

# JU staffers threaten strike over new admission policy



Photo: Sakib Ahmed

Staffers and officials of Jahangirnagar University (JU) yesterday announced an indefinite work abstention from today, protesting the new regulations over the admission of their children.

They demanded cancellation of the new "dependents' quota" admissions policy, according to a press release from Karmakarta-Karmachari Oikya Parishad.



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A group of students also staged a protest, calling for the complete abolition of the ward quota around 1:30pm.

On Monday, leaders of Anti-Discrimination Student Movement, who had been advocating for the quota's removal, reached an agreement with the university administration on a series of reforms.

The agreed changes include raising the pass mark from 35 percent to 40 percent in admission tests, restricting eligibility only to children of university employees, allowing its use only once per candidate, and capping admissions under this quota at 40 students per session.

However, the compromise has sparked dissatisfaction among students, many of whom had expected the quota to be abolished entirely.

"There is no justification for the dependent's quota. Abolishing it means complete abolition -- we do not accept any reform," said Nibir Bhuyian, a student of the university's history department.

At the time of filing this report, around 100 students were staging a sit-in in front of the university's new administrative building, where they confined officials and staffers, reiterating their demand for complete abolition of the quota.