

DU exams held: Mahbub

Education Minister Mahbubur Rahman on Saturday informed the Jatiya Sangsad that the situation in the Dhaka University campus was calm and that all the classes and scheduled examinations were held as usual, reports BSS.

The university was rocked by gun shots and blasts following clashes between Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Chhatra League (JSD) on June 25 and 26, the Minister said.

The Minister, in a statement in the Jatiya Sangsad, gave an account of the situation and said it was now under complete control of the University authorities. He said this was possible due to full cooperation given by the Government and the law-enforcing agencies.

Mr Rahman said due to improvement of the situation, the University authorities last night decided to keep in abeyance an earlier Syndicate decision to close down the University sine die and to ask the students to leave the halls by 10 a.m. on Saturday.

He said the Syndicate met again on Saturday morning, took stock of the situation and decided that if the situation deteriorates then its earlier decision to close down the University sine die and ask the students to vacate the halls would be implemented.

In his statement, the Education Minister said on the night of June 25 clashes occurred be-

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tween Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Chhatra League (JSD). They exchanged gun fire.

He said it was presumed that the clashes ensued as one group of the students could not be satisfied with the allotment of seats in Surjash Hall on the basis of merit.

The Minister said that in the morning of June 26 tension prevailed in the Surjash Hall and Mohsin Hall areas. At 12 noon, the University Education Environment Council was in a meeting which had to be abandoned as the situation in the campus deteriorated as the rival groups of students again attacked and counter-attacked each other with fire arms.

He said that at the request of the University authorities on June 26 police took position in front of the residence of the Vice-Chancellor at 1 p.m. and left the place at 3 p.m.

At 4 p.m. on the same day the Syndicate in an emergency meeting took stock of the situation. For the safety of the students, teachers and others the Syndicate decided to close down the University sine die and direct the students to vacate the halls by 10 a.m. Saturday. This decision was not implemented by the authority due to improvement of the situation, the minister said.