

RUET closed over BCL factional clash

RU Correspondent

THE authorities closed Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology on Friday for seven days after two groups of Bangladesh Chhatra League clashed on the campus.

The residential students were also asked to vacate their respective hall by 3:00pm on the day.

The decision came at an emergency meeting of the university academic council held in the morning, with vice-chancellor Professor Muhammad Rafiqul Alam Beg in the chair, said acting registrar Professor Md Mosharraf Hossain.

The vice-chancellor told New Age that two untoward incidents (BCL clashes) took place on the university campus in last three days.

'To avoid any further untoward situation, the authorities closed the university for the next seven days from November 11 to November 17,' he added.

Campus sources said three laptops were stolen from a room of Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Hall on Tuesday.

Suspicion fell on BCL leader Shakil and Rakesh, one of those whose computers were missing, conveyed the matter to Shiddharta Sankar, assistant director of RUET students' welfare affairs.

An altercation ensued between Shiddharta and Shakil that night when Shiddharta went to search Shakil's room, and following an altercation, BCL leaders confined Shiddharta in the provost room, which later led to clashes among activists of BCL Rajshahi metropolitan unit, RUET unit and Rajshahi University unit.

On Thursday night, RUET BCL activist Topu, a friend of Shakil, with 10/12 activists, beat up Rakesh, and two his friends — Sarwar and Masum — at Shahidulalh hall and vandalised motorbike of another BCL activist Abir, which triggered attack and counter-attack between followers of Shakil and Topu that left at least five activists injured.