The Bangladesh Observer

1 FEB 2003

11 FEB 20

BCL to resist PM arrival at Bangla Academy

Bangladesh Chhatra League, the student wing of opposition Awami League, has decided to resist the arrival of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at the Bangla Academy to inaugurate the Ekushey Book Fair today Saturday, reports UNB.

Announcing the decision at a press conference at Madhu's Canteen in Dhaka University on Friday the BCL leaders said they would take out a procession with black flags and hold demonstration at 3pm on DU campus protesting the PM's arrival.

They said the inauguration of immortal Ekushey could not be done by a person who "pampers anti-democracy, anti-humanity, anti-liberation groups like Rajakar and Al Shams" when the whole world now celebrates 21st February as International Mother Language Day.

The BCL leaders called upon the student community to join them to boycott and protest the arrival of the Prime Minister at the Bangla Academy.

In a written speech, BCL president Liakat Sikder declared their programme at the press conference, where BCL Vice-President Rafiqul Islam Kotwal, DU BCL president Delwar Hossain and General Secretary Hemayet Uddin Khan Himu were present.

Sikder, however, said the BCL is prepared to welcome the Prime Minister if she expelled the killers of '71 from her cabinet and pledged to run the country upholding the spirit of the great Language Movement and the Liberation War.