

CU students abstain from classes

Chittagong Office

CHITTAGONG, Sept. 22.—The students of Chittagong University today abstained from attending their classes in protest against assault and inflicting serious injuries to JCD University Unit General Secretary Rafiqul Islam Hilali by the Shibir activists.

The JCD university unit gave this strike call for an indefinite period in the university. The All-Party Students Unity (APSU) of which pro-AL Chhatra League is also a component body extended all support to this strike call.

The teachers of Chittagong University today also refrained from taking classes at the call of the Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers Association (FBUTA) to press home the demand for withdrawal of cases against teachers of Jahangirnagar University.

The university shuttle trains did not leave Chittagong station for campus because of strike call. A scanty number of buses plied to and from the campus today.

An uneasy calm situation prevailed on Chittagong University campus today. Five platoons of police

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including two from arms police battalion have been deployed for patrol on the campus. Besides, two platoons of Bangladesh Rifles are also on duty on the campus.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Rafiqul Islam Chowdhury, on Tuesday evening held an emergency meeting with the deans and provosts of the halls to discuss the law and order situation in the University. The Vice-Chancellor also asked the Proctor, Prof. Abul Kashem Chowdhury, and other Assistant Proctors to stay on the campus overnight to do the needful if any disquiet situation arises.

Meanwhile, a good number of resident students already left their dormitories in the wake of the violence in the university on Tuesday.

The Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), pro-AL Chhatra League, Chhatra Union, Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya, Bangladesh Chhatra Federation and Islami Chhatra Sena held separate

rallies and processions to protest attack on JSC leader Rafiqul Islam Nasim by the Shibir activists in Chittagong University. The leaders of these student bodies in statements demanded stern action against those persons who were responsible for the attack on democratic student leaders in Chittagong and Rajshahi Universities. They demanded ban on the Jamaat-Shibir politics.

The Chittagong City Unit Awami League President M.A. Mannan, and General Secretary A.B.M. Mohiuddin, Five-party Alliance leaders—Sharbindu Dastidar, Nur Mohammed, Balagat Ullah, Nurul Islam of Workers Party, and Ahsanullah and Shah Alam of Communist Party of Bangladesh in separate press statements also condemned the attack on JCD leader Rafiqul Islam Hilali by the Shibir activists.