

DU deans discuss proposal to merge eight departments into three

Journalism, TV and film, theatre, music, Sanskrit and Pali among departments under consideration

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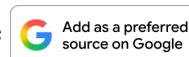
DU Correspondent



Dhaka University's (DU) Deans' Committee has discussed a proposal to merge eight departments under the faculties of Social Sciences and Arts into three.

Of the departments under consideration, three -- including the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism -- are under the Faculty of Social Sciences, while the remaining five -- including the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies -- are under the Faculty of Arts.

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According to the minutes of the Deans' Committee meeting held on June 22, a proposal was placed to consider merging the departments. The respective deans will hold discussions with the chairpersons of the departments concerned before submitting their recommendations.

The issue was included under the "Miscellaneous" section of the meeting minutes.

Under "Miscellaneous-2", the minutes propose merging the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, the Department of Television, Film and Photography, and the Department of Printing and Publication Studies into a single department.

Under "Miscellaneous-3", the minutes propose merging the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies with the Department of Music, and the Department of Sanskrit with the Department of Pali and Buddhist Studies.

The meeting minutes bear the signature of DU Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic) Prof Abdus Salam.

Asked about the matter, Prof Salam said the issue had been discussed, but no decision had been taken.

Dean of the Faculty of Arts Prof Md Abul Kalam Sarker said, "It is actually difficult to do something like this. Once departments have been separated, they were separated because there was a need for it."

"I do not think it will be possible to bring them back under one department. That is my understanding," he added.