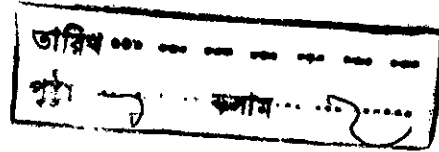


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JCD agrees to relax campus strike from Saturday

Varsity Correspondent

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on Wednesday told the Dhaka University authorities that they would relax their ongoing nonstop shutdown on the campus from Saturday on some conditions.

But the university syndicate in a meeting on Wednesday decided to hold the examinations from August 16 as per the announced schedule.

The Syndicate also decided to hold the exams on Fridays too to cover up the session jam. It also said the new schedule of the postponed examinations as till August 14 would be announced very soon.

The university syndicate again decided to arrange a tete-a-tete among the leaders of all student organisations on August 11 for their recommendations to resolve the ongoing impasse on the campus.

During their second round talks with the committee assigned by the Syndicate to negotiate with the student bodies the JCD leaders assured them that JCD would relax the strike if their supporters ousted from the halls on July 16 after the Narayanganj bomb attack were rehabilitated to the halls.

As per the JCD's demand the Syndicate decided to reinstate the August 16 victims to the dormitories today (Thursday). The JCD leaders agreed to hold the examinations and keep the libraries open from Saturday if the activists were

reinstated.

JCD leaders hinted the authorities that they would withdraw the nonstop strike if all the JCD activists ousted from the halls since April 23 after the killing of Chhatra League leader Partha Protim Achariya were rehabilitated to the halls after again vacating all of them.

They also demanded rehabilitation of those activists who could not get allotment of seats in the halls during the last government's regime.

The Syndicate in Wednesday's meeting asked the students ousted from the halls and have no allotment since April 23 after the killing of Partha to apply for allotments and said they would get seats on the basis of merit.

Leaders of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) also met with the committee on Wednesday. The BCL leaders submitted their eight proposals on the ongoing campus situation.

The leaders demanded of the authorities to take measures to immediately bring back the academic atmosphere on the campus.

Following the talks at a press briefing the JCD leaders told that JCD relaxed its stance considering the common students' sufferings.

Replying to a question the leaders said they would withdraw the strike on seeing the authorities' sincerity to the JCD's proposals.

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JCD agrees

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They also termed the authorities' initiatives to resolve the stalemate as routine work. They also blamed the authorities for prolonging the impasse and the common students' sufferings.

DU Vice Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury at a briefing in the evening said the authorities have called the meeting of the Paribesh Parishad for taking preparations to ensure peaceful coexistence of all student organisations in the dormitories.

About JCD's demand for vacating the dormitories the VC said the Syndicate would take decisions about this after the recommendations of the Paribesh Parishad.

"I'm not so happy as at least six months were dropped from the career of my 15,551 students but I feel a little comfortable at the development," Prof Chowdhury said expressing his feelings about the latest development.

"None has won or lost by the stalemate but the university suffered a lot by the strike," the VC said and hoped that no such situation would occur in future.