

SUST students fear prolonged student life

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SHAHJALAL University of Science and Technology students are suffering as teachers have been staging protests since April 13 for removal of the vice-chancellor, who is determined not to quit the job.

Teachers and students said that protesting teachers and vice-chancellor Aminul Haque Bhuiyan had reached stalemate over his removal conflict between teachers causing uncertainty of finishing the courses in time.

Muktijhuddher Chetanay Udbuddha Shikkhak Parishad, the platform of

the protesting pro-Awami League teachers, said that their movement would continue till resignation or removal of Aminul, who said that he would not resign until the government asked him to do so.

'I have been appointed to run the campus smoothly, whenever my appointing authorities want I will resign,' he said.

Aminul said that he had urged teachers time and again to withdraw their agitation but they did not any heed paid heed to the request. 'I always try to work in coordination with the teachers,' he said.

Shikkhak Parishad con-

vener Syed Shamsul Alam blamed Aminul for the stalemate saying that they would withdraw their programmes only after Aminul resigned or was removed.

Students and teachers said that semester final examinations already started in the first week of September but they were uncertain about finishing the courses in time.

The students said that they feared that their student life might be prolonged because of the academic atmosphere being hampered.

'Shikkhak Parishad has been staging protests on the campus since April 20 for

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SUST students

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the removal of Aminul on allegation of corruption, irregularities, nepotism and misbehaviours with colleagues.

Thirty-five senior teachers, including Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, had resigned from 37 administrative posts, expressing their 'no-confidence' in the vice-chancellor.

In the face of protests, Aminul was forced to go on a two-month leave on April 23 citing personal ground.

The teachers resumed their movement on June 18 after Aminul announced

that he would return to the campus.

The pro-Awami League teachers, however, postponed their movement after a meeting held with the education minister Nurul Islam Nahid at the education ministry on July 23, as Nahid assured them of taking immediate step to resolve the impasse.

The education ministry in statement on July 24 asked the vice-chancellor not to give any appointment or posting and not to introduce any new system at the university.

Teachers began their sit-in to bar Aminul from joining office on August 24. The protests intensified on August 30 when ruling Awami League-backed student organisation Chhatra League activists attacked the sit-in of the teachers injuring 10 of them.

General students joined the teachers in the protests on September 3 for the removal of Aminul and bringing the Ahhatra League activists to book for the attack on teachers.

The university admin-

istration on September 3 banned all kinds of procession and meeting on the campus without approval.

The ban barred the students from staging any more protests, while the teachers continued their protests including token hunger strike, work abstention and sit-in.

The protesting teacher on Wednesday staged a sit-in in front of the administrative building, which housed the vice-chancellor's office.

They also observed day-long work abstention on Wednesday.