

BUET teachers hit back

Faculty leaders point fingers at coterie of students

By DU Correspondent

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology Teachers' Association (BUETTA) yesterday accused a section of students for the violent incidents on the campus that led to closing of the university for an indefinite period.

"A section of students instigated some other students to launch the violent attacks on the university campus on Sunday and Monday only to fulfil their petty personal interest," the faculty leaders claimed.

BUET was closed *sine die* on Tuesday noon following a series of violent incidents and massive vandalism triggered by the expulsion of a student on grounds of impersonation in an examination.

A group of students damaged different buildings of BUET, including academic buildings and teacher and student dormitories. The incidents were a con-

tinuation of students' agitation aimed to cancel the temporary expulsion of a second year student of Civil Engineering department, Salimullah Dipu. Dipu was caught red handed while giving proxy in a class test for his female classmate.

BUETTA leaders were speaking at a press conference at the National Press Club yesterday morning. BUETTA organised the press conference to discuss the recent violent incidents on the BUET campus.

BUETTA leaders termed the attacks pre-planned. They said the students unleashed such "heinous" incidents with a view to reschedule their examinations.

They claimed that the expelled student was satisfied with the penalty for his misdeed in examinations but a section of students took it as the opportunity to enact vandalism on the campus.

"Only 10 per cent students of

the university, who failed to prepare themselves for the forthcoming term final examinations, are responsible for the incidents." The examination is scheduled to begin from the first week of May.

Admitting that the incidents like giving proxy in examinations have taken place at the university in the past, the faculty leaders said authorities had not previously taken action against the responsible for the sake of congenial atmosphere at the university. "But we can not allow such incidents any more," they concluded.

When asked, they said that the female student for whom the expelled student was taking the exam, was given a warning as she was aware about the illegal activity.

BUETTA demanded steps to boost up security measures for teachers and students and stern action against the students involved in the incidents.

The BUETTA leaders particularly mentioned the four students arrested by police and caught by teachers while attacking teachers' residences on Monday.

BUETTA also demanded a judicial probe into the "mysterious and inactive" role of police during the vandalism and untoward incidents.

BUETTA also met with the Home Minister Mohammad Nasim and urged him to take punitive measure so that such incidents would not be occur in future.

They, however, urged all those concerned to co-operate in bringing back peace and restoring a congenial academic atmosphere in the university.

BUETTA president Dr M Hossain Ali, general secretary Dr Habib Mohammad Ahsan, Prof Almgir Mujibul Haque, Dr Habibur Rahman and Dr Rezwana Khan were present at the press conference....