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Gunshots break 3-week lull in DU

Rattles of gun late Saturday night broke a three-week lull on the Dhaka University campus, reports UNB.

Police and campus sources said three gunshots were heard from the direction of Jagannath Hall, known as the stronghold of pro-Awami League Chhatra League.

Police rushed to the spot but found none in the scene. Saturday night's gunfire was the first after the killing of two student activists of JCD on the campus on September 4.

After the killings, huge paramilitary BDR and armed and riot police were deployed at all the residential hall gates and entrances to the campus.

BCL rally against V-C Thursday

Pro-Awami League Chhatra League is likely to stage a demonstration on the Dhaka University

campus next Thursday to press home their demand for resignation of Vice-Chancellor Prof. M. Maniruzzaman Miah.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will attend an award giving ceremony as chief guest on the campus on that day. The DU authorities have organised the function at the TSC auditorium after a decade to distribute medals among the students, teachers and researchers of the university.

Leaders of Chhatra League alleged that the VC was creating sub-groups among the student bodies and instigating terrorism on the campus.

"The VC has also failed to maintain peaceful co-existence among the students in the residential halls, they added.

The planned demonstration would not be targetted against the Prime Minister but against the Vice-Chancellor, they said.

"We must have respect for Begum Zia but who gave such power to the VC to invite the country's chief executive without consulting the student organisations," questioned Pankaj Devnath, General Secretary of BCL unit.

"Reality is quite different... theoretical approach is not always applicable on DU" he told UNB and blamed the VC for not discussing with the leaders of the student bodies before inviting Prime Minister to the function.

Meanwhile, Vice-Chancellor in a

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meeting with the DU correspondents at his office on Sunday morning said there was no provision in the varsity to talk to student leaders before taking any administrative decision.

He said according to the Dhaka University Ordinance '73, the DUC-SU and Hall Students' Union were the only recognised organisations of the University and therefore, the varsity authorities were not obliged to involve others in its administrative matters.

Referring to October 1 function, the VC said it is totally university's own programme and not open to all. The invitation to the Prime Minister was taken after meeting with the Deans, Chairmen and the Syndicate.

"We call student leaders during crisis among the student groups, but we cannot call them for taking administrative decisions," he stressed.

The VC exchanged views with the journalists and discussed the overall campus situation and called upon them to make the October 1 programme a success.

During the discussion, the DU reporters hailed the decision on curbing terrorism and cleansing the residential halls of terrorists and outsiders.

Journalists called upon the VC to implement the decisions strictly for the greater interest of thousands of general students.