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## DU campus heats up over BCL council uncertainty

Arifur Rahman | Updated at 01:22am on March 12, 2018

The situation at the Dhaka University has begun to heat up with factional clashes of Bangladesh Chhatra League as uncertainty looms over the 29th central council session of the ruling Awami League-backed student body.

A number of factional clashes on the campus were reported as the central committee led by president Saifur Rahman Sohag and secretary SM Jakir Hossain was trying to delay the council session just to keep their positions although the committee's tenure expired on July 26, 2017, causing the tension among the student activists, many leaders said.

Three Dhaka University unit leaders were beaten up allegedly by supporters of Surja Sen Hall unit president Golam Sarowar on Friday, causing further tension.

The three injured fourth-year philosophy students – Sagar Rahman, Maskat Hossain and Kamal Hossain – were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Maskat alleged that 40-50 activists led by Mastarda Surja Sen Hall unit deputy office secretary Imran Hossain Sagor launched the attack without any provocation.

Golam Sarowar denied the allegation, claiming that he would take action if any involvement of his followers in the attack was found.

University unit president Abid Al Hasan said that the three were suspended from the organisation at times for breaching organisation's rules.

He, however, said that some BCL leaders and activists were spreading false and fabricated information over the council session.

In another incident, a section of activists, who were demanding 29th council by March 31, was chased by another group at Shaheed Sargent Zahurul Haq Hall on Friday.

Condemning the attack, central committee joint

secretary Sayem Khan said that they had the right to demand the council session as the committee's tenure already expired.

He expressed hope that as per the instruction of prime minister Sheikh Hasina and other senior Awami League leaders, the central committee would soon announce the much expected date for the council session.

Earlier on February 8, Awami League general secretary Obaidul Quader at a meeting at Madhu's Canteen on the campus asked Chhatra League central leaders to prepare for holding the council session on March 31.

Later in the evening on February 8, Chhatra League general secretary SM Jakir Hossain and some other leaders met Hasina.

They said that the party chief asked them to arrange the council session 'on time.'

Jakir, however, did not clear whether the date was still March 31.

In an emergency meeting of the organisation in January, Chhatra League central president Saifur Rahman Sohag and Jakir Hossain asked their leaders to take preparations for holding the council session either on March 31 and April 1.



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