	500	360
BNCC	20	—
Medical fees	50	—
Hall admission fees	50	20
Hall accessories fees	120	40