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CUCSU polls today

Chittagong Bureau

CHITTAGONG, Feb 7: Students of Chittagong University will elect office bearers and members of their Central Students Union and Hall Unions tomorrow. It will be sixth such election in the history of the university set up in 1964.

Everything has been set to hold the election peacefully. Total of 10576 voters including 2276 female voters are supposed to cast their votes at two centres, one at the University College and the other at Shamsunnahar Hall for male and female voters respectively. A total of 327 voters would be able to cast their votes at the two centres at a time.

One hundred and fifty eight candidates of Sarbadaliya Chhatra Oikya, a combine of 12 organisations including BCL (H-A) and JCD, Islami Chhatra Shibir, Islami Chhatra Sena and pro-BNP (Obaid) JCD (who declared withdrawal of their candidature yesterday), are contesting for 27 posts of CUCSU. The Nazim-Azim panel of Oiky Parishad declared on February 2 would face a neck-to-neck competition against Azad-Mansur panel of Islami Chhatra Shibir. Two panels will also run elections in close competition in six hall unions for 72 posts for which a total of 431 candidates including independents are contesting.

The polling start at 8.30 am and will continue till 3.30 pm without break. The counting of votes will start from 5 pm tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the Chittagong University unit of Islami Chhatra Shibir held a press conference at Chittagong Press Club this evening. The press conference was addressed by Shibir's central president Md Aminul Islam and attended by candidates including VP and GS candidates Hamid Hussain Azad and Mansur Ahmed respectively.

Addressing the press conference the leaders apprehended unfair means in the election as they said 53 out of 64 polling officers were inclined to left politics and the returning officer was inclined to a particular panel and political alliance.

After the press conference of Shibir, Oikya Parishad leaders refuted all the allegation made against them by Shibir.

Meanwhile, the university administration and police administration have taken all steps to maintain law and order in the campus. About 1200 police personnel have already taken positions in and outside the campus.