

JU tense after JCD rivals' gun battle

Varsity Correspondent

A tense situation has been prevailing on Jahangirnagar University campus after a gun battle on Tuesday evening between two groups of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) cadres in which an associate professor and some students received bullet injuries.

The Jahangirnagar University authorities have formed a six-member inquiry committee to investigate into Tuesday's clash on the campus.

The committee, formed at an emergency meeting is expected to (See page 15 Col. 5)

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submit its probe report very soon. At least, 15 students and teachers were injured in the Tuesday's clash between two groups of JCD activists. All the injured students and the teachers returned to the campus as they were declared out of danger.

About 200 additional police were deployed on the campus to avoid any further untoward situation.

Sources in the university administration said that police might raid the dormitories at night.

Earlier on Tuesday night, VC, pro-VC and proctor of the university held separate meetings with the two rival groups but could not reach any decision. Sources present at the meetings said that the university administration took tough position on the campus stability and asked the conflicting groups to maintain law and order.

However, authorities threatened to hand over the student leaders to the police if they fail to reach any negotiation soon, sources said.

Proctor Syed Kamrul Ahsan said that they were keenly watching the campus situation. He said, "We are alert to face any kind of situation."

Following an internal feud, two groups of Jahangirnagar University unit of JCD led by the organisation's president Parvez Mallik and general secretary Nazmul Ahsan Ovi were locked in a gun battle leaving a teacher and nine others injured.

Leaders of both the rival groups of JCD, the student front of the ruling BNP, came to Dhaka following directives from the organisation's central committee to explain their stance.

The classes in Jagannath University resumed after 15 days of closure and fresh dates were announced for the postponed examinations.

A large number of police was deployed around the campus for the second consecutive day on Wednesday to avoid any untoward incident. Students had to enter the campus showing identity cards.

The authorities suspended all academic activities of the university on July 17 following a severe clash between the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League and Islami Chhatra Shibir.

Sources said a small number of students went to the campus and no class was held on the first day due to shortage of students.

Vice Chancellor Prof Sirajul Islam, claimed that some classes were held, saying the academic activities would begin in full swing if the students' organisations did not create any unwanted circumstance.

Meanwhile, the tenure of the investigation committee formed to look into the circumstances leading to the closure of the university has been extended by