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DU rallies protest arrest of student leaders

Varsity Correspondent

Different student organisations brought out processions and held rallies on Dhaka University campus on Monday in protest against arrest of student leaders in Rajshahi University and police attack on Awami League and its student front BCL members in Chittagong during hartal hours on Sunday.

Bangladesh Chhatra League (M-I) at a rally strongly protested the police attack on Awami League and BCL leaders in Chittagong and called upon people of all sections to raise voice against the Government's repression and oppression.

Addressing the rally at the foot of Aparajeo Bangla the student leaders resented the police action against Rajshahi University students and

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arrest of two leaders of Chhatra Oikya and demanded release of all student leaders including BCL Dhaka University Unit General Secretary Pankaj Dev Nath.

The rally was addressed, among others, by BCL President Moinuddin Hasan Chowdhury, General Secretary Iqbalur Rahim, Dhaka University Unit President KHM Lizu, city unit leaders Manjurul Islam Asru and Shafiq.

Criticising the attack on people when they were picketing in support of hartal called by Awami League in Chittagong City on Sunday they said though holding of rally and observance of hartal are the democratic rights of the people the present government was trying to snatch these rights through taking various repressive measures.

They said that several leaders and workers of Awami League and BCL were injured and a number of workers were arrested by police when they were staging demonstrations in Chittagong City during Sunday's hartal and urged the Government to refrain itself from such undemocratic activities.

The BCL leaders criticised the Government for arresting the Chhatra Oikya leaders in Rajshahi University and demanded their release.

Chhatra League (B-K) held a separate rally in front of DUCSU building in protest against the arrest of student leaders in Rajshahi and Rangpur which was addressed, among others, by Chhatra League General Secretary Abdullahil Quayum and Obaidul Rahman Chunnu.

They said that without taking action against the terrorists of Islami Chhatra Shibir police arrested Chhatra League Rajshahi University Unit President Karim Shikder, Chhatra Moitree Rajshahi University Unit President Babui Khan and Rangpur Unit Chhatra League leader Sabbir Ahmed through filing false cases. They demands immediate release of all student leaders.

Chhatra League (B-K) will stage demonstration on Dhaka University campus at 11 a.m. today (Tuesday) in protest against the arrest of their leaders.

Meanwhile, different political and student organisations in separate statement on Monday protested the arrest of student leaders in Rajshahi University and condemned the police attack on the peaceful procession of students.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Inu) presidium member Kazi Aref Ahmed and General Secretary Hasanul Haq Inu in a joint statement criticised the Government for its undemocratic behaviour towards Opposition student leaders and said that the Government had created an abnormal situation in Rajshahi University through arresting two student leaders.

They demanded their immediate release.

A.F.M. Mahbubul Haq, convener of Five-party Alliance and Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) in a statement condemned the arrest of student leaders in Rajshahi University and Rangpur and demanded their release.

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front President Belal Chowdhury and General Secretary Razekuzzaman Ratan, Chhatra League (B-S) President Abul Kalam Azad in separate statements resented the arrest of student leaders in Rajshahi University and demanded their immediate release.

They criticised the Government for harassing student leaders and workers across the country and called upon all to build united resistance against the undemocratic activities of the Government.