

JCD faces split

Staff Correspondent

A split in the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, the student wing of Bangladesh Nationalist Party has surfaced with the expulsion of Sanaul Huq Niru, Joint Convenor of the Central Committee of Chhatra Dal.

The two feuding groups of Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal have long been fighting each other on the campus. These two groups were found to have been locked in violent armed clashes on the Dhaka University several times in the past.

Not too long ago, two separate panels of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal were announced for the election to the Dhaka University Central Students Union (DUCSU). The rift in the JCD was then patched up at the behest of top leadership of Bangladesh Nationalist Party. But the discontent was simmering within the JCD factions. In spite of the internal feud, the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal swept the DUCSU elections.

Five central leaders of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal including Golam Faruk Ovee, former International Relations Affairs Secretary of JCD, and Masudur Rahman Masud, acting convenor of the Dhaka University Unit of the organisation, 11 office bearers of DUCSU, majority of the Vice-Presidents and General Secretaries of the different hall unions in a signed statement on Saturday demanded withdrawal of expulsion order on Sanaul Huq Niru and four other student leaders of JCD.

The signatories to the statement criticised the expulsion of Sanaul Huq Niru and four other leaders of JCD at instruction of BNP high command. They termed the action as a conspiracy to sabotage current anti-government movement. They alleged that the decision to expel the five leaders of JCD at this moment was taken by some government agents now hiding inside the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP). The decision

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they felt had angered the students community of the country specially the Dhaka University students.

The signatories said that the action against the five leaders of JCD was unconstitutional as they were not given any opportunity for self-defence.

They said they were ready to make any sacrifice in the movement against autocracy. But they said that they would not participate in any staged managed game in the name of movement. They hoped that good sense would prevail on the leadership of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and demanded immediate withdrawal of the expulsion order on the five student leaders including Sanaul Huq Niru. They cautioned that present leadership of BNP would bear the consequence arising out of this action.

The 38 signatories to the statement include five central committee leaders of JCD, eleven office bearers and members of DUCSU and 22 Vice President and General Secretary and office bearers of 12 residential hall unions of Dhaka University. Prominent among the signatories were Golam Faruk Ovee, Meshabuddin Ali, Emdad Khan, Mosharraf Ahmed Thakur and Masudur Rahman Masud of JCD central committee, Sayed Hassan Kanan, Sports Secretary, Jahanara Begum, Girls Common Room Secretary, Niamat Elahi Literary Secretary.

Signatories also included Vice-Presidents and General Secretaries of Shahidullah Hall, Mujib Hall, Kabi Jashimuddin Hall, F. Rahman Hall, Fazlul Huq Hall, S.M. Hall, Mohsin Hall, Rokya Hall, Shamsunnahar Hall, Zia Hall, Surya Sen Hall, Kuwait Moitree Hall.

Gun shots rocked the Dhaka University campus creating panic among the students and the residents living in the adjoining areas of the Dhaka University on Friday night as soon as the expulsion of the five JCD leaders including Sanaul Huq Niru was announced.

All-Party Student leaders have already expressed concern over the renewed violence and terrorism on the campus by the JCD rival groups. They urged the general students to remain alert against any such violence which they observed would help the government design to create disunity among the students.

In a personal statement issued to the Press, Sanaul Huq Niru, said a misleading news regarding the expulsion of some dedicated workers of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) was published in section of the press. The news, he said was a heinous design to tarnish the image of the present All-party Student Unity and the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal in particular.

Sanaul Huq Niru said that action would result in creating division among the student community, harm the current anti-government movement and strengthen the hands of the autocratic government.

He termed the expulsion order as unconstitutional as no show cause notice was served earlier. He said it was unbelievable that the expulsion order would come to five dedicated leader including himself who fought uncompromisingly for democracy at the instruction of Begum Khaleda Zia, chairperson of BNP and leader of the Seven-party Alliance.

He said, it was not clear why the present leadership expelled him. He said he made great sacrifice with the detention of 43 months. He advised the leadership not to be allured by the government.

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