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Alleged rape of 3 students BCL calls indefinite strike at JU

By Staff Correspondent

The ruling Awami League-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) has called an indefinite strike at Jahangirnagar University (JU) from today demanding identification and punishment of the persons responsible for raping three students of the university in the last three months.

However, following a meeting with the Vice-Chancellor in-charge, Prof Azizul Haq Bhuiyan, yesterday, BCL leaders said the viva voce for admission into the first year honours classes of the university would be kept out of the purview of the strike. The viva voce, which started Saturday, would conclude tomorrow.

At a press conference on Friday, the BCL leaders said reports published in a section of newspapers involving one of their top leaders in the rapes were untrue, baseless and motivated.

Different organisations including BCL, Ganotantrik Chhatra Oikkya (GCO) and General Students' Unity (GSU)

brought out separate processions on the campus yesterday protesting the rape incidents.

GCO and GSU have also announced programmes to stage demonstrations and bring out torch processions on the campus demanding punishment to the culprits responsible for the rapes.

They also announced a programme to gherao the VC's office on Tuesday to press home their demand.

JU Teachers' Association (JUTA) in a statement yesterday demanded a neutral investigation into the alleged rape incidents and urged the authorities to ensure exemplary punishment to the persons responsible.

Expressing concern over the presence of outsiders on the campus, JUTA asked the authorities to drive out all the outsiders from the campus and take action against those who provided them shelter.

Meanwhile, the five-member committee formed to probe into

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the alleged rapes started its investigation yesterday. The head of the investigation committee, Prof Anwarul Haq Sharif, yesterday called upon all to provide information to the committee regarding the rapes by Thursday.