

BCL men assault photojournalists at DU

Staff Correspondent

THE Ruling Awami League-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League activists beat up a photojournalist and manhandled four others on Dhaka University campus on Saturday.

The five photojournalists
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BCL men assault

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were covering violence on Saturday, the day before the Bangladesh Nationalist Party-led opposition alliance-sponsored countrywide general strike scheduled for today.

The BCL activists beat up daily Prothom Alo photojournalist Hasan Raja indiscriminately while he was taking snap of BCL men who were manhandling Andrew Biraj of Reuters, Sony Ramany of New Age, Harun-or-Rashid Rubel of banglanews and freelance photographer Apu at the Plassey intersection at about 5:30pm.

Witnesses said that a group Dhaka University unit BCL activists intercepted Andrew Biraj, Rubel, Sony and Apu, who were riding

on two motorbikes, near the intersection and started searching their bags and personal belongings after a cocktail exploded in the intersection.

Andrew Biraj told New Age. 'Even we were carrying cameras, we showed our identity cards on asking, but they continued hurling abuses.'

Hasan Raja, meanwhile, reached the spot and started spanning.

Witnesses said Biraj and Apu escaped the spot while Hasan was being beaten up and Sony and Rubel confined by the BCL men.

The Shabbagh police officer-in-charge, Sirajul Islam, rushed to the spot, misbehaved with Rubel and Sony and ordered his subordi-