

ILLEGAL APPOINTMENTS

SAU stop paying 10 teachers, staff for filing writ plea

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The Sylhet Agricultural University (SAU) authorities have stopped giving salary and other benefits to 10 teachers and staff as they filed a writ petition against the university administration seeking suspension of the process of "illegal appointments".

SAU Rafiqul Islam, director of finance and accounts department of the university, on Thursday gave the order to stop paying the 10.

Meanwhile, SAU authorities also issued a show-cause notice asking the 10 to explain why they filed the petition against the university. If they fail to respond in a week, the authorities will make a decision regarding the issue without further consulting the 10, said the notice.

The 10 are Prof Siddiqui Islam, Prof Mqhan Miah, Prof ATM MAHbubb E Elahi, associate professors Kazi Mehtaul Islam and Md Ataur Rahman, Assistant Controller Gazi Md zahurul Islam, Public Relations Officer Khosru Md Salah Uddin, Assistant Director Md Neamat Ullah, senior lab attendant Md Foyez Ahmed and MLSS Md Abdul Hamid.

After they filed a writ petition on October 8, the High Court ordered the university to suspend appointments for six months.

However, a vacation bench of the court stayed the order for three weeks on October 13. Accordingly, the authorities appointed 108 officials and teachers on October 22.

Prof Siddiqui claimed the university has been making illegal appointments by hiring people for posts although they do not meet the job criteria.

Contacted, SAU Registrar Badrul Islam Shoeb said they issued the show-cause notice as the 10 went to the High Court violating university rules and acted against the university's interest.

There have been numerous allegations of illegal appointments in the university recently. Several complaints have already been lodged with education ministry.