

## BRUR VC freed after five days

*Permanent teachers, staff assured of arrears by today*

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

After being confined to his office for five days, Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur (BRUR) Vice-Chancellor (VC) Prof AKM Nur-un-Nabi was freed in the wee hours yesterday after assuring to pay salary arrears of permanent teachers and staff by today.

The confinement and a sit-in began on September 17 by permanent and temporary teachers and staff over a seven-point demand. Meanwhile, no classes or exams have been held in BRUR's 21 departments under six faculties.

The key demands were salary arrears for the last four months till August and regularisation of the job of 338 temporary teachers and staff. A total of 674 staff and teachers are currently employed against 336 permanent posts.

The overstaffing created a fund crunch as University Grant Commission's (UGC) allocation of Tk 1.15 crore for April, May and June ran out in April alone.

For July, August and September, UGC allotted Tk 2.11 crore for payment of 336 permanent teachers and staff.

Following a Syndicate meeting on Saturday night, the VC assured paying the salaries of July and August and last Eid's festival bonus.

One demonstrator, Associate Prof Abu Kalam Md Faridul Islam, said, "We would re-launch our movement if the demands were not met within Wednesday."