

JCD cadres attack BCL activists: 19 injured

Indefinite student strike at DU begins today

DU Correspondent

Chhatra Sangram Parishad, the student front of the Awami League-led 14 party alliance, called indefinite strike at Dhaka University campus from today (Monday) demanding immediate resignation of Vice-chancellor SMA Faiz and Proctor AK Firoz.

The combined action programme came following attacks by Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on the Chhatra League-led student conglomerates Workers on the DU campus since Sunday morning

that left at least 20 injured, said the Parishad leaders.

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) President Mahmud Hasan Ripon announced the student strike at a press conference in the afternoon at JSD office in the city. The strike coincides with a countrywide Siege planned by the 14-party alliance, if not called off.

At noon, the Parishad leaders and activists came under two-pronged Attacks by their rivals that triggered violence on the

university campus.

Five gunshots were fired and as many bombs set off during one of the Attacks by the activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) outside the VC office, campus sources said.

The activists of the BNP student wing chased Parishad workers when they, led by Chhatra League president Ripon and general secretary Roton, were going to Vice-chancellor Prof. SMA Faiz to hold

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Indefinite

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meeting with the VC about 11am.

Being chased, the group took shelter in the VC office and then held the meeting with him, discussing their ouster from the campus.

"When the BCL leaders were leaving the campus with police escort at about 1:45pm after the meeting, the JCD activists again chased them-this time shooting blank fire and hurling bombs during the rampage," said a spot account of the melee.

And, thereafter, the banished Chhatra Leaguers also fell in the wrath of a group of their dissident colleagues, led by Panir, near Mohsin hall.

The BCL leaders and activists had left the campus nearly a month ago following an intra-party clash towards the end of BNP government's tenure. They split into small groups, tried to return to the campus Sunday with police protection when they faced the obstruction from both sides from the prime opponents and the renegades.

Meanwhile, VC Prof. Faiz told reporters that the DU authority was discussing with hall authorities the ways of creating a "congenial atmosphere for co-existence of the students belonging to all parties".

The hall authorities have also been asked to furnish lists of the students not able to stay in the dormitories, he said.

Taking a tough stand, the VC unveiled a plan that the student dorms could be raided by BDR, if necessary, for keeping these free from arms.

"We have already sent a number of letters to the Home Secretary, the Inspector General of Police and the Director General of BDR in this regard," VC Faiz told the newsmen.

He said university authorities, if necessary would conduct investigation into Sunday's violence on the campus and take action against those responsible.