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SEMESTER SYSTEM

DU students demand cut in course fee

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) students of the first batch (session 2006-07) under semester system staged a demonstration on the campus yesterday demanding a reduction in course fee.

The students said it would be difficult for them to pay the high course fee, terming it unreasonable.

Some 150 students gathered in front of the Arts Building and took out a procession that paraded through the campus in the morning. Later, they also gathered in front of the vice-chancellor's office to press home their demand.

The students urged the authorities to reduce the course fee to a level which is reasonable. Otherwise, they would not take their examinations, they added.

The authorities assured the students of considering their demand and requested them not to do anything in violation of emergency rules.

Under the new system, a student

would have to pay Tk 1,250 for five courses in the first six-month semester. And the fee for the next semester is Tk 3,500.

"It means I have to pay Tk 9,500, including admission fee, for two semesters in one year. This is a very big amount," said a student of the Institute of Social Welfare and Research.

Under the previous system, a student paid a fee of only Tk 2500 to 3000 in a year.

Vice-Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz told the students not to worry about course fee. "We never want that the students carry an extra burden. We will consider their demand," he said while talking to reporters.

He also urged the students to collect their admission forms from their respective departments without paying the course fee, as their examination is scheduled for November 25.

"The final decision regarding the fee would be taken today (Thursday) after a meeting with the chairmen of the departments," he added.