

Home Economics students block city crossing for 6th day

Group of DU students oppose movement

DU Correspondent

STUDENTS of Home Economics College continued their blockade at Nilkhet intersection in the city for the sixth consecutive day on Thursday demanding elevation of their college to a full-fledged institute under Dhaka University.

Several hundred female students, around 11:00am, blocked the crossing on Mirpur Road, a major thoroughfare in the city, causing a severe traffic gridlock. During the demonstrations, vehicular movements in and around the area came to a halt, causing immense sufferings to city dwellers.

Education minister Nurul

Islam Nahid at a press conference in the morning at the Secretariat brushed aside the possibility of any immediate elevation of the college to an institute under DU.

He said that the matter was under consideration and it was not immediately possible to accept protesting students' demands.

Home Economics student leader Ishrat Jahan termed the minister's statement unexpected, saying, 'The minister, six months ago, assured us of meeting our demands... but the matter is still under consideration.'

Ishrat, a student of child development and social relation department of the college, said that they would

continue their movement until their demands were met.

A group of DU students, meanwhile, formed a human chain in front of the Vice-Chancellor House around 11:00am and later paraded the campus, protesting at the 'illogical movement' of the Home Economics College students.

They also presented a memorandum to the VC containing a five-point charter of demands which included bar on any use of DU logo and name by affiliate institutions, separate convocation for DU students, bar on affiliate bodies to use DU logo and monogram on certificates, separate policy for affiliated institutions.