

Students go on rampage BUET closed sine die

Varsity Correspondent

The angry students of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) went on rampage for the second consecutive day on Monday causing damage to property worth at least Taka 25 lakh which resulted in the closure of the university sine die from Tuesday.

During the three-hour rampage which started at 11 p.m. the students damaged the residences of some teachers, the council building, several research sites, Provost offices of some residential halls, dining halls and common rooms. The agitated students also damaged computers and other office equipment of different offices including council building, centre for energy studies and some machine labs.

During their attack on the teachers' residential area the students damaged four cars. A BUET Press release said that a teacher was hurt when the students threw brick bats at the area.

Sources said that some teachers, during the attack, held a student of Dr MA Rashid Hall and beat him.

* Campus sources said that a group of teachers were lending tacit support to the students' movement. Talking to this correspondent, Vice-Chancellor Prof Nooruddin said, "I am not aware of this."

BUET authorities, in a Press release, blamed the police force for what they called playing silent role during the incident.

The students' movement was caused by the authority's decision to suspend Shahidullah Dipu of the Civil Engineering Department. Different student organisations including Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) are lending direct support to the movement, sources said.

BUET halls have been vacated as per the order of the authorities.

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A group of some 510 students of different departments of level 4, term 2, submitted a memorandum to the Vice-Chancellor saying that the closure would add to the session jam they were experiencing at the moment. They urged the V-C to take the examinations in time.

Another memorandum was submitted to the V-C on Tuesday by leaders of EUCSU and different student organisations in support of their four-point demand. Their demands include cancellation of the suspension order of Dipu and assurance to the students that no action would be taken against them for being involved in the rampage.