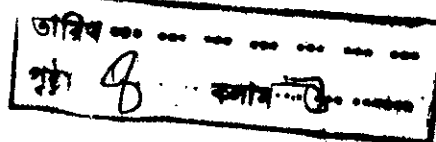


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DU VC's residence is under threat of siege

A Z M Haider

THE student organization which re-imposed indefinite strike on Dhaka University following cold-blooded murder of a Chhatra League leader on August 17 at Ziaur Rahman Hall, threatened to lay siege on the official residence of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor A.K. Azad Chowdhury.

Having failed to cut much ice by raising a slogan to press for the Vice-Chancellor's resignation, they have threatened to clamp down siege on his residence. Nothing can be more frivolous and foolish than the decision to impose siege on the Vice-Chancellor's residence. It is difficult to understand what has the residence of the Vice-Chancellor got to do with the current student agitation. One wonders if they are planning the siege on the Vice-Chancellor's residence to pressurize him to tender resignation. They will be sadly mistaken in the long run if they are thinking in that vein.

Anticipating rash and unreasonable action by elements who are largely responsible for the present predicament of the university, the government stepped up the number of police force guarding the Vice-Chancellor's residence. The university authority, apprehending untoward incident, prohibited holding of rallies and processions on the road in front of the Vice-Chancellor's residence.

Meanwhile, Dhaka University at an emergency meeting on Friday last urged the law enforcing agencies to nab persons responsible for the dastardly killing of the

Chhatra League leader at Ziaur Rahman Hall and bring them to book.

The Syndicate expressed its deep regret at the large-scale violence, destruction of valuable belongings of students and setting them to fire and at injuries suffered by students during clashes at different residential

extended by one week more.

The meeting placed a total embargo on the holding of rallies and processions on the road in front of the Vice-Chancellor's residence and urged the law enforcing agencies to take appropriate action in this regard.

The meeting drew attention of the student organization, which inflicted indefinite strike on the university, to the grim reality that as result of its strike fifteen thousand students stand adversely hit due to postponement of 296 examinations consequently the university has been thrown into a vortex of session jam of seven to eight months having direct bearing on the academic life of the students. As a matter of fact, this strike is going to jeopardize the academic life of the students.

The meeting, therefore, called upon the student organization, which has called indefinite strike, to set aside examinations, library, office and the university transport system from the ambit of hartal.

The meeting reiterated its request to relevant authorities to annul their decision to withdraw security guards from the Vice-Chancellor's residence and the university campus and should be kept free from all encumbrances and the security guard deployed earlier should be kept for the better interest of law and order and peace.

The meeting concluded with a call to all concerned to help resolve all problems facing the university through dialogue and discussion in a spirit of cordial cooperation and tolerance.

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Halls following the 17 August killing. The meeting offered to arrange proper medical treatment for wounded students and pledged compensation to those who suffered losses during clashes.

The Syndicate meeting directed the committee constituted to undertake a thorough investigation into the killing of the 17th August and consequential violence and lawlessness that rocked various residential Halls and submit a comprehensive report within the specified time-limit which was