



Students suffer Shibir strike in CU begins

CU Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 11:—The sufferings of the general students of Chittagong University (CU) have begun today as Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) enforced an indefinite strike on the campus from today.

The ICS, student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami, called this indefinite strike to press home their 10-point demand. The demands are rehabilitation of legal students in Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) captured Shahjalal Hall and Shah Amanat Hall, arrest of those BCL activists who are involved in killing and toll collecting on the CU campus, removal of present CU Proctor, recovery of illegal arms from the campus and withdrawal of ban decision on all political activities on CU campus.

The first day of the ICS called indefinite strike passed off almost peacefully on the campus today. No classes and scheduled examinations were held today. But the administrative activities of the university went on as usual. Most of the university teachers who lived in the city could not attend their duties as university buses could not ply from the city to university. In the morning, ICS activists enforced a barricade in front of transport section of the university.

Activists of ICS organised separate meetings at Battali and Sholashahar Railway Station in support of their indefinite strike. In the meeting the ICS leaders said that the CU authority forced the academic life of 16,000 students of the university into darkness by sheltering BCL cadres in Shahjalal Hall and Shah Amanat Hall. They demanded immediate normalisation of present critical situation of CU by fulfilment of their 10-point demand.

When contacted some students of CU who came on the station to go to university said that the ICS-men forced them to leave the University Shuttle Trains at 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. They also showed arms to them and threatened to kill them if they did not leave the train at once, alleged some students.

Sangrami Chhatra Oikya and Chittagong University Resident Students' Development Council (CURSDC), two ICS backed organisation of CU lent their support to the indefinite strike of ICS on the campus.

While talking to the Bangladesh Observer CU ICS President Alaudin Sikdar said, we always want to hold talks for resolving the present critical situation of the university. The door for talks is always open. The Vice-Chancellor of the university requested us to sit for dialogue. But we said that the willingness to hold dialogue must be shown first by the university to fulfil some of our demands.

The Member-Secretary of Environment Council, Ahmedul Huq Chowdhury said to the Bangladesh Observer over telephone, our repeated request to the ICS leaders went in vain yesterday (Friday). Environment Council must need time to finish their ground work for rehabilitation of ICS-men in Shah Amanat Hall and Shahjalal Hall. This is not a matter for a short while.

Meanwhile, a faction of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of BNP has called another indefinite strike on the CU Campus in support of their 8-point demand.

On the other hand, the Vice-Chancellor of the university today sat with all Provosts of university halls to discuss about the present situation of the halls. In the meeting they decided to oust all out-siders from the halls and rehabilitated legal students their in. They will meet tomorrow to take the final decision on this matter.

Most of the departments of CU now running with more than three years of session jam and this strike will be a suicide work for us, observed a student of Journalism Department.

A tense situation has now been prevailing on the campus. A good number of police personnel have been deployed on the campus to avoid any unwanted situation.