

DUTA demands release of DU teachers, students

Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) on Friday demanded immediate release of all the DU teachers and students arrested for their alleged involvement in the August 20-22 student unrest, reports UNB.

The DUTA executive committee members made the demand at a meeting held at its Teachers' Club office.

The DUTA executives apprehended that the campus situation might slip back into instability if the arrested teachers and students are not released.

"In the greater interest of the students, we, the teachers, will attend classes from October 28. But for the stability of the campus, the release of the teachers and students is a must. We urge the government to release them immediately," acting DUTA president Prof Tajmeri S Islam told reporters after the meeting.

Asked whether the teachers association would go for class boy-

cott to meet their demands, Prof Tajmeri said they would discuss their such programme in the next meeting.

Acting Dean of Social Sciences Faculty and former DUTA president Prof Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique said the release of the teachers is also essential for smooth completion of admission activities of the university.

"Three of the four arrested professors are the elected deans of three faculties. Their absence will hamper the admission process of the country's premier university," Prof Arefin said.

Four DU teachers -- Prof Dr Harun-or-Rashid, Dean of Social Sciences Faculty, Prof Dr Sadrul Amin, Dean of Arts Faculty and also DUTA president, Prof Anwar Hossain, Dean of Biological Sciences and DUTA general secretary, and Prof Necm Chandra Bhomic, former provost of Jagannath Hall -- are now in jail.