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BUET VC says won't resign

Strike continues for ninth consecutive days

DU Correspondent

VICE-CHANCELLOR of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, SM Nazrul Islam, on Tuesday turned down the teachers' demand for his resignation for his alleged involvement in irregularities.

Addressing a press conference at BUET council building, he said the allegations of the striking teachers were not logical and he would not resign.

'Resignation is not a solution under the circumstances,' he said, arguing that teachers would stage similar agitations in future to press for such illogical demands.

He said the syndicate members had decided the changes in the administration and he had nothing to do in this regard.

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Responding to a question about the allegation of 'appointment trade' in the administration, the VC said that the syndicate members appointed manpower in the administration.

'In discharging my duties, I have always followed the university ordinance,' he claimed. 'If the question of resignation arises, the entire syndicate body must resign,' he added.

He admitted that a mistake had taken place in an exam script of a student which was immediately solved according to the university procedures.

'The teachers' association members, from the very beginning of my tenure, have begun demonstration for my resignation,' he said, citing 'personal conflict' as the reason for that.

He said that discussions with the striking teachers failed as they were 'rigid' on their demands.

Meanwhile, a section of students under the banner of Sadharan Shiksharti Brinda on Tuesday formed a human chain in front of the council building demanding calling off the strike of the teachers.

They said that academic activities were being disrupted due to the strike of the teachers.

However, the teachers continued their strike on Tuesday for the ninth consecutive days.

On April 15, the teachers' association president Mujibur Rahman, at a press conference had said that the strike would not be called off until the VC and Pro VC resigned.

The teachers at an emergency meeting on April 7 raised a dozen of allegations of irregularities against the university administration.

They said that changes in the administration were taking place on political considerations.

The teachers' association decided to abstain from work to push for the resignation of VC Nazrul Islam and Pro VC Habibur Rahman.

The striking teachers demanded that the position of the pro-vice-chancellor, created in 2009, should be abolished as there had been no such post since the establishment of the university in 1962.