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Strike called, VC's removal demanded

23 injured as police, JCD clash in CU

CU Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Feb 3:—As many as 23 Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) workers and seven policemen suffered major wounds when angry JCD workers fought pitched battle with the police on Chittagong University (CU) campus this afternoon.

The CU Unit of JCD gave a call for indefinite student strike on the campus and demanded immediate removal of the VC and the Proctor.

The violence erupted when police tried to prevent angry JCD workers from ransacking the office of the Vice-Chancellor (VC). Earlier, the JCD workers thronged in front of the VC office to lodge protest against assault of a JCD worker at the central library premises.

Initially the rally was peaceful and the JCD workers were preparing formal memoranda to be submitted to the VC. At this stage, eye-accounts said, heavily armed policemen attempted to disperse the gathering by resorting baton charge.

The JCD workers in the encounter began throwing stones on the police leading to an hour-long pitched battle. The angry students went up to the 2nd floor of the building by ransacking the offices on their way.

The hour-long clash left many JCD workers and seven policemen injured. Twenty-one of the critically wounded JCD workers were sent to Chittagong Medical College Hospital while many others

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CU clash

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were taken to the university medical center. Injured policemen were given first aid.

The JCD workers undergoing treatment were President of CU unit Mohammad Selim, General Secretary MR Chowdhury Milton, Rashedul Huq of History Department, Atiqur Rahman Bipu of Mathematics Department, Ahmed Mehedi of Finance Department, Hassan of Mathematics Department, Ramzan Ali, Shahed, Hafizuddin, Kamrul and Sagar.

The injured police personnel were Officer-in-Charge of Hathazari police station Mohammed Khaled, Habildar Bodiul Alam, constable Abu Musa, constable Amol Chandra Karmakar, constable Mohsin, constable Khoosru Mia and constable Ayub.

According to the sources, Shahed, a student of Finance 2nd year, fell in the prey of ICS activists while he was returning from the central library of the university at about 7 p.m. yesterday night.

JCD leaders said that a group of ICS cadres led by Bappi attacked Ismail in front of the central library premises.

According to the General Secretary of the CU Unit of the JCD MR Chowdhury Milton the ICS workers use iron rod and brick stones to hit Ismail.

"The ICS cadres tried to kill Ismail but failed as some guards of the university came forward to help him," he added.

Talking to the journalists VC of the university Professor AJM Nuruddin Chowdhury accused the JCD workers of showing non-student like attitude.