

Report
25

Institute closed sine die 40 injured in JCD-Shibir clash in Ctg Polytech

CHITTAGONG, July 30:—Chittagong Polytechnic Institute was Monday closed sine die after Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Islami Chhatra Shibir activists fought campus battles throughout Sunday night that left at least 40 wounded, reports UNB.

Police picked up 25 students from both sides on Monday morning following the overnight fratricidal fighting since 10 Sunday night between the student wings of the immediate-past ruling-party BNP and its coalition-partner Jamaat-e-Islami.

In a further preventive action, the residents were ordered to vacate all the three halls of the troubled engineering institute by 1pm

today (Monday).

The Academic Council, headed by Principal Abdul Maleq, in an urgent meeting on Monday morning took the decisions of shutdown and vacating the student dorms.

Under the forced closure, classes will remain suspended but set examinations will "continue as usual", Institute authority said.

"A series of clashes between the supporters of the two groups, lasting seven hours, sent a wave of worry and tension through the city's Nasirabad Industrial Area," the sources said in their eyewitness account of the troubles.

The authorities said tensions had been mounting on the cam-

pus for the last few days with the two student organisations having been active to get applicants from their respective parties admitted into the Institute after the admission of freshers began.

In view of the situation, police were posted on the campus on Thursday to monitor the admission process in order to avert any untoward incident.

Outraged by the authority's decision, the two parties started blaming each other for their failure to accomplish their evil motives of having their partisan applicants admitted, the sources said.

Police said a scuffle took place (See Page 15 Col. 5)

40 injured

(From Page 1 Col. 8)

between some of the JCD and ICS supporters at about 10pm Thursday that led to violent clashes.

"Belligerent supports of the two groups, equipped with lethal weapons and firearms, swooped on each other during the seven-hour bloody clashes, which lasted till Monday dawn," said many a campus source.

Later police reinforcements rushed in and brought the situation under control.

During the massive raids, they arrested 25 suspects in the clash, which happens to be the first major campus violence during the current state of emergency declared in the country last January amid a grave political turmoil.

Nine of the injured were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital while seven to different clinics.