

New BSMMU top bosses take charge

Prof Chowdhury Ali Kawser took charge as new Vice-chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) on Wednesday in the face of massive demonstrations by BNP-backed doctors, nurses and employees, reports UNB.

Following the removal of the hierarchy of the medical university following allegations of medical certificate faking, a pro-VC and a new Treasure also took over today.

Prof Kamaluddin Ahmed of pathology department has been made pro-VC, while Prof Ruhul Amin Miah, chairman of microbiology department, appointed Treasure.

The caretaker government gave the fresh appointments to the top posts after giving the marching orders to Vice-chancellor MA Ta-

hir, Pro-Vice-Chancellor MA Majid and Treasurer Prof Mobin Khan on Tuesday.

The three were dismissed on allegations of corruption, irregularities and especially forgery about medical certificate for detained former BNP lawmaker Mossaddek Ali Falu.

After taking office, the new BSMMU VC, Chowdhury Ali Kawser, said he would try his best to boost the image of the medical university and hospital.

But the BNP-backed doctors, nurses and staffers under the banner of 'Coordination Council of Doctors, Nurses, and Staffs' started sit-in demonstrations in front of the VC's office at 11am, branding the newly appointed trio of VC, pro-VC and Treasure as "partisan".

The protestors also demanded resignation of Health Adviser Shawkat Ali on allegation that the interim government recruited the officials who are backed by another party, indicating BNP's political archrival Awami League.

The demonstrators also said they would soon submit a memorandum to the Chief Adviser's office requesting the government to remove the new recruits for the highest seats of the country's lone medical university.

However, the BSMMU Teachers Association welcomed the fresh appointments.

Prof Saiful Islam Selim, president of the Doctors Association of Bangladesh, alleged that the newly appointed VC, pro-VC and Treasure are supporters of Awami League. "We can't expect smooth medical services from them as they're not neutral," he said.