12-POINT DEMAND FOR SYLHET ENGINEERING COLLEGE

Students confine principal, three dept heads for hours

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Sylhet*

The Sylhet Engineering College students kept confined its acting principal, three department heads and staff for over 12 hours to the administrative building to press home their 12-point demand, including proper utilisation of annual budget for development of the institution.

They locked the main entrance of building of the college, which is also an engineering faculty section of the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust), from 11:00am to 11:30pm.

The students unlocked it following a meeting with the college authorities who assured them of looking into their demands within one week, campus sources said, adding that they postponed their movement till then.

Earlier in the afternoon, they had cut all the utility lines off the building.

They also demand that semester schedules be maintained by creating academic calendar, all scheduled classes be conducted regularly and courses be completed on time, fees collection be performed through direct banking instead of mobile banking, accommodation fees be reduced, dormitory problems be solved, full-time efficient teachers be appointed, campus security be tightened, wi-fi connections on the campus as well as at dormitories, college bus for students, and "corruptions and anomalies in the administration" be stopped.

In the evening, Md Alamgir Hossain, head of computer science and engineering department; Ramendra Kumar Das, head of civil engineering department; and Md Rafiqul Islam, head of electrical and electronics engineering, refused to fulfill all of the demands, prompting the demonstrators to demand resignations of the three and Registrar Md Selim.

At that time, acting principal Abdul Halim, over the phone, said the students have no valid reason as there is no anomaly in the administration.

Dormitory problems have already been looked into a week ago, he said, adding that they are also planning to hire some bankers from Sonali Bank to collect fees.

About full-time teachers, he said the administrative system allows appointing part-time teachers only.