

RU women students face serious accommodation crisis

RAJSHAHI, Aug 11: Female students of Rajshahi University have been facing serious accommodation problem since long as the four dormitories assigned for them cannot cope with the rising number of students, reports UNB.

Of the nearly 24,000 students in the RU, the number of female students at present is about 8,500. The university has only 2,181 seats in the four female dormitories, where nearly 4,350 students live at present in pitiable condition—two or three in one bed. Others either stay with relatives or in mess.

Hall sources said some 1,350 students reside in Begum Rokeya Hall having capacity of 720 seats. 1,077 reside in Tapasi Rabeya Hall (cap 525); 1,202 in Begum Munnujan Hall (cap. 676), and 738 in Begum Khaleda Zia Hall (cap. 460).

Some resident students complained that their studies

were hampered due to the rush of non residential students who stay in the halls as guest paying a fee of Tk 15 per night (Tk 450 per month).

A similar shortage of hall accommodation prevails in the male dormitories, but the non-resident male students make their own arrangements outside the campus.

Moreover, the male students can stay in the halls with their classmates against a nominal lump sum amount for months together. They do not have to pay any fees for residing as

guests.

The female hall authorities have been charging the said fee of Tk 15 per day from female students for about one and a half year without approval by the university syndicate. The hall authorities said the decision to charge the fee was taken to reduce pressure of the non-resident students.

The objective of introducing the fee could not be attained as many non-students also stay in the dormitories as guests paying the charge. Provost of Tapasi Rabeya Hall Syeda Kaseda Nure Elahi said.