

# DHAKA CENTRAL UNIV: Students demand ordinance road map by Monday

Staff Correspondent  19 September, 2025, 01:52

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Students of seven colleges earlier affiliated to the University of Dhaka on Thursday threatened street protests for a road map to the promulgation of an ordinance on the establishment of the proposed Dhaka Central University by Monday.

The students issued the ultimatum at a press conference that they organised on the Dhaka College campus.

They gave the ultimatum a day after a group of teachers of the colleges went on demonstration in front of the University Grants Commission opposing the establishment of the proposed university.

Dhaka College student Md Abdur Rahman at the press conference said that the government had taken the initiative to establish the university with the colleges as a result of the long-drawn movement of the students.

He said that the establishment of the university would get a shape only after the ordinance was promulgated, but a group was conspiring to foil the move. 'Students will resist any such move.'

'If a clear road map of promulgating the ordinance is not given by Monday, students of seven colleges will take to the streets again,' he threatened.

He warned that the students of the colleges would resist any move to take the seven colleges under the National University.

The teachers' demonstration on Wednesday fuelled the protests of graduating students of the seven colleges on Thursday. They held the press conference by boycotting all academic activities for the day.

The teachers held the demonstration on Wednesday protesting against shrinking the scope of higher education and women's education and an attempt to destroy unique structures and tradition of the seven colleges.

Students of the colleges gathered on the Dhaka College campus Thursday morning and staged their pre-announced demonstration there before the press conference.

The seven colleges, Dhaka College, Begum Badrunnesa Government Girls' College, Eden Mahila College, Government Bangla College, Government Shaheed Suhrawardy College, Government Titumir College and Kabi Nazrul Government College, were affiliated to Dhaka University in 2017 before which they were under National University.

Currently, 1.67 lakh students are studying in these colleges.

On May 18, the government appointed AKM Elias as the administrator of the interim administration of the proposed Dhaka Central University.

Earlier, students of the seven colleges blocked roads, boycotted academic activities and staged demonstrations at different times to press home their demands for a separate university.