

15 injured as BCL factions clash at IU

IU Correspondent

AT LEAST 15 men were injured with one receiving gunshot wounds as two groups of Islamic University unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League clashed on Tuesday.

According to sources, joint secretary of the BCL IU unit Mahbub Hossain was attacked by activists of Gaffar-Khasru group at Modhupur Bazar while he was heading for the campus along with his companions.

The incident happened about 10:30am, injuring at least three people, Ulfat, Tonmoy, and Saiful, who were taken to the government sadar hospitals in Jhenaidah and Kushtia.

Mahbub, earlier belonging to Gaffar-Khasru faction, recently shifted his allegiance to that led by the unit's president Jahangir Hossain and secretary Shamsujjaman Tuhin.

Mahbub's men retaliated against the attack when three rounds were exchanged. The situation was contained by the police.

About the same time, men from the group led by Abu Jar Gifari Gaffar, organising secretary of the university BCL unit and Mohammad Khasru, attacked Jahangir Hossain at Garaganj Bazar of Shailkupa upazila as he was coming to the campus by bus. They also vandalised the bus, injuring eight other passengers, witnesses said.

The Shailkupa police rushed to control the situation. The injured took treatment at the local medical centres.

Sometime later, another clash broke out between the two factions at Sheikhpara Bazar adjoining the campus.

Guns and sharp weapons were used in the fight and stones were hurled. Local people reported at least 20 rounds to have been fired in which a local resident received bullet injury. He was admitted to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital.

Shamim, Sabuj, Alamgir, Ratan and Mukul of president-secretary group and Miraj of the other group were reported injured.

BCL unit president Jahangir Hossain demanded arrest of Gaffar and Khasru saying that they provoked their fellows to make the attacks.

Mohammad Khasru denied their involvement in the attacks and said some local people were responsible for the attacks.

'They [local people] gave money to Jahangir Hossain and Shamsujjaman Tuhin for getting jobs at the university but as they didn't get it they were furious and assaulted them,' he said.

IU police officer-in-charge Monir Uddin Mollah said no cases were filed and more policemen were deployed at the spots.

IU proctor Meher Ali said the incident did not concern them as they happened outside the campus.

The Syndicate meeting scheduled for Wednesday was postponed. Sources in the administration said the meeting was to take decisions on at least 150 appointments to different posts.