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Gunshots during Khaleda's visit to DU campus

By DU Correspondent

Several gunshots were fired on the Dhaka University campus yesterday during BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia's visit to the oral saline and pure drinking water project, run by Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at the conference room of the Business Studies building.

BNP's student front JCD and Awami League's student front Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) in separate press conferences later accused each other for the gunshots.

Panic stricken students ran for shelter when four shots were fired near the Business Studies building just before Begum Zia entered the campus at about noon, witnesses said. The incident took place in presence of a huge number of policemen de-

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ployed on the campus for the visit of the Leader of the Opposition in Jatiya Sangsad.

A JCD procession welcomed Begum Zia at the Shahabag crossing and escorted her car to the campus, the witnesses said.

Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof. A K Azad Chowdhury and president of Dhaka University Teachers' Association Prof. A F M Yusuf Haider received Begum Zia.

The VC, DITA president, some top leaders of BNP and leaders of JCD were with the Opposition leader when she visited the project.

Another two gunshots were heard from the Dhaka University Library area while Khaleda Zia was leaving the campus by her car. The car was surrounded by a procession of the JCD activists.

After Begum Zia left, JCD president Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anney at the press conference blamed BCL for the gun-

shots.

"It's a planned conspiracy to mar the BNP chief's visit," Anney said demanding immediate arrest and punishment of the persons responsible for the incident and formation of a probe committee to probe it.

JCD will submit a memorandum to the VC today to press the demands and organise demonstrations across the country (excluding flood-hit areas) on Saturday and hold a protest rally on the DU campus to protest the incident, he said.

BCL president Enamul Haque Shamim, at a separate press conference at the Madhu's Canteen, blamed the JCD for the gunshots.

"Internal grouping of the JCD was the cause of the gunshots", he said.

The BCL will also hold a rally on the campus on Saturday to protest the incident, he said.

The BCL brought out a procession on the campus just after the opposition leader left it.