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6 DU halls raided, arms recovered, 23 held

Varsity Correspondent

Police raided six residential halls of Dhaka University on Tuesday and recovered huge quantity of illegal arms and ammunition.

During the two and a half hours long raid police recovered 14 fire arms and 397 bullets and arrested 23 persons on charge of possessing illegal arms.

A huge contingent of police entered the university campus at about 3.30 pm and carried out raid on the Surya Sen Hall, AF Rahman Hall, Zahirul Haq Hall, Salimullah Hall and Jagannath Hall.

Earlier, police raided the Shahidullah Hall of Dhaka University at about 4 am and recovered four arms and 81 bullets from the hall. Police arrested 12 persons from the spot during the two-hour long raid.

Shahidullah Hall is stronghold of JCD but the extension building of the hall was captured reportedly by BCL (S-P) members on Saturday night.

Police entered the Surya Sen Hall, a stronghold of JCD at about 3.30 pm and raided the hall till 5 pm. During the operation police re-

covered two cut rifles and 175 bullets.

Police arrested Titu, Assistant General Secretary of Surya Sen Hall unit of JCD and Faisal Babu with a bag full of bullets from the hall. Faisal Babu, is a JCD activist and resident student of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall.

Shortly after the police raid the members of JCD brought out a procession protesting the police raid. The agitated JCD activists also pelted police with brick-bats. Police lobbed 12 teargas shells to disperse the JCD members.

Police entered the Zahirul Haq Hall at about 3.0 pm and raided some selected rooms of the hall. During the raid police recovered eight illegal arms. Police also recovered 141 bullets and arrested 9 persons including the hall union General Secretary and a leader of Chhatra League (Montu Group), backed by Gano Forum leader Mostafa Mohsin Montu.

Masum Ahmed was arrested with a pistol when he tried to escape by jumping off the roof of a three-storey building of the hall. Police also recovered Taka ten thousand from his pocket.

He received serious injury in leg and was admitted at Pangu Hospital.

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6 DU halls

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Shortly after police departure from Zahirul Haq Hall six rounds of gun shots were fired from the direction of Salimullah Hall.

Police again took position between Salimullah Hall and Zahirul Haq Hall. One round of gun shots was also fired from Zahirul Haq Hall.

Police also raided AF Rahman Hall (stronghold of JCD), Salimullah Hall (stronghold of BCL (S-P) and Jagannath Hall (stronghold of BCL (S-P) at 3.30 pm but could not recover any arms and ammunition. None was also arrested from those halls.

During the sudden operation police did not allow any person to come out of the residential halls.

The recovered arms include cut rifles, revolvers, pistols and pipe-guns.

UNB adds:—At an impromptu rally in front of "Aparajeyo Bangla", BNP's student front Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) accused the police of beating innocent students during the raid.

The rally was addressed, among others, by JCD leaders Moniruzzaman Monir, Shahiduddin Chowdhury Ani, Mosharraf Hossain and Monir Hossain.