

THE DAILY STAR

কারিখ ··· 2 9 DE: 1998 ····

DU agitation Identify, punish attackers, demands SNS

By Staff Correspondent

Sammilita Nari Samaj (SNS) has strongly condemned and protested attack on students agitating against alleged sexual harassment of women on Dhaka University campus and demanded urgent steps against the attackers.

In a statement yesterday, it said Sunday's attack on the agitating students is aimed at suppressing the movement and termed the attack as undemocratic.

The SNS hoped that Dhaka University authorities would identify the attackers and take immediate steps against them.

It further hoped that the DU authorities would not take the side of those involved in repression on women.

DU authorities must take exemplary punitive measures against the abusers as per rule, it added.

The SNS said it was concerned over reported incidents of rape and repression on women at universities, different institutions and government offices, with the culprits going unpunished. As a result, repression on women and children are increasing day by day and the situation is taking a serious turn.

Expressing solidarity with the agitating students, it asked the authorities of all universities of the country to formulate a specific policy to stop repression and harassment on women.

It also put forward a fourpoint demand which includes immediate sacking of a teacher, publication of the probe body report and formulation of proper policy to check repression on women in universities.

In a separate statement, Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK) has also condemned Sunday's attack on the agitating students at DU.

It demanded immediate inquiry into the incident and exemplary punishment to those responsible for the attack.

The ASK demanded publication of the inquiry committee report and stressed the need for formulation of an anti-sexual harassment policy.