

BUET closed sine a die after students clash with police

Varsity Correspondent

The authorities of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) closed the university for an indefinite period, and the residents students left the dormitories when they were asked to vacate all the halls by 5 pm on Monday following a series of clashes between the students and police demanding deferment of their exams.

Earlier on Sunday at least 50 students and policemen received

injuries as police charge baton and fired tear shells on the agitated students on the BUET campus at midnight on Sunday.

The students of BUET became violent after the authorities declined to shift the examinations for the second time and police on Sunday night fired rubber bullets and teargas canisters and charged batons.

Earlier, officials concerned said, the authorities had shifted the

examinations as the students demanded the deferment on the plea of World Cup football held in Germany from June 9 to July 9.

Some 18 students were injured when police fired tear shells and rubber bullets and charged baton to disperse the demonstrators.

In reply, students hurled brickbats on police, turning the campus into a battleground. At least 12 policemen were injured during the clash that continued for about two hours starting from 9:30pm.

Of the injured students, 12 were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

The injured policemen were admitted to Rajarbagh Police Lines Hospital.

Witnesses said the clash broke out when police dispersed a procession of students demonstrating against the university authorities' decision to hold the exams on schedule.

Sources said for the last five days, the students have been demanding to defer the examinations scheduled to begin on August 1.

They met Vice-chancellor Prof M Alee Murtuza on Sunday and threatened to go for an indefinite strike if their demand was not met

(See page 15 Col. 6)

BUET

(From Page 1 Col. 8)

immediately.

Some of the students said the authorities assured them that they would consider their demand at a meeting on Sunday.

"The meeting ended at noon but none of them talked to us. When we met the VC again, he told us that the examinations would not be deferred," said a student.

Being agitated they vandalised the university cafeteria in the evening.

At one stage of the clashes, police batoncharged the agitating students. Chased by the police, students took shelter at different dormitories at around 9:20pm and began throwing stones on the law enforcers.

They kept four teachers confined at Suhrawardy Hall on the night.

Demonstrators at a meeting on the campus demanded resignation of VC and Directorate of Students' Welfare for their "failure to maintain law and order on the campus".