

JCD seals locks at three universities with glue

Protesting Tarique's conviction; brings out processions

DU CORRESPONDENT

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on Saturday night poured glue into door locks at Dhaka, Jahangirnagar and Rajshahi universities as part of their countrywide strike to protest jailing of BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman in a money laundering case.

The BNP-backed student body tried to foil classes and exams.

Seven locks were sealed with glue at Curzon Hall, Arts Building, Mokarram Bhaban, and Science Annex Building of Dhaka University, but the administration broke all those in the early morning, and classes were not hampered, said Proctor AM Amzad.

JCD leaders of DU said Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) obstructed their procession heading into the campus and attacked them.

"While putting up posters at Cuzon Hall, JCD activist and chemistry student Noor Alam Bhuiyan Emon was attacked by BCL and injured seriously," said Al Mehedi Talukder, DU unit president of JCD.

Denying the allegation, the DU unit president of BCL said, "Chhatra League is firm on maintaining a congenial

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

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FROM PAGE 3

environment and discipline on the campus. We must not allow in JCD leaders who are irregular and non-students."

At Jahangirnagar, at least 30 door locks of classrooms, offices, and buildings were sealed. The locks were broken in the early morning, reports our JU correspondent.

Admitting that they did it, JU unit general secretary of JCD Abdur Rahim Saikat told The Daily Star, "Protesting the illegal verdict against BNP Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman, patriotic general students put glue into the locks."

He also threatened further programmes.

JU Assistant Proctor Mehedi Iqbal said, "The incident did not affect academic operations today. All exams and some classes were held as per the schedule."

At least 13 locks were found in this condition at RU's ceramics and sculpture department, and no classes took place, reports our RU correspondent. Expressing dissatisfaction, some students asked how JCD activists

did it despite presence of guards.

The department's chairman, Prof Mustafa Anwar, said there were a few guards, so they did not notice. JCD men demonstrated in different areas of the capital, too.

Processions were brought out in Bangla Motor and Hatirpool areas, while JCD's private university unit organised one in Malibagh Railgate area, led by the unit's president and general secretary Muktadir Hossain Toru and Mahatab Uddin Zimi.

The units at Jagannath University, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Dhaka College, Titumir College, and Tejgaon College also held processions.

Continuing their protest, all Dhaka units of JCD will hold processions and rallies tomorrow and units at all educational institutions, cities and district units across the country Wednesday.

The High Court jailed Tarique for seven years on Thursday for laundering Tk 20.41 crore.