

PM attends DU function today

Varsity Correspondent

The Dhaka University authorities will hold the award giving ceremony today (Thursday) at 10 a.m. at Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) auditorium where Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will be the chief guest.

This will be the first visit of Prime Minister to Dhaka University campus after she came to power early last year.

Heavy security measures have been taken for the function.

A number of student organisations declared programmes of demonstration, processions and token hunger strike for today on the campus. They announced the programmes protesting promulgation of anti-terrorism ordinance, non-implementation of the ten-point demand of the student community and violation of the joint declaration of the three alliances during the anti-autocracy movement in 1990 by her government.

Heavy contingent of para-military force BDR, riot police and personnel of other law enforcing agencies have

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DU function

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been posted at different points on the campus to maintain law and order.

The major student organisation BCL (M-I), backed by Awami League, has decided not to stage any protest to block the PM's visit. A BCL source said that Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina advised BCL leaders not to stop the PM's visit in the greater interest of democratic practices.

But the alliance of eight student organisations, JSD (Inu) backed BCL, Chhatra Federation and JAGPA backed BCL announced their programmes to stage demonstrations.

Bangladesh Chhatra League (M-I), Dhaka University Unit on Wednesday put forward an eight-point charter of demand and expected that Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will give a positive announcement during her visit today (Thursday) to Dhaka University campus.

Addressing a Press conference at the Dhaka University Journalists Association (DUJA) office the BCL leader said most of teachers and students were not invited to attend the function. Even the authorities did not inform the student bodies about the function.

They said the Vice-Chancellor organised the function to achieve his personal interests.

The eight-point demand of BCL includes eradication of terrorism from campuses, announcement regarding realisation of students ten-point demand, withdrawal of anti-terrorism ordinance and repealing of indemnity bill.

The news conference was addressed among others by BCL DU unit President K.H.M. Lizu, General Secretary Pankuj Nath, central Vice-President Nirmul Guha and Faruk Ahmed.

Gonatantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) decided to stage demonstration during the Prime Minister's visit demanding realisation of Students' ten-point demand.

GCO will hold a rally at 10:30 a.m. today (Thursday) at the foot of Aparazeo Bangla and march toward TSC where the medal distribution function will be held.

Bangladesh Chhatra Federation, Chhatra League (JAGPA) and Chhatra League (Montu) in separate statement on Wednesday demanded a positive announcement to implement the ten-point demand before coming to campus.

Chhatra League (JAGPA) will observe token hunger strike during the Prime Minister's visit to campus.

Halls raided

Police Wednesday night raided Zahirul Haq Hall, Salimullah Hall, Surya Sen Hall, Mohsin Hall, Jasmuddin Hall, Jagannath Hall, Zia Hall, and Bangobandhu Hall, of Dhaka University.

However they could not recover any arms or ammunition.