

JU deadlock persists

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THE crisis at Jahangirnagar University has deepened after the teachers' association enforced a strike demanding resignation of the vice-chancellor, causing worries among the students about their academic lives.

No classes and scheduled exams were held at most of the departments on Saturday.

The strike began on Wednesday.

The JUTA announced that it would continue the work abstention until next Thursday demanding resignation of the VC and dissolution of the proctorial team.

JU VC Anwar Hossain said, 'I requested the leaders of the teachers to call off the strike and to resume taking classes considering the interests of the students.'

The association, however, refused the VC's call and vowed to continue the strike for the whole week to press for their demands.

JUTA general secretary Sharif Uddin said, 'We will announce a fresh protest programme at a general meeting on Thursday, if the VC does not resign by this time.'

JUTA president Ajit Kumar Majumder accused the VC of failing to provide security for the students.

The trouble began on Tuesday night after Abdul Malek, a statistics department student died of a heart attack. Students blamed the death on negligence of doctors at the university medical centre.

The VC, whose residence also came under attack on Tuesday night, accused Islamic Chhatra Shibir of launching the attack.

On Saturday, friends of Malek distributed leaflets on the campus to press for their demands, including improvement in management at the university medical centre, stopping use of expired medicines and saline and increase in the number of ambulances.

They also urged the university authorities to provide a family member of Malek with a job.

In early 2012, the JU witnessed a four-month deadlock because of a teachers' movement that forced the then VC Sharif Enamul Kabir to resign.