



A pandal erected in celebration of the University Day today (Thursday) at the Dhaka University campus was set on fire by a group of angry students on Wednesday.

—OBSERVER

# Students ransack V-C's office

By A Staff Correspondent

The normal academic and other related activities in the Dhaka University came to a complete halt on Wednesday following violence by a section of the students protesting the arrests of 11 student leaders in the small hours of the day from Haji Mohammad Mohsin Hall.

The angry students allegedly assaulted the Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. Emazuddin Ahmed and President of the University Teachers Association, Prof Saaduddin. They came in a procession to the residence of the Vice-Chancellor at 6.30 a.m. on the day in the wake of the police raid at Mohsin Hall.

The police carried out a combing operation at Mohsin Hall from 3 a.m. to 6 a.m. During the operation, the police recovered three pistols, a sizeable quantity of ammunition, four 'ram dao' and a number of hand bombs, according to a police Press release.

Our Varsity correspondent adds: The angry students ransacked the office of the Vice-Chancellor at the administrative buildings, took away his official chair to the Mohsin Hall where the same was set on fire, and damaged three collapsible gates at the administrative buildings. The

pandal which was erected for celebrating the University day, to be held today (Thursday), was also set ablaze. There was complete anarchy prevailing in the University. The general students, the members of the teaching staff and the employees all got panicky. Three cars, belonging to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, the Registrar and the Treasurer of the University, were also damaged. All scheduled examinations were postponed.

The violence lasted till mid-day. The official residence of the Vice-Chancellor was also completely damaged in the course of rowdy activities. The arrested students were released on bail at 2.30 p.m. Normalcy returned to the campus only after the arrested students including Niru, Bablu and Khokan (Central leaders of Jatiyotabadi Chhatra Dal) returned to Mohsin Hall after being released.

See Page 10, Col. 4

## Students

From Page 1 Col. 5

While talking to this correspondent at his official residence immediately after the incident, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Mannan, said that the students had damaged their own property. "I am just a care-taker here," he added. Asked whether he would brand the violence on the campus as terrorism, he observed that no genuine student of the university "can indulge himself in terrorist activities."

The student leaders who were arrested by the police from Mohsin Hall were released on bail on sureties offered by Prof K.M. Saaduddin and Syndicate member Prof S.M. Faiz.

The leaders of both the factions of Central Students Action Committee condemned the police raid at Mohsin Hall. They termed the raid as a gross violation of autonomy of the University. They stated this at the conference room of the administrative building of the University when the Vice-Chancellor was discussing the situation with the teachers and officials of the University. They condemned terrorism on the campus as well as police raid.

The central leaders of Jatiyotabadi Chhatra Dal announced at a Press conference at Teachers Students Centre (TSC) that they would observe a protest day on the campus on Saturday. They alleged that the police raid was part of the "dirty tactics of the Government to create terrorism and to stifle the voice of the democratic forces." Replying to a question, they termed the incidents at the residence and the office of the Vice-Chancellor as "spontaneous outburst of the general students" against the police operation. They disclaimed the involvement of their organisation in manhandling of the "honourable teachers."

Meanwhile, Dhaka Metropolitan Police in its Press release stated that the police raided Mohsin Hall on the basis of specific information about the presence in and around the University of miscreants responsible for "various criminal and other anti-social activities" in the area.

The police said that they sought the cooperation from the authorities of the University for the combing operation. But the concerned authorities expressed their inability to extend any cooperation, the police observed in its Press release.

### Police raids condemned

Meanwhile the Dhaka University Teachers Association in an emergency meeting on Wednesday condemned the police raids in Mohsin Hall on February 3 and February 4 without any permission of the authority. The Association said that such action on the eve of celebration of "University Day" today (Thursday) is unfortunate.

The Dhaka University Day is going to be observed aiming at establishing better relations among teachers, students and guardians, it said. The association felt that such excesses were aimed at running the autonomy of the University and banning of students politics.

Professor Saaduddin, president of the Association, presided over the meeting.