

## BUET comes to halt as teachers rally for VC's resignation

Staff Correspondent

ACADEMIC activities at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology have remained stalled for the last three days, with the teachers shunning works demanding resignation of vice-chancellor and pro-vice-chancellor of the university.

The teachers said on Monday that they would continue their movement till their demands were not met.

The Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology Teacher's Association has

Continued on page 4 Col. 1

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Continued from page 1

been agitating since Saturday against alleged political recruitment, irregularities and autocracy of the VC SM Nazrul Islam and pro-VC M Habibur Rahman.

Students faced problems with their regular activities like course registration and admission process as teachers abstained from all academic activities.

The classes are not, however, scheduled to be held now as the previous semester had just ended. The new semester and regular classes are scheduled to open on April 15.

'BUET is now on the verge of destruction for the irregularities of the present

VC and pro-VC. We are abstaining from work to save the university,' Mujibur Rahman, president of the BUET Teacher's Association, told New Age.

'Teachers are not doing any academic activities. We will continue our protest until the resignation of VC and pro-VC,' he added.

The VC S M Nazrul Islam, however, denied the allegations terming them illogical.

About the teacher's demand for his resignation, he said he had no plan to resign from the post.

'This demand is completely illogical,' he said.

The association at an emergency meeting on Satur-

day decided to abstain from work till the resignation of the two. Some 156 teachers attended the meeting, with all but only four members demanded resignation of VC and pro-VC.

The meeting also urged abolishing the newly created post for pro-VC. It said since the establishment of the university in 1962, there was no post for pro-VC. But in 2009 a pro-VC was recruited for the first time and many problems were caused because of this.

The teachers said the present pro-VC was appointed in 2009 and the VC in 2010 and after they took the office, they had taken many controversial initiatives.

They said for the last two

years they had been protesting at irregularities and autocratic attitude of the two and now they found no other option to work abstention.

The teachers alleged that the present pro-VC was appointed superseding 50 senior teachers and he was not even that senior to become head of the department or dean.

After taking office, the present VC had done some reshuffle in the administration and teaching posts where teachers loyal to him got promotion.

They said that promotion, time scale and selection grade were given to officials and employees who were not eligible but were loyal to the VC and pro-VC.