

# SUST teachers continue with protests

Staff Correspondent · Sylhet

A FORUM of teachers of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology decided to observe a token hunger strike on campus today to press home their demand for withdrawal of the vice-chancellor Aminul Haque Bhuiyan and to protest at the attack on their fellows by a group of Bangladesh Chhatra League activists.

They will also boycott work on Thursday as part of their ongoing movement on campus.

The decisions came from an emergency meeting of 'Muktijuddher Chetanay

Udbuddha Shikkhak Parisad', a forum of the teachers inspired with the spirit of the liberation war, held at the campus Monday evening, confirmed MCUSP convener Syed Shamsul Alam.

'The token hunger strike will take place in front of the vice-chancellor building on campus from 10am to 4pm,' professor Shamsul said.

He said they suspended protests on campus on Tuesday to take part in the day-long work abstention called by the Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers Association demanding immediate review of the na-

tional pay scale and an independent pay scale for public university teachers.

A section of teachers with ruling party loyalties, under the banner of MCUSP, have been campaigning against the vice-chancellor Aminul Haque for more than four months because of allegations of irregularities, nepotism and misbehaviour with teachers.

Meanwhile, working in favour of the vice-chancellor, a group of leaders and activists of the BCL - ruling Awami League-backed student organization - on August 30 launched an attack on the protesting teachers when they

were staging a sit-in in front of the vice-chancellor building for his removal, leaving 11 of the teachers injured.

The BCL activists had snatched away their banner after assaulting many of them during the attack, which sparked protests from different quarters in the society.

The teachers had started protesting against the vice-chancellor on April 20. Thirty-five senior teachers, including popular author Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, had also resigned from 37 administrative posts expressing 'no-confidence' in Aminul.