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Political activities banned

BUET closed sine die, polls postponed

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The authorities of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) postponed elections to Engineering University Central Students Union (EUCSU) and hall unions due today (Thursday). The university had also been closed sine die.

In an order on Wednesday night, the BUET authorities banned all political activities on the campus for indefinite period. The resident students have been asked to vacate their halls by 10 a.m. today (Thursday).

A large contingent of police had been posted to maintain peace on the campus.

The BUET authorities said that the elections had been postponed, university closed and restrictions on the activities of student organisations had been imposed on the campus to ensure security of students, teachers and employees of the university.

Following all-out strike by pro-Awami League Chhatra League and explosion of bombs on the campus during the strike on Wednesday, the BUET authorities held an emergency meeting at a 9 p.m. to review the campus situation.

Excepting pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Bangladesh Chatra Union, all other student organisations including BCL (MI), Student Federation, BCL (B-K) and Samajtantrik Chhatra Front boycotted the EUCSU and hall union elections demanding holding of the elections only after solving the examination problems in the university.

The JCD and BCU submitted nomination papers for the elections but the election campaign did not pick up due to polls boycott by majority of the student organisations.

A tense situation prevailed on the

campus when some BCL activists assaulted Mustafizur Rahman Manik and Nazmus Saqueb Nipun, President and General Secretary of JCD BUET Unit on Sunday.

Tension further gripped the campus when JCD activists ransacked hall rooms of BCL workers on Tuesday. In retaliation, BCL activists also attacked a number of rooms of JCD activists on the day. JCD filed a case with Lalbag Police Station on Tuesday against ten BCL activists accusing them of ransacking hall rooms.

The resident students have already started leaving their respective halls following the closure of the university.

However, there was no instant reaction from any student organisations on the postponement of EUCSU and hall union elections and the closure of the university.