



ICS carrying out covert activities on DU campus

Varsity Correspondent

Taking advantage of inactivity of the dominating Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS), the student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami, is now covertly carrying-out activities on the Dhaka University campus.

After an interval of 17 years Shibir has released a huge number of posters in and around the campus including Madhu's Canteen on the occasion of its today (Saturday) conference beginning at Paltan Maidan.

Common students of the university under the leadership of Students' Action Committee (SAC) ousted the Shibirites from the university in 1983.

For the first time, Shibir is going to hold the annual conference of its top leaders in the capital. More than 1,250 Members (Shibir's highest cadre) from the local units are now the city to attend the conference.

Sources at DU dormitories said all the full-fledged committees of Shibir in 13 male dormitories of the university are holding regular meetings and other routine works secretly.

On the eve of the conference, many known cadres of Chittagong University and Rajshahi University, the two strongholds of Shibir, were seen on the campus in recent days.

A lecturer of the university, who earlier served in Chittagong University, told this correspondent that he had met a good number of Shibir cadres of Chittagong University on DU campus in the last few days. Quoting them the lecturer said that they had come to the capital for some 'special purposes'.

General students are also aware of the Shibir activities. "They're only abstaining from brining out processions on the campus under their banner," said a student of Salimullah Hall, adding, "It is just a matter of time for them to capture the hall, if they wish."

Shibir always maintained a silence on their activities in DU, but on Thursday, the central committee president of Shibir introduced the president of its DU unit to the journalists at a programme at the National Press Club.

Over the years, there remained an undeclared moratorium on open-activities of Shibir in Dhaka University due to general students' sentiment against its parent-organisation's heinous role in the Liberation War in 1971.

When asked, the general secretary of DU unit JCD, Mustafizul Islam Mamun, said that the existence of Shibir and its activities would not be tolerated in DU.

Shafiul Bari Babu, Vice President of the suspended central committee of JCD, admitted the organisational activities of Shibir on the campus. "They (Shibir) might be organised in structure and strategy, general students of the university will not allow them on the campus," he added. Asked about any resistance from JCD, he said as the central committee of JCD is suspended, it would not be able to play any role in this connection.

Prime Minister Begum Khaled Zia suspended the activities of the JCD central committee following repeated allegations of extortion and terrorism against the top JCD leaders including the JCD president turned lawmaker Nasiruddin Pinnu.