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BCL men at RU to continue fund collection for Padma bridge

Our Correspondent Rajshahi

THE Rajshahi University unit of the Chhatra League, the students' wing of the ruling Awami League, said that it would continue collecting money from students, teachers and officers for the Padma bridge construction although the finance minister termed such people extortionists.

The university administration, however, orally asked the Chhatra League activists not to collect money in the name of the Padma bridge.

'We will continue fund collection. But for now we have decided not to do it for the next two to three days,' Abu Hossain Bipu, general secretary of the university of

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BCL men

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the organisation, told New Age.

The pro-vice-chancellor, Mohammad Nurullah, told New Age that the vice-chancellor on Saturday asked the BCL men not to collect fund.

Asked why they had been there to inaugurate the fund collection, Nurullah said that not only the Chhatra League but also other left-leaning student organisations had requested them to inaugurate their fund collection drives and this was why they inaugurated the fund collection.

The vice-chancellor, M. Abdus Sobhan, however, declined comments.

The proctor, Choudhury Mohammad Zakaria, said that he had gone to the programme, to keep law and order, as the vice-chancellor and the pro-vice-chancellor had been there.

Shipon Ahmed, the president of the university unit Chhatra Union, told New Age that the Chhatra League had invited them to attend the ceremony and they attended the programme to maintain some political formalities.

He further said, 'We did not express our solidarity with the fund collection for the Padma bridge. He also demanded punishment of the people who were responsible for the death of Sohel.'

Chhatra League Abdullah al-Hossain also known as Sohel Rana, a student of the university who was shot at in the head during an infighting of the organisation on Sunday over fund collection for the Padma bridge, died in Dhaka Medical College Hospital on Monday.

The deceased, Abdullah al-Hossain, was a fourth-year student of sociology. He was from Kaunia in Rangpur.

The Chhatra League organised a press conference at the central cafeteria in the university on Tuesday noon where its leaders said that the incident of gunfight had not taken place over any fund collection row.

The Chhatra League leaders criticised some newspapers for publishing reports saying that the gunfight had taken place over fund collection.