

## BCL, JCD hold rallies on DU campus

By DU Correspondent

Leaders of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), the student wing of ruling Awami League yesterday urged the opposition not to call hartal frequently for the sake economy and political stability in the country.

The BCL leaders also urged the politicians to solve all their political issues in Jatiya Sangsad, not on the streets.

They were addressing a rally on the Dhaka University campus protesting yesterday's nationwide hartal call by BNP-led opposition alliance against the proposed national budget for fiscal 1999-2000.

The BCL leaders criticised the opposition leaders for enforcing the hartal even before the budget had been passed by the Jatiya Sangsad.

They urged the opposition leaders to raise their protest during the budget discussion in the Parliament. They also urged the countrymen to make a strong resistance against the various destructive activities, including hartal of the opposition.

Presided over by DU unit of BCL president Sajjad Hossain, the rally was addressed by BCL president Bahadur Bepari, general secretary Ajay Kar Khokan and AKM Ajim.

Earlier, activists of the BCL brought out a procession on the campus terming the hartal as "useless and politically motivated."

Opposition BNP backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) also brought out a procession and held a rally on the campus chanting slogan against the proposed budget.

Terming the budget anti-people, full of falsehood and against the national interest, the JCD leaders said that the countrymen would be affected

by it as price hike has been proposed on paper, book, pen, medicine and other essentials used by the poor people.

JCD vice-president Monjur Elahi, Monwar Hossain Rana, Mostafizul Islam Mamun and Asaduzzaman Asad addressed the rally presided over by Manir Hossain.

Witnesses said the situation became tense following chase and counter chase between the activists of the two archrival student organizations after several gunshots were fired from an anti-hartal motorcade near Shahbagh crossing at about 11 am.

Sources said both the pro and anti hartal activists locked in the chase and counter chase at Shahbagh area that left one JCD activist injured.