

18 injured in police action

Bid to vacate 2 DU halls fails: V-C insulted

Staff Correspondent

The Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. A.K. Azad Chowdhury was barred by a group of BNP-backed JCD activists from visiting and overseeing the planned vacation of Zia Hall to rehabilitate the displaced and ousted students on Tuesday afternoon.

JCD activists also insulted the Vice-Chancellor and the Proctor of the university by throwing rotten eggs and shoes at them soon after their arrival at the Zia Hall gate at about 2 p.m. They damaged the VC's car and forced him and the Proctor to drive back to VC's office.

However, the police personnel deployed earlier at the hall gate resorted to lathi-charge to disperse the unruly JCD leaders, and activists at the time of their attacks on the Vice-Chancellor in which at least 18 students were injured.

After this untoward incident JCD leaders and activists again organised themselves and immediately marched towards the arts faculty building chanting slogan against the Vice-Chancellor and the present government.

They quickly held a rally at the foot of Aparajeya Bangla in protest against the police action on JCD workers on the campus. It was addressed among others by JCD General Secretary Habibunnabi Shohel.

Addressing the rally, JCD leaders alleged that the university authorities

had violated the decision of the Paribesh Parishad. They said that the parishad earlier decided to make the campus free from terrorists first and then take measures for vacating the halls but this was not followed on Tuesday.

They also threatened to go for tougher action programmes soon if the Dhaka University campus was

arts faculty building. They damaged furniture and important documents of those offices. At this stage the Assistant Proctor Mrs. Fatema Begum was injured. She was working at her office then.

Despite these untoward incidents Sir F. Rahman Hall, Mohsin Hall and Kabi Jasimuddin Hall were vacated as per the decision of the

the stronghold of JCD.

University sources said that the Paribesh Parishad on Saturday last at a meeting with different student organisations decided that all residential halls of the university except Surja Sen Hall, Jagannath Hall and female halls would be vacated for two hours on Tuesday to rehabilitate the genuine displaced students at their respective dormitories.

As per that decision the university authorities including the Vice-Chancellor, the Provosts, the Proctor, House Tutors and other concerned officials launched the planned vacation drive on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Dhaka University in a statement on Tuesday night said that its planned drive of vacating the Zia Hall and Bangabandhu Hall was not possible on Tuesday due to non-cooperation of some JCD activists.

It further said that these two halls would be vacated today (Wednesday) to bring back the displaced students on production of their identity cards at the hall gate.

President of Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) Prof. Md. Mostafa Chowdhury and General Secretary Prof. Md. Hossain Mansur in a joint statement on Tuesday strongly protested and condemned the untoward incident of insulting the Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof. A.K. Azad Chowdhury by JCD activists at the gate of Zia Hall on Tuesday.

They also condemned the ransacking of the offices of the proctor of the university and the damages caused to the car of the Vice-Chancellor by the same group of unruly students.

DUTA leaders urged the university authorities and the government to take stern action against those involved in Tuesday's untoward incident on Dhaka university campus. They also urged the government to ensure security of life of those residing on the Dhaka university, campus and take steps to help restore a congenial academic atmosphere here.



Militant students damaged the car of the Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University near the Zia Hall on Tuesday. —OBSERVER

not made free from terrorists.

After the rally the JCD activists suddenly attacked the Proctor office and the office of the Sociology Department at the ground floor of the

University Paribesh Parishad on Tuesday. However, the university authorities faced some opposition from JCD activists at the time of vacating the Jasimuddin Hall, one of