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11,000 BCL activists forced to quit halls BCL drops action plan as DU VC assures of accepting demands

Varsity Correspondent

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of the main opposition Awami League, finally abandoned its "action programme" on Monday following the university authority's move to reconsider its 10-point demand.

The BCL earlier planned a non-stop strike on the campus following failure of the authority's move to fulfil their demand before expiry of the ultimatum that expired Monday.

The BCL leaders decided to call off their action programme after successful negotiation with the university authorities.

V-C Prof Anwarullah Chowdhury, Pro-V-C Prof Zinnatun Nesa Tahmida and Professor Prof Nazrul Islam attended the negotiation meeting on behalf of the university while BCL president Bahadur Bepari led a 22-member delegation.

The university authorities accepted four of the ten demands. BCL leaders told a press conference in the afternoon.

Proper rehabilitation of all genuine students to their respective dormitories; freeing the illegally occupied dormitories from the outsiders; allowing the ousted BCL workers to sit for their respective examinations; compensation to the victims of terrorists acts and lodging cases against the terrorists by the university and ousting the terrorists from the university were among the demands agreed by the university authorities.

During the one-hour talks Prof Chowdhury admitted that the demands were justified and assured them of meeting their demands in phases. BCL leaders said this at the press conference.

"The V-C sought time to meet the demands and we agreed with him." "He informed us that the rehabilitation programme will commence from today (Tuesday)", Bepari said.

As per the decisions, the BCL will prepare a list of their ousted activists and submit it to the authorities today (Tuesday) and the authorities would rehabilitate them after necessary verification, the BCL president added.

Asked about the number of ousted activists, he said about 11,000 BCL activists who have allotment in dormitories were forced to quit the campus after the change in power.

More than 500 activists could not appear their examination due to threats from their rival organisation Chhatra Dal, he added.

After a month and 19 days of detachment from the university campus, BCL President Bahadur Bepari appeared at the Madhu's Canteen on Sunday with some senior leaders of BCL central committee following the dialogues.

Following the BCL's announcement of suspending the possible strikes the common students heaved a sigh of relief.

"We're already facing at least one-year session jam."