

BCL men vandalise market

Staff Correspondent · Sylhet

ACTIVISTS of Bangladesh Chhatra League, the ruling Awami League-backed student organisation, vandalised several shops and a private bank at a market, and a jeep, in an attack in Sylhet Saturday night.

The market owner Abdul Kaiyum Chowdhury, also former BCL leader, filed a case against 13 BCL leaders and activists charging them of vandalism, the police said.

Local sources said a group of supporters of the district BCL's former president Hiran Mahmud Nipu beat up Tushar, 20, who is a supporter of the district BCL general secretary Rayhan Chowdhury, at Majortila area in the evening, following tensions between the two groups over establishing dominance in the area.

Tushar's father Moynul Islam, of Islampur area in the outskirts of the city, said Tushar was admitted to the Sylhet Osmani Medical College Hospital after the incident.

Later, at around 8.30pm, supporters of Rayhan launched an attack on Kai-

yum Complex, a market at Islampur Bazar on the city's outskirts, and ransacked goods of several shops, including a showroom of a chain shop Fiza, and broke the windowpanes of the local branch of Union Bank Limited and the windshield of a jeep parked in front of the privately-run bank, sources said.

Union Bank's Islampur branch assistant manager Shamim Ahmed Shimu said the bank's higher authorities have been informed of the incident.

When contacted, former BCL leader Kaiyum Chowdhury, also owner of the local showroom of Fiza and the private jeep that was vandalised during the attack, alleged that the supporters of BCL district general secretary had carried out the attack after they failed to loot the Union Bank.

'I have filed a case with the Shah Paran police accusing 13 BCL activists, including the BCL district organising secretary Sayem Ahmad Mizan, for vandalising the shops and my private jeep,' he added.