

Student bodies demand DU reopening

Varsity Correspondent

All the student organisations active on Dhaka University campus including ruling party's student wing have demanded immediate reopening of the university and resumption of academic activities.

The organisations from different meetings, rallies and statements it is now emergency to reopen the university for restoration of congenial atmosphere on the campus.

Leaders of Bangladesh Chhatra Union, Bangladesh Chhatra Moitree, Bangladesh Chhatra Federation, Biplobi Chhatra Moitree, Jatiya Chhatra Dal, Chhatra Oikya Forum and Bangladesh Chhatra Federation (A-I) and Samajtantrik Chhatra Front in separate statements demanded immediate resumption of classes and reopening of the residential dormitories. The leaders also demanded withdrawal of the cases filed against the students of Shamsunnahar Hall and the protesters on the subsequent incidents.

The student leaders demanded removal of all security forces from the DU campus. The leaders further demanded evacuation of outsider terrorists from the DU halls and restoration of congenial academic atmosphere.

In a separate statement acting president of Awami League-backed Bangladesh Chhatra

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Student bodies

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League (BCL) Marufa Akter Poppy and acting general secretary Saifuzzaman Shikhar demanded immediate reopening of the country's highest citadel of learning.

They said the acting Vice Chancellor promised to reopen the university immediately. BCL would launch action programmes if his promise was not kept, the leaders added.

President of the DU unit of ruling BNP's student front Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) Monir Hossain said "It's the main demand of the students to reopen the university."

155 DU teachers

Some 155 Dhaka University teachers, including former VC Prof AK Azad Chowdhury, on Monday demanded that the university be reopened immediately for the sake of proper investigation into July 23 incidents in its Shamsunnahar Hall.

In a joint statement, the DU teachers said the students who left Dhaka following closure of the university would be deprived of making their statements to the Judicial Inquiry Commission if it continues its work.

They said female students hesitate to go to the commission office to provide evidence as it is located in an area, which is known as the stronghold of a particular student organisation.

The teachers alleged that the terrorists were threatening to kill and assault those who protested their illegal stay in the female dormitory on the night of July 23, and asking them to refrain from providing evidence to the commission.

Signatories to the statement also include Prof Shahadat Ali, Prof Mesbahuddin Ahmed, Prof AK Saduddin Ahmed, Prof Mesbah Kamal, Prof ABM Khaled, Prof Abul Hashem and Prof Syed Anwar Hossain.

Meanwhile BSS report adds: The Dhaka University Provosts Standing Committee at a meeting on Monday urged the acting Vice Chancellor to ensure congenial academic atmosphere on the campus and reopen the university as soon as possible.