

Series of agitation on campus

DU won't cut admn form fee, admit madrash students

DU Correspondent

Despite agitation by different student organisations, the Dhaka University (DU) authorities did not reduce the fee of admission forms for the first year honours courses. They declined to consider the matter regarding the enrollment of Madrasa students at the university.

The fee of admission forms (Tk.300) will remain unchanged and Madrasa students would not

be enrolled in eight departments of the university, as per restriction imposed earlier by the academic committee of the respective departments, said DU Vice-chancellor Prof. SMA Faiz on Sunday.

The admission forms fee as well as other fees of the university would not be further increased and it would remain at tolerable level for the next 10 years, Prof.

Faiz told the newsmen at his office.

DU VC also said the university syndicate on Saturday night expelled two students temporarily from the university for their alleged involvement of ransacking the VC's office on Saturday. He said a five-member probe committee has been formed to investigate into the Saturday's incident.

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DU won't cut

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The committee has asked to submit its report within three weeks, he said.

The DU syndicate, the highest decision making body, expelled two students temporarily from the university for their alleged involvement of ransacking DU VC's office. The expelled students are Mizhur Rahman Ashim, member secretary of Madrasa Chhatra Andolon Parishad and Shariatullah, member secretary of Madrasa Chhatra-Odhikar Shongrokkhon Committee.

Earlier on Saturday afternoon, a group of Madrasa students ransacked glasses, windows, doors, chairs at the VC office to press their demand for relaxation of rules for admission. Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) expressed their deep concern over Saturday's vandalism at the VC office.

Meanwhile, 22 students were injured in a clash with police amid outbreak of campus violence for the second day on Sunday over the demand of reducing of admission forms fee and relaxation of admission rules.

Madrasa students under the banner of 'Madrasa Chhatra Odhikar Sangrakhan Committee (MCOSC)' and 'Bangladesh Madrasa Chhatra Andolan Parishad' gathered in front of the TSC on the campus at about 9.00am as police intercepted them while trying to hold a rally. Police charged baton on the students when they again tried to move forward in a procession. It left 15 students injured.

Another group of students under the banner 'Pragatishil Chhatra Jote' also demonstrated at Madhu's Canteen on the campus at about 10.00am demanding minimising of admission-form fees.

They seized the Janata Bank, TSC Branch in protest against the enhanced fee of admission forms. The sales of admission forms remain suspended till 2pm.

The progressive students later came under the police attack when they moved toward the TSC. Police action left another 7 students wounded.

The agitating students blocked the roads near the TSC and declared that they would resist DU move to sell admission forms. A huge contingent of police remained deployed there.

However, students under the banner 'MCOSC' on Sunday announced a serious of agitation programme pressing four-point demands including withdrawal of all kinds of restriction on enrollment Madrasa students at Dhaka University.

They made the demand at a news conference held at Dhaka Reporters University (DRU). They demanded immediate removal of DU VC Prof. SMA Faiz from his post. They also demanded withdrawal of syndicate decision of illegally expelling two activists of the committee and exemplary punishment to the police persons who attacked the students and proper treatment and compensation to the injured students.

They vowed that they would be compelled to go for tougher agitation if their demands were not met by October 23.

The agitation programmes include 'human chain' programme at all university in the country today (Monday), rally and demonstration on October 21 and submission memorandum to the Chief Adviser on October 23.

Another news conference held at DU Journalists' Association (DUJA) office by Pragatishil Chhatra Jote (PCJ) an alliance of left leaning student organisations. They had withdrawn their Bank Seize programme in the wake of getting assurance from the DU VC that all kinds of fees would not be increased in the next 10 years.

They said the PCJ would continue their agitation against the commercialisation and privatisation of education.