

## November 8, 2019 Students demand opening of dorms, two teachers submit complaints to the education ministry

Several students start demonstrations at the gate of Bangamata Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib Hall demanding that the dormitories be opened. On the same day, a group of university teachers, former students of JU, renowned artists, authors, and student leaders under the banner of "Teachers-Students and Guardians" criticise JU administration's role in evicting students and shutting down all services on campus. They appeal to the vice chancellor to resign immediately as demanded by the students.

Two agitating teachers submit a six-

page written complaint and a roughly 70-page written document containing information of the VC's alleged corruption, to the education ministry at night. The memorandum addresses the education minister detailing their allegations against the current VC Professor Farzana Islam. In their memorandum they list out:

- That there exists evidence of her having bribed the BCL. The memorandum mentions that a phone recording of a conversation between former BCL general secretary Golam Rabbani and JU BCL joint secretary Saddam Hossain was leaked to the media, where the two discussed the details of the meeting where money exchanged hands. Furthermore the memorandum mentions that Saddam Hossain and JU BCL vice-president Niamul Hassan Taj admitted to the media on record that the unit received Tk 1 crore from the VC.

- That even after BCL admitted extorting the VC, no inquiry was launched.

That tenders were invited through a manual tendering process, as opposed to the e-procurement process of the government, creating scope for corruption. The memorandum also mentions that a company called United Construction Company had sent a letter to the Anti-Corruption Commission detailing an incident, where their representatives were returning back after purchasing tender schedules, and they were accosted by men claiming to be BCL followers, who snatched away their schedules.

- That the masterplan does not include an environmental impact assessment. The memorandum further details that the VC has sanctioned construction projects in the past without doing any EIA.

- The memorandum also lists out her

past transgressions, including how she had filed a case against and handed over to the police 54 student protesters in 2017 for protesting against the deaths of two students in road accidents, and how she took no action when teachers were assaulted by political students in 2018 for protesting university irregularities.

*"Everyone from the dean to the proctorial body to the provost to the syndicate members—all their tenures have expired. There is a rule that you cannot remain in an acting position for longer than six months; an election should be held after that. But there has been no election and these people have stayed in position for years, meaning that they're trying to create a loyal group. We tried to talk to the VC about these issues many, many times. But she didn't pay heed to it."*

Shamima Sultana, Professor,  
Department of Bangla

## November 9, 2019 Deputy Education minister slams protesting teachers and students

Echoing Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's warning, Deputy Education Minister Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury slams protesting teachers and students of JU saying that the government will take action against those who "create nuisance" on the university campus in the name of protest.



PHOTOS: STAR



## November 10, 2019 JU student sued

A student of Jahangirnagar University is sued the day before for allegedly disparaging the government, the prime minister, and the vice chancellor on social media. The accused, Mumitul Mimma, is a 44th batch student of the Institute of Information Technology. Shahadat Hossain, vice chairman of

Savar Upazila Parishad, files the case with Ashulia Police Station under the Digital Security Act around 5:30pm. According to the case statement, Mumitul posted several derogatory photos of Vice Chancellor Professor Farzana Islam on her Facebook account and made denigrating comments about the government, the prime minister, and the VC over the last couple of days since the protest against the alleged corruption of JU authorities began.

