

## WITHDRAWAL OF CREDIT-HOUR RUET students agitate, VC warns of academic council action

RU Correspondent

SEVERAL hundred students of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology on Saturday once again began their demonstration, demanding withdrawal of mandatory 33-credit hour per semester, for their promotion.

They also submitted a memorandum to the vice-chancellor recently asking reinstatement of the previous promotion system, which was course system.

The RUET authorities, earlier on 11 December in 2015, introduced 33-credit hour system for promotion. If a student fails to accomplish any of the credit hour, he or she will have to retain in the same class. Previously, any student who could not pass a particular course, he or she could have got promotion and sit for the subject he or she had failed.

Protesting against the decision, students started a continuous demonstration, besieged the vice-chancellor's office and compelled the university authorities to postpone the regular classes and exams for an indefinite period, beginning from December 18.

On Saturday, around two hundred students under 2013-14, 2014-15 and

2015-16 sessions, boycotted classes and examinations and gathered before the central Shaheed Minar to press home their demands.

'If any student fails to succeed in the set 33-credits for any reason, he or she will have to retain,' one of the students said. This was very hard for a student, he added.

He said retention means a student must attend the same classes he or she had attended earlier.

Students said they would keep on agitating unless their demands are met.

RUET vice-chancellor Professor Mohammad Rafiqul Alam Beg told New Age that the demand was illogical.

'They want students failing would be promoted but this should not be allowed,' he said.

'Agitating this way coming out of classes was unjustified. This will not be tolerated,' he warned.

He said in a meeting with the respective deans, departments' chairmen and other high officials, they all decided to issue a notice asking agitating students to go back to classes and take their exams.

'If they do not comply, academic council would take further action against them,' the VC said.