

## DU plans second campus

DU CORRESPONDENT

Due to lack of necessary land on the Dhaka University (DU) campus, five projects could not be implemented in last few years.

The construction work of a dormitory for female students opposite to Fazlul Haq Hall could not start even after two years of completing all preparations to build the hall.

Slum dwellers have occupied the site and they are not vacating the land despite repeated notices.

Construction work of two separate buildings for pharmacy faculty and the Department of Urdu and

Persian could not begin due to lack of land on the campus.

"We have plan to set up separate buildings for the faculties of law and pharmacy, and the Departments of Mathematics, Urdu and Persian, including a dormitory for female students. But due to acute land crisis we are unable to implement the projects," said acting DU Vice-chancellor Prof AFM Yusuf Haider.

"Considering the land crisis, we have urged the government to allocate 200 acres of land to the university at Purbachal on the outskirts of the city to set up a second campus, so that we can accommodate around 10,000

students there primarily," said Prof Haider while talking to The Daily Star yesterday.

He said the DU authorities sent a formal letter to the government on Tuesday with a request to allocate 200 acres of land at Purbachal to solve the existing accommodation crisis by establishing a second campus over there.

DU Treasurer Prof Syed Abul Kalam Azad said due to some unplanned structures on the campus, it is impossible to provide an education-friendly environment to the students on the campus.

So, establishing a second campus has become an imperative, he added.