

# JnU hall absence act of negligence

*Noted citizens tell students' roundtable at Dhaka Reporters Unity*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted citizens at a roundtable yesterday said students of Jagannath University (JnU) have been deprived of residential halls due to negligence of the university administration and the government.

They said the authorities should make it clear about their steps to meet the demand of the students who have been agitating for over a month.

A public university cannot be complete without residential facilities, said Prof Anu Mohammad of Jahangirnagar University.

"The government should make its position clear regarding allocation of halls for the students," he added.

JnU students held the roundtable at Dhaka Reporters Unity as part of their ongoing demonstration demanding residential halls and allocation of the land formerly housing Dhaka Central Jail in Old Dhaka.

The students issued an ultimatum, threatening to intensify their movement if the demand is not met by September 18.

Reading out a keynote paper, Imrul Shahed Badhon, a student of political science, said the university authorities deprived them of residential facilities by mentioning it as non-residential, overlooking the university act.

Terming this an act of "cheating", Supreme Court lawyer Barrister Jyotirmoy

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Barua said the students should raise their voice before the university administration to remove the word "non-residential" from the prospectus immediately.

Moderating the roundtable, Rashedul Islam, a Bangla department student, demanded an unequivocal announcement from the prime minister to meet their demand.

Associate Prof Tanzimuddin Khan of Dhaka University and former Dhaka University Central Students' Union general secretary Moshtaq Ahmed, among others, spoke at the roundtable.