Teachers collude with JCD to evict Eden College residential students



JATIYATABADI Chhatra Dal (JCD) cadres attacked demonstrating students who had been blockading the street in front of the campus to realise their six-point charter of demands.

The JCD cadres unleashed their attack allegedly under direct police protection and in presence of the authorities and injured nearly 12 students.

The authorities on March 13 issued a notice asking the students to vacate the dormitories by the following day, which the students said was an attempt to foil an ongoing student movement that had begun on March 8. On the night of March 7, JCD leaders captured about 15 rooms in different dormitories kicking out 20 student occupants of those rooms to sell the seats to some freshers in exchange for bribes.

Several hundred students of the college have been demanding reassignment of residential seats to at least 20 students who were allegedly driven out by JCD leaders from their rooms in Khadiza Khatun Hall.

Protesting against the authorities' decision to vacate the dormitories, demonstrating students blockaded the street in front of the college from 4:00pm on March 13 till 1:20pm the following day. The demonstrators chanted slogans against the authorities and in favour of their demands. The principal neither came to visit the demonstrators nor did she contact them over phone

As the demonstrating students took to the street, the JCD leaders and activists took position armed with sticks and brickbats on the college campus. All through Monday night the JCD cadres kept pelting the demonstrators with brickbats and beat anyone who tried to go back to the dorms to use the toilets or for any other reason.

Leaders of JCD have been taking money illegally from students seeking admission to honours first year classes in exchange for arranging their admissions and residential seats on the campus by influencing the college authorities.

Sources said the leaders of ruling BNP's student wing have been carrying on the shady business in collusion with some teachers, officials and employees of the college since the BNP-Jamaat alliance government came to power.

Students who are on the waiting list or failed to qualify for admissions are usually their clients. Some of the qualified freshers also buy the illicit service to get seats in the dormitories.

And after JCD's attack on the demonstrating students who were blockading the street in front of the college all through Monday night to press home their six-point demand, the principal said some students of the college were engaged in 'dating their boyfriends all through the night on the street'. She took a stand in favour of the JCD leaders terming the demonstrating students 'street girls'.

On March 19 the Education Ministry issued a letter and removed Professor Feroza Begum from her post as principal and appointed her as Officer on Special Duty (OSD).