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SSC exam issue

200 injured in Chittagong clash

Chittagong Office

CHITTAGONG, Nov. 3: At least 200 persons were injured including a magistrate, 17 of them seriously in a clash between the violent SSC examinees and Police at Mirsarai today.

About 700 SSC examinees went on rampage in support of their three point demands.

The demands include resumption of 1992 education policy, including task force, withdrawal of double pass system in a subject and objective type question from 500 question bank.

Police tried to prevent the unruly students but failed to quell them by firing about 100 rounds of blank shots. Police had to lathi charge the agitated students.

Seventeen seriously injured students were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH). After the incident the violent students put barricade on Dhaka-Chittagong highway at Mirsarai point from 1 p.m.

The barricade could not be removed till writing of this report at 10.30 p.m. on Tuesday. A tense situation has been prevailing there.

Train service disrupted

Our Brahmanbaria Correspondent adds: Rail communication between Dhaka-Chittagong and Dhaka-Sylhet remained disrupted for about three hours following a barricade put on the rail track at Talshahar railway station by a group of rowdy students today (Tuesday) at 10.30 a.m.

On receipt of information, police rushed to the spot and removed the barricade at 1.30 p.m. and rail com-

munication resumed at 1.30 p.m.

Students of different schools of Brahmanbaria town boycotted the classes and brought out processions protesting the new examination system.

8-hour hartal in Sylhet

Our Sylhet correspondent adds: A half-day hartal from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. was observed almost peacefully excepting some stray incidents in Sylhet town today.

The hartal call was given by school students in protest against the government's decision of double pass system in the SSC examination of 1993.

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200 injured

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The civic life came to a halt as all shops, markets supermarkets, educational and financial institutions in the town remained closed during hartal hours. Some rickshaws were damaged and stones were pelted at vehicles causing damage to many vehicles while a furniture shop at Rikabibazar in the town was damaged by agitated students.

Processions were brought out during hartal hours when one student was arrested by police. The students demanded immediate release of all 12 students including those who were arrested on October 29 in Sylhet town.

Meanwhile local units of the student organisations expressed their solidarity with the just demands of the students who are going to appear at the SSC examination of 1993.

Processions in Bagerhat

Our Bagerhat Correspondent adds: Students of secondary schools of Bagerhat town also boycotted their classes and brought out a big procession today protesting the change of SSC examination method and cancellation of task force.

The students paraded the main roads of the town shouting various slogans in favour of their demands. They demanded the resumption of 1992 SSC Examination method and task force.

Three school students who were arrested by the police from the procession yesterday in connection with damaging some vehicles were released Monday night.

Train, ferry attacked

UNB adds from Sirajganj: Students of a school today attacked a train and a railway ferry at Jagan-nathganj ghat even after government announcement retaining the bank of objective questions in the next SSC examination.

Station sources said over 200 students of Tigna High School and attacked Padma Express and MV Suhrawardy and assaulted 20 people at about 2 p.m.

The Sareng and the Master of the

ferry were among the injured who were given first aid.

The school boys badly damaged several doors and windows of the train and station master's room at the station.

Ferry and train services were disrupted for about three hours following the attack.

The government, in the wake of student agitation, has decided to retain the bank of 500 objective-type questions in the SSC Examination 1992.

48-hr hartal call in Jhenidah

UNB reports from Jhenidah Secondary school students today called a 48-hour hartal beginning tomorrow (Wednesday) morning in the town to protest change in the SSC Examination system.

Hundreds of students brought out a procession at about 10 a.m. chanting slogans against the new system and blocked traffic.