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Vehicles damaged, many injured

Police jeep hits procession

A Sun Report

The Chhatra League (A-A) workers on Tuesday went on rampage in the city and set ablaze at least four vehicles and damaged about 50 others including a police van after a police jeep had hit a Chhatra League procession from behind at the Bangabandhu Avenue injuring one seriously.

Besides, at least 30 persons including a photo journalist of The Morning Sun were injured when police resorted to lathicharge and fired teargas shells to disperse the agitating supporters of Chhatra League. Police also picked up six Chhatra League leaders and workers including Kamruzzaman Ansari, General Secretary of organisation's Dhaka University Unit.

Chhatra League members set ablaze a Microbus (Dhaka-metro-Cha 7790) at the Nilkhel crossing and two others (SUS-65-3327 and SUS-65-3264) at the British Council Library premises and a motor cycle (Dhaka-metro-a-01-9074) near Jagannath Hall yesterday morning in protest against the arrest of their leaders and workers.

Some unruly students also damaged five other vehicles inside the British Council. Later, Chhatra League held a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club at about 11.30 am demanding immediate release of their leaders and workers including Liaquat and Masum.

The rally over, Chhatra League brought out a procession when

the procession came near Zero point a police van which was following the procession, hit the procession leaving a Chhatra League member injured.

The victim of the police van was identified as Babul, General Secretary of City College unit of the organisation. His leg was badly bruised, attending doctors said.

Following the incident, the Chhatra League supporters became violent and started damaging vehicles parked at Gulistan and plying through the area. According to eyewitnesses, police this time, resorted to indiscriminate lathicharge and lobbed several rounds of teargas shells to disperse the violent processionists.

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Police jeep hits procession

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At least 30 students were injured in police action.

Meanwhile, Abu Taher Khokon, the photo journalist of the Morning Sun was beaten mercilessly by police personnel while he was clicking his camera during police action.

Police also picked up six Chhatra League members from the spot. They were Kamruzzaman Ansari, General

Secretary of Dhaka University unit, Tabul Chowdhury, Central Committee member, Rafique Ahmed, Abdul Mannan, Tofael Ahmed and Sajjad Hussain.

Following the incident of Gulistan area tension mounted on the DU campus. However, no untoward incident was reported from the campus till writing this report at 10 pm. Heavy contingent of police were deployed at different strategic points to maintain law and order on the campus.

BCL rally

Earlier, the Chhatra League rally, held in front of the Jatiya Press Club, was addressed, among others, by Kamrul Ahsan, Golam Mostafa Sujan and Kamruzzaman Ansari. Chhatra League Vice-President S M Solaiman presided over it.

Addressing the rally they said, BNP had started autocratic rule in the country through arresting the 'innocent' leaders and workers instead of arresting the armed hoodlums of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal.

They warned that they would resist such autocratic activity and called upon the student community to stand against undemocratic practices of BNP.

Press Conference

Chhatra League also held a press conference at Jatiya Press Club in the evening protesting the police raid on its procession.

Addressing the newsmen Chhatra League Leader B M Mozammel Huq accused the party in power of instigating undemocratic and autocratic activities— all in Ershad style.

He said the identified terrorists under the patronisation of JCD were seen moving to the Sugandha Office of the Prime Minister. But police were only bypassing and arresting the Chhatra League members with cases, he regretted.

Mozammel called upon the love-loving people to boy-

Newaz Sharif

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Pakistanis. "We sincerely hope that they will go back to Pakistan", he added.

Mr Sharif lauded the role of Begum Zia in leading Bangladesh to prosperity after her government took over following the general election.

The Pakistan Premier said "we consider the people of Bangladesh as our own brethren, and pray for their welfare."

Begum Khaleda Zia said the expectation of the people, from the democratically elected government is very high but due to financial constraints one can not fulfil their expectations.