

DHAKA WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2015

Clamp down on BCL warring factions

Make campuses safe for students

WHAT sort of message is the ruling party giving out when two factions of the Chhatra League (BCL) battle it out for supremacy on Chittagong University (CU) campus during admission tests on November 2? Apart from the fact that the incident has left fifty people injured including policemen and that the admission test could not take place, many have been dissuaded from sitting for future admission tests.

From what has been printed in this paper, an altercation between activists belonging to rival factions of BCL over who will get the privilege of greeting admission seekers apparently is the cause of the violent clash. We are left flabbergasted at the immature behaviour displayed by these so-called student factions.

That these activists have no respect either for their fellow students or the law is clearly evident from the mayhem that ensued. Where is the strong hand of the university administration which is entrusted to maintain peace and tranquillity on the campus? This is unacceptable behaviour and the university authorities must be held to account for such recurring incidents.

Are public universities a playground for BCL? This is not the first incident this year that saw BCL violence at CU. In fact the latest incident is merely an addition to the litany of BCL's rowdy and violent behaviour in many institutions all over the country. And we are shocked to see that despite assurances from senior AL leaders from time to time of actions against errant members, the BCL is being allowed to carry on with its violent and self-destructive activities with impunity.