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## SUST teachers lock up offices of 8 dept chairs

Staff Correspondent, Sylhet

APPLIED science faculty teachers in Shahjalal University of Science and Technology in Sylhet on Wednesday evening locked up the offices of department chairs to push for suspension of a decision on the recruitment and promotion of lecturers.

They said that they would keep rallying and boycotting academic activities until their demand was met, some of the teachers said.

Niloy Chandra Sarker, general secretary of the faculty teachers' forum that was floated to push for their demand, in the evening said, 'We have locked up the offices of the department chairs.'

'We will be sitting in front of the administrative building from Thursday and boycott academic activities until our demand is met,' he said after a meeting of the forum that decided to lock up the office of the chairs of the eight departments under the faculty.

The teachers also observed a work abstention on Wednesday to push for the demand,

campus sources said.

The university syndicate amid a demand of the teachers of five other faculties made a temporary decision at an emergency meeting on Thursday on the rule of recruitment and promotion of lecturers.

Lecturers have been rallying since Thursday to push for a uniform rule for the recruitment of teachers and promotion of lecturers.

The decision the syndicate made requires lecturers to have work experience of two years and a half and the condition could be relaxed by six months for teachers having publications in recognised journals.

The applied science faculty lecturers, however, rejected the decision and started rallying against it on Monday.

Applied science teachers said that the minimum educational qualification for a lecturer in departments under the faculty of applied sciences was a four-year honour's degree while the qualification for the same position in other faculties was a four-year honour's degree and a one-

year master's degree and that was discriminatory.

The vice-chancellor, Saleh Uddin, told New Age that the syndicate had made the decision based on recommendation by a committee set up in this regard.