

DU session: White Panel demands elections to VC's panel

DU Correspondent

DHAKA University's annual budget of Tk 306.20 crore was placed on Wednesday amidst a token walk-out of the White Panel which demands elections to the vice-chancellor's panel in this session.

The budget will be approved by Senate members today, the second day of the session.

The opposition BNP-Jamaat-leaning teachers' body White Panel, at the beginning of the session, walked out demanding election to the vice-chancellor's panel. White Panel's convener Sadrul Amin demanded election under Article 11(1) of the Dhaka University Ordinance 1973.

VC AAMS Arefin Siddique, also the chairman of the session, said the matter was now under trial. 'So I can't make any comment regarding the issue.'

The VC, in his welcome speech, elaborated on the various development works of the university and said

that last year the DU gave 64 PhD degrees and 86 MPhil degrees for research in various sectors.

Pro-VC (academic) Nasreen Ahmed, pro-VC (admin) Shaheed Akhter Hosain, registrar Syed Rezaur Rahman, along with Senate members, were present at the session.

Senate members then discussed the welcome speech and budget.

Treasurer Kamal Uddin Ahmed placed the budget soon after the VC's welcome speech.

The University Grants Commission allocated Tk 237.40 crore, 77.53 per cent of the total budget.

The rest, Tk 32.00 crore, will come from the DU's internal income, of which 45.50 per cent comes from the fees of its students.

The budget has a deficit of Tk 36.80 crore, the highest ever in the history of the DU.

The deficit was Tk 23.89 crore in FY 2011-12, Tk 19.33 crore in FY 2010-11, Tk 16.95 crore in FY 2009-10 and Tk 3.45 crore

in FY 2008-09.

Of the total budget, Tk 202 crore, 65.97 per cent has been earmarked for salaries of the staff, including teachers and officials.

About Tk 32.79 crore has been kept for education and related project, which was Tk 31.51 crore last year.

Tk 2.92 crore has been allotted for the research sectors of the DU, which was Tk 2.08 crore last year.

The budget has Tk 26.03 crore for general and other activities, Tk 45.00 crore for pension, Tk 5.30 crore for repair and maintenance, and Tk 1.90 crore for capital and other grants.

Discussion over the budget for FY 2012-13 will also be held today, treasurer Kamal Uddin told New Age.

Shikharthi Adhikar Mancha, a students' platform which is demanding elections to the central students' union and hall unions, brought out a protest procession and staged a sit-in in the NNAC Senate Bhaban's premises.