

NEWAGE

UNIFORM ROW Udayan school removes vice-principal

DU Correspondent

AUTHORITIES removed the vice-principal of Udayan Higher Secondary School Dhaka on Sunday night in the face of protests guardians held demanding removal of the principal and the vice-principal, who cut off full-sleeve uniforms of girl students to half-sleeve on May 22.

The vice-principal, Mahbuba Khanam Kaipana, cut off a half of the uniform sleeves of about 50 girls, mostly students of Class IV, X, XI and XII, as a disciplinary action against the students in classrooms. Some students were also injured.

It was learnt the principal, Umme Salema Begam, instructed Mahbuba to cut the full sleeves. The school authorities said that the students concerned had repeatedly been asked not to wear full-sleeve uniforms but they did heed the instruction.

The incidents triggered protests by students and their guardians, who went on

demonstrations in front of the school, threatening a tougher programme if Mahbuba and Salema were not removed.

The guardians laid siege to the school, on the Dhaka University campus, again on Sunday demanding the removal of the principal and the vice-principal.

The school's managing committee, of which the university vice-chancellor, AAMS Arefin Siddique is president, at night decided to remove Mahbuba from her position.

Arefin Siddique later told reporters that they had order for the cancellation of the contractual job of Mahbuba, also wife of the labour and employment minister, Rajjuddin Ahmed Raju.

The managing committee also recommended forming a committee to probe the matter.

Ruhul Amin, the guardian of a student, said that they were not happy about the decision as the principal was not removed. He said that they would form a human chain at the school gate at 10:00pm today.