

BCL drives out JCD men from Ruet dorms, 10 hurt

RU CORRESPONDENT

Tension has been running high on the Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) campus as Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists drove away Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists from their hall rooms yesterday, leaving 10 JCD activists injured.

BCL activists also occupied the rooms of the JCD men in all the dormitories.

Sources said a group of BCL activists, led by Al-Amin, Nazmul and Roni, first raided Shaheed Salim Hall and forced the JCD occupants to vacate their rooms.

They also threw out books, bedding and clothes of the JCD men and took control of the rooms. They also allegedly beat up Zunayed and Kabir with iron rods and hockey sticks during the raid.

Later, BCL men raided Shahidullah and Shaheed Ziaur Rahman halls and clashed with JCD activists in front of Zia Hall. As the news of violence spread over the campus, supporters of both the groups organised themselves separately and locked into a hour-long clash.

BCL activists took position behind Salim Hall, while JCD men were in front of Zia Hall. Both the groups used brick-bats, wood sticks and iron rods during the incident.

As the situation deteriorated, a huge number of police rushed to the campus and took control of the halls as well as the campus.

Identified as Shihab, Russell, Zunayed, Kabir of 4th year students of Mechanical department, Utpal, a 2nd year student of Civil Engineering department, Shaheen, a 2nd year student of Computer Science and Engineering department and JCD outsiders Rafiq and Rashid, the

injured JCD activists were undergoing treatment at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH).

BCL activists also staged a showdown and went to different dormitories for hunting JCD activists, sources said, adding that the incidents triggered panic among general students and many leave their halls with apprehension that fresh clashes might erupt anytime.

BCL leader Roni told newsman that their activists resisted JCD cadres on the campus as they staged an armed showdown with many outsiders.

JCD Leader Sabuj blamed the attack, saying that BCL cadres made the attack in a pre-planned way.

Assistant Commissioner of Police Motiher zone Zahangir Hossain said additional police were deployed on the Ruet campus to avoid further clashes.

Prof Sayed Abdul Mafiz, student welfare adviser, told this correspondent that the authorities have ensured treatment of the injured students at RMCH. They took all-out security measures to bring back smooth atmosphere on the campus.