

BUET teachers resume protests today

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TEACHERS of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology have decided to resume their protest programmes today as they stuck to their demand for removal of the vice-chancellor and pro-vice-chancellor with no progress made in the last couple of days to break the standoff.

The teachers had postponed their programmes for two days (Thursday and Friday) to 'show respect' to the education minister's initiatives to resolve the crisis.

'We hoped that the government would make sincere efforts by this time to end the crisis but it is yet to do so,' Teachers' Association general secretary Md

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BUET teachers

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Ashraful Islam told New Age on Friday.

He also said that they would start resigning en masse after 4:30pm Sunday, when the deadline for removal of the VC, SM Nazrul Islam and pro-VC, Habibur Rahman would be over.

Referring to education minister Nurul Islam Nahid's remarks that the pause in the agitations was a ploy to embarrass him, he said, the minister had misunderstood them. 'We had no plan to embarrass

him,' he said.

Nahid on Thursday said he wondered if the postponement of the protests was a ploy, or to show respect to his initiatives as they had claimed.

The minister also said, 'They did it only to embarrass me in public.'

The teachers' association sources said they would stage a sit-in in front of the academic council building for about two hours every day and bring out silent procession and hold rally on the campus.

The BUET vice-chancellor could not be reached over phone despite several attempts for comments on the teachers' decision to resume the protests.

The teachers, joined by the students and employees, have been rallying from July 11 after the vice-chancellor announced a 44-day closure of the institution in the face of the movement.

On July 11, deans of all five faculties, heads of all 17 departments and directors of three institutes resigned to push their demand.