

Students clash, two Sylhet colleges closed

Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Jan. 7.—Sylhet Government College and MC University College have been closed today following clashes between BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and JSD (Inu)-backed Chhatra League.

A student belonging to JCD was

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Students

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assaulted by Chhatra League supporters yesterday at Sylhet Government College. In retaliation the JCD workers attacked the Chhatra League supporters at MC University College which is adjacent to the government college.

The authorities of the two colleges decided to close the colleges for three days to avoid escalation of clashes between the two rival student groups.

It may be mentioned here that the two colleges reopened only six days ago after a closure for three months and ten days following clashes between the supporters of JSD-backed Chhatra League and Jamaat-backed Islami Chhatra Shibir.

MANIKGANI

UNB adds:—The Government Devendra College here was closed sine die today following a series of armed clashes between two rival groups of students that left a least nine injured, reports UNB.

The authorities also asked the students to vacate their hostels by 4 p.m. Police were guarding the campus area to prevent further eruption of violence, witnesses said.

Seven of the injured were identified as JCD workers and two Chhatra League workers.

Seriously injured Golam Kibria Saeed, General Secretary of the District JCD, and Kazi Raihanuddin Tuku, General Secretary of College Students Union and also a JCD leader, were admitted to the Sadar Hospital, doctors said.

At least 12 rooms of a hostel were set ablaze, but the attackers were not identified.

The Chhatra League workers attacked the district BNP office at about 7-30 in the evening, and smashed the portrait of Begum Zia, the JCD leaders alleged.

Local sources said today's clash was a sequel to a clash on Saturday between Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Bangladesh Chhatra League (N-S) over taking meals on credit at a local restaurant.

The workers of Pro-JSD Chhatra League and Pro-BNP JCD resumed the bouts today at about 11 a.m. Both the sides were reported seen brandishing firearms and other lethal weapons.