

DU SENATE

96 out of 105 posts vacant

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NINETY six posts out of 105 senate members fall vacant in the Dhaka University as a result of that university authority for the first time in its history will fail to hold an annual senate session and budget in June.

Senate members and teachers of the university termed the matter as 'unprecedented event' and a 'deviation from the university tradition' and was a 'breach' of the Dhaka University Order 1973

They said the unelected vice-chancellor of Dhaka University for the first time completes four and a half years in office, more than full term for an elected vice-chancellor, had been dilly-dallying on holding the senate election as there might be pressure for elections to vice-chancellor's panel to elect a vice chancellor.

Dhaka University vice chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique told New Age that annual senate session will not take place in June due to some unavoidable reasons. 'We will hold the election for senate post in July and then will hold the annual session' he said.

Senate members said that five posts for government officials nominated by the government, five posts of lawmakers nominated by the speaker of the parliament, five research bodies nonominated by the syndicate, five principals of DU affiliated colleges nominated by the academic council and five students nominated by the Dhaka University Central Students Union and 10 teachers of DU affiliated colleges nonominated by the academic council, are currently vacant.

vacant for about two decade.

And five representatives from principals and 10 teachers representatives of DU affiliated colleges remain vacant for at least two years.

The Dhaka University Order 1973, the senate shall consist of 105 persons. According to the article 20(2), the members of the Senate, other than the student members, shall hold office for a period of three years. The student members shall hold office for a period of one year, but shall continue in office till their successors having been elected, nominated or appointed, enter upon the office.

The articles 21 (1.) of the order also said, 'The Senate shall, on a date to be fixed by the Vice-Chancellor, meet once in a year at a meeting to be called the annual meeting of the Senate.'

The university authorities, according to the university order, also possess no provision to hold the annual senate sessions until the quorum (one-third of the total number) is fulfilled with the number of senate members.

Dhaka University's education research professor Wahiduzzaman, also registered graduate senate member of the university said it was really unfortunate that the annual senate session and budget placement will not be held in June 'deviation from the university tradition'.

Dhaka University Teachers Association general secretary, Mamun Ahmed, said not holding of annual senate sessions, registered graduate and teacher's representative election, 'was violation of university order 1973' and

Alongside one of the five distinguished educationists to be nominated by the Chancellor was also vacant.

They said 25 representatives of registered graduates elected by university graduates and 35 representatives of the DU teachers, served out their tenure in June 2012, as the last election of representatives of registered graduates to the Senate was held in June 2009, and of teachers' representatives in the same month.

Senate members said that five students nominated by the Dhaka University Central Students Union remain

unethical

A teacher of the university also close aide of current vice chancellor told New Age that Arefin Siddique, had been dilly-dallying, on holding the senate election as there might be pressure for elections to vice-chancellor's panel to elect a vice chancellor. As the Senate's main role is to elect a VC, according to the Ordinance.

Arefin Siddique said budget for 2013-14 fiscal will be placed in the syndicate meeting and whenever next senate session will take place budget will be passed in that session.