

SUST students withdraw protest after VC assures Sucsu polls by Dec 10

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Agitation erupted over delayed announcement



Photo: Star

Students of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) in Sylhet withdrew their demonstration early Friday after the vice-chancellor (VC) assured them that the Shahjalal University Central Students' Union (Sucsu) election will be held by December 10, with the official schedule to be announced by this evening.

The protest began Thursday evening after the VC's planned press conference to announce the election roadmap was cancelled at the last minute. Agitated students gathered in front of the administrative building around 6:30 pm, then locked it and staged a sit-in in front of the VC's residence.

Around 11:00 pm, Treasurer Prof Dr Md Ismail Hossain conveyed the VC's assurance that the schedule would be announced on Friday. However, students rejected it, calling the delay "mysterious." They alleged the administration was reluctant to allow student representation, fearing exposure of corruption and irregularities in campus projects.

The standoff continued until 1:00 am, when VC Prof Dr AM Sarwaruddin Chowdhury and Pro-VC Professor Dr Md Sazedul Karim met the demonstrators. They informed students that following a meeting with the

Election Commission of Sucusu on Friday, a date within December 10 would be set for the Sucusu election. The announcement would be made by evening, they assured.

The students ended their demonstration around 1:20 am after receiving the assurance.