

Students protest admin inaction in rape case

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JU Correspondent



Female students of Jahangirnagar University bring out a protest procession on campus yesterday, alleging that the administration had failed to ensure their safety. Photo: Star

Female students of Jahangirnagar University brought out a protest procession on the campus yesterday, alleging that the administration had failed to ensure their safety and security.

The procession, joined by female students from different residential halls, began around 3:00pm. Starting from the hall area, the protesters marched through key points on the campus and proceeded to the vice-chancellor's residence, where they held a brief rally.



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At the rally, the protesters condemned what they termed the administration's negligence in handling the rape allegations against SM Tarikul Islam, a former student of the 44th batch.

On Saturday, the JU administration suspended Tarikul's academic certificates following allegations that he took a female student to a house near the campus, confined her and raped her.

The victim, who was reportedly in a relationship with the accused, filed a case with Ashulia Police Station on Wednesday.

“An incident as grave as the inhumane torture and rape of a student cannot be met with administrative indifference. Such a lackadaisical attitude is directly responsible for the growing insecurity faced by female students on campus,” said Nazeeha Binte Shamsuddin, a student of the 52nd batch of the Economics department.

She added, “We demand the immediate arrest of Tarikul and a fair trial to set an example. The administration must urgently address the bureaucratic and structural shortcomings that enable such incidents. The Anti-Sexual Harassment Cell must be made fully functional, and comprehensive reforms to prevent violence against women on campus must be ensured without delay.”

Sanzeeda Noor, a student of the Public Administration department, echoed her.

“It took them five days just to suspend his academic certificate, and that too temporarily. Instead, the administration should have immediately provided all necessary information to the police and acted as a pressure group to ensure his arrest,” she added.