

ATTACK ON RU FEMALE STUDENT

Punishment to Shibir cadres demanded

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Gosthi, a cultural organisation, yesterday demanded exemplary punishment to the cadres of Islami Chhatra Shibir who harassed a female activist of the organisation and threatened other Rajshahi University (RU) cultural activists to burn them alive.

The organisation also demanded steps to create an environment conducive to the free practice of art, culture and creativity.

Udichi leaders made the demand at a protest rally and cultural programme at Central Shaheed Minar in the city. Politicians, cultural personalities and student leaders also participated at the rally.

Leaders of the organisations said Shibir cadres harassed Farzana, a female activist of the organisation, entering the classroom at Rajshahi University on

November 6 when she protested Shibir, propaganda against their theatre team at the university.

Shibir men at RU harassed Farzana and threatened Abu Sayem, general secretary of Udichi RU unit, to death after staging a drama titled Mandar.

The drama was staged to raise awareness among people about the bad effect of deforestation. There was nothing in the drama that can hurt the sentiment of any religious group, Udichi leaders said.

Besides, Jamaat-Shibir group is spreading propaganda about the drama and giving false message to the countrymen, they added.

They said Jamaat-Shibir group is spreading the propaganda to make the atmosphere unstable before the upcoming general election.

Speakers at the rally called upon the countrymen to be united to resist the conspiracy of Jamaat-

Shibir against the country.

Students' leaders vowed that they would resist such conspiracy against the upcoming polls.

The speakers also criticised the role of RU administration and police for not taking any action against the Shibir men and demanded security of Udichi activists at RU.

Udichi President Golam Mohammad Idu presided over the session that was also addressed by organisation General Secretary Habibul Alam, CPB President Manjurul Ahsan Khan, Workers' Party of Bangladesh leader Anisur Rahman Mallik and Sammihta Sanskritik Jote leader Hasan Arif.

Our RU correspondent adds: Udichi Rajshahi district and RU unit jointly submitted a memorandum to the deputy commissioner (DC) to forward it to the chief adviser demanding exemplary punishment to the Shibir cadres who attacked Farzana.