

Police club PCJ procession at Buét

DU CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday clubbed a procession of Progatishil Chhatra Jote (PCJ), a combine of left-leaning student organisations, on the Bangladesh University of Engineering Technology (Buét) campus leaving at least five PCJ leaders injured.

They are Baki Billah, president of Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU), Abu Naser Anik, president of Biplobi Chhatra Maitree, Monir Uddin Liton, general secretary of Bangladesh Chhatra Kendra, Habib of Bangladesh Chhatra Federation and Zakaria of Chhatra Kendra.

Police also arrested Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) General Secretary Mosharraf Hossain from the spot.

The PCJ brought out the procession from the Dhaka University (DU) campus and marched towards the Buét campus demanding immediate withdrawal of increased price of its admission form.

The Buét authorities increased the price of admission form from Tk 400/500 to Tk 500/700 this year.

Police intercepted the procession at the Buét main gate and charged batons on the demonstrators as the PCJ leaders tried to hold a rally at the Buét Shaheed Minar near the gate.

The Buét unit of SCF, a left-leaning student organisation, also resisted the sale of admission form yesterday.

The SCF was demonstrating on the Buét campus for last couple of days demanding immediate withdrawal of the increased price of admission form.

Meanwhile, the PCJ leaders, at a press conference at Madhu's canteen in the afternoon, demanded immediate release of Mosharraf Hossain, withdrawal of increased price of admission form and punishment to the police

MASS ARREST

M Zahir blames police, pleads for arrestees' release

UNB, Dhaka

Dr M Zahir, counsel for the petitioner who demanded and secured ad-interim injunction on Sept 29 against the mass arrest ahead of the October 3 grand rally of Awami League, blasted the police action and pleaded for the arrestees' immediate release.

Zahir submitted his complaint that police had acted trampling the fundamental rights of citizens.

Meanwhile, a government report submitted to the High Court reveals that police arrested 3,025 people in Dhaka city in the wake of Awami League's April 30 deadline of toppling the government of which 2,200 were awarded short-term jail.

The report said the magistrates sentenced them to jail for one or two days for violation of Section 86 of DMP Act (suspicious movement).

"Why were so many people thrown behind the bars when produced before the court? Who have testified their offence? How did the magistrates prove their offence beyond doubt?" Zahir raised the pertinent questions before the vacation bench comprising Justice M Awlad Ali and Justice AFM Abdur Rahman.

Pleading for the immediate release of those arrested ahead of Awami League rally, he also demanded a list of the arrested showing the grounds for arrest.

Additional Attorney General AJ Mohammad Ali sought time for hearing of the petition.

The court is set today for hearing.

personnel responsible for baton charge.

Bangladesh Chhatra Federation President Taslima Akhter read out a written statement at the conference.

Later, the PCJ brought out a procession and held a rally at the foot of Saparjito Swadhinata on the DU campus to press home its demands.

"We will hold rally in all educational institutions across the country tomorrow (today) to press home our demands," BCU General Secretary Shamsul Alam Sazzan said.

The Buét unit of SCF also announced similar programmes.



Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Inu) President Hasanul Haque Inu speaks at a rally at Muktangan yesterday demanding resignation of the government.

28 hosiery factories gutted in Narayanganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'GANJ

Some 28 hosiery factories were gutted in a fire at Ukilpara in the Narayanganj town yesterday, says a press release.

The fire broke out at dead of night at Sayed Ali Market and Jakir Market.

Witnesses said the fire engulfed the hosiery factories and many shops of the markets.

The fire might have originated from short circuit or candle, they said.

Local people alleged miscreants looted goods worth Tk 2 lakh during the fire.