

# DU female students protest, seek accommodation

## DU Correspondent

A GROUP of female students of Dhaka University staged a sit-in and a symbolic hunger strike in front of the vice-chancellor's residence on Monday morning, demanding accommodation facilities.

The protesting students initiated their sit-in and symbolic hunger strike at around 10:00am in front of the Dhaka University vice-chancellor residence.

At the sit-in, they chanted slogans including, 'If there's no seat in the halls,

give us space in the VC's bungalow,' and 'Provide housing before bringing us to classrooms.'

Saimun Nahar, a student from the university's dance department, said that non-residential students at Dhaka University faced various problems due to living outside the halls of residence.

'We demand a one hundred per cent residential accommodation,' she said.

Nuzia Hasin Rasha, a student from the department of Linguistics emphasised the need for long-term solutions such as building

new halls of residence.

She also suggested renting buildings as temporary housing facilities for female students.

Expressing solidarity with the protesters, professor Robaet Ferdous from the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism said, 'Female students lack housing facilities, while the vice-chancellor lives in a large residence.'

In the afternoon, the university's pro-vice-chancellor professor Sayema Haque Bidisha, treasurer professor M Jahangir Alam

Chowdhury, and proctor Saifuddin Ahmed talked to the protesters and assured them of solving the accommodation problem.

Following the assurances, the female students ended their protest at around 4:00pm.

The Dhaka University administration on Monday stated that a proposal had been submitted to the government for the approval of a project on building four residence halls for female students to mitigate their accommodation problem.