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## Demand for removal of VC BCL enforces wildcat strike in CU

Chittagong Bureau

CHITTAGONG, Jan 17: - Chittagong University underwent a total impasse today when the student front of the ruling party - Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) - enforced a wildcat strike on the campus reportedly demanding removal of the university's Vice-Chancellor.

The BCL leaders at the university also asked the Vice-Chancellor to tender his resignation by 5:00 p.m. Monday for the sake of congenial academic atmosphere on the campus otherwise they hinted

they would launch massive agitation.

University authorities admitted that their moves to sit together with the leaders of the protesting student organization for resolving the stalemate went unheeded. "Agitators stick on their demand and declined to listen to anything before Professor M Badiul Alam's removal from the VC office," a senior faculty of the university told this correspondent preferring anonymity. Senior faculties of the  
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## BCL enforces

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university had been at an emergency meeting at the VC's residence to find out a way-out from the deadlock till the time of dispatching this report.

The demand for removal of Professor M Badiul Alam from the office of the Vice-Chancellor allegedly emerged from the long suppressed anger and hatred intensified among the students' mind and his unusual sympathy and support to the Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS), student front of the anti-liberation axis Jamaat-e-Islami, even after the December 29 political changeover. Academic environment and security overseers of the university alleged that the leaders and workers of the BCL and its allies locked up the main entrances, exits of the campus and the VC office slightly after zero hour today. Entrances to the faculty buildings and the lecture theaters had also been put under lock and key. Examinations scheduled for the day have been deferred.

No transport - train or bus - to and from the university was allowed to ply since morning absolutely paralyzing the university. Workers and supporters of the BCL that had been out of visible political operation on the campus during the rule of the BNP-Jamaat alliance, staged a rally at the campus adjacent railway station and vowed not to give up the agitation before total fulfillment of their demand. Earlier, the BCL workers took out several processions on the campus and chanted slogans in support of their demand. They marched on the streets alongside the dorms of the Shibir stronghold and the administrative building. Tension gripped the workers and supporters of the rival student organizations after the debacle of BNP-Jamaat candidates in the December 29, 2008 general elec-

tions. Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) that ruled the dorms of the university for nearly a decade did not find it an easy deal to let its arch rival the BCL to takeover the command resulting in strength building for confrontation. The agitation flared late last night when some of the ICS workers reportedly pushed out some BCL supporters from an on-campus cottage adjacent to the ICS stronghold. The BCL workers were also manhandled before throwing them out of the cottage. Incumbent Vice Chancellor Professor M Badiul Alam was picked by the just out government of BNP-Jamaat alliance and his tenure for the office had been nearing.