

BCL keeps SUST VC confined over recruitment

Staff Correspondent · Sylhet

ACTIVISTS of Bangladesh Chhatra League, the student organisation of ruling Awami League, kept Shahjalal University of Science and Technology's acting vice-chancellor confined to his office room for more than three hours on Thursday in protest at the alleged irregularity in the recruitment of a lecturer.

The BCL protests forced the university authorities to postpone the scheduled

interview of the candidates for preparing a shortlist for a vacant post of social science lecturer, university sources said.

The sources, however, claimed that the activists of the university unit BCL had besieged the office of acting vice-chancellor Elias Uddin Biswas because of not being assured of the appointment of their chosen candidate.

The sources said the acting vice-chancellor fixed Thursday amid the ongoing summer vacation for tak-

ing interviews of the willing candidates against the lecturer post, though the advertisement inviting applications from qualified candidates was published one and a half month ago.

Witnesses said the BCL activists, led by its university unit president Sanjiban Chakrabati Partha, laid siege to the Registrar building, where the vice-chancellor's office is housed, after locking the entrance at around 9:15am keeping the acting VC, several members of

the interview board and 10 candidates in the office confined.

The campus sources said several senior members of the interview board had urged the BCL activists to withdraw their sit-in and allow holding of the scheduled interview, but the BCL men demanded suspension of the interview board.

Later at around 12:30pm, the BCL men withdrew the siege after the university authorities declared postponement of the interview, the

campus sources said.

When contacted, the SUST acting VC told New Age, 'A number of candidates could not appear before the interview board because of the interruption by a group of students forcing us to postpone interview.'

The university unit BCL joint-general secretary Sajidul Islam Sabuj said,

'Recruitment process during summer vacation gave a hint of non-transparency. We want a competent candidate appointed to the post.'