



Leaders and activists of the 11-party alliance (left) pay homage to the victims of Saturday's Paltan Maidan explosion during a post-hartal rally at the Muktangan yesterday. Earlier, members of the Bangladesh Workers Party brandished posters near the Paltan crossing during hartal hours, urging all to resist "terrorism and conspiracy."

-- Star photo

## Clarification

In our story on PSA case against lawyers published on January 18, the headline was inadvertently given as "PSA case against lawyers stayed". A Division Bench of the High Court comprising Justice Abu Sayeed Ahmed and Justice Khademul Islam Chowdhury, upon a writ petition filed by 16 lawyers and a BNP MP challenging validity of PSA, issued a rule upon the respondents including police not to arrest, disturb or harass them till hearing of the rule. The court did not order any stay of the proceedings. We reported correctly the order in the report but the headline mistakenly contained the word "stay." The error is regretted. We hope this explanation will remove any confusion in public mind about the court order.

## Correction

In our front-page photo caption yesterday, it was inadvertently mentioned that Zohra Tajuddin, wife of late Tajuddin Ahmed, was addressing Saturday's rally of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) at Paltan Maidan in the city. The speaker was Nasima Islam, wife of late CPB leader Tajul Islam.

We regret the error.

## CID takes up twin blast cases 13 nabbed without clear charge

Staff Correspondent

Police arrested 13 people in connection with Saturday's explosions at a Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) rally at the Paltan Maidan and at the Bangabandhu Avenue in the city. Nine of them were nabbed for their involvement in the Paltan Maidan incident and the rest, all hawkers by profession, for the Bangabandhu Avenue explosion. In their forwarding report, police said that the arrested were behind the blast at the Paltan Maidan but didn't explain the basis of their suspicion.

In another development, the government yesterday constituted a three-member committee to probe the twin blasts. Headed by Aftab Uddin, a joint secretary of the home ministry, the committee has been asked to submit its report in seven days.

Meanwhile, a four-member team, led by an additional Inspector General of Police, has already started investigation into the explosion at the CPB meeting, which left four people killed and at least 50 injured.

Till yesterday, police could not ascertain the type of bomb used in Saturday's incident.

Although army experts collected splinters and other evidences of the explosion, they could neither confirm whether it was a remote-controlled explosive or a plastic bomb.

Four people were killed and at least 50 others injured when a powerful bomb exploded during a

Star Report

Nasim blames Jamaat & its allies for bomb incident

By Staff Correspondent

With the intelligence and law enforcement agencies clueless about Saturday's explosion at the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) rally, the investigators are tracing a link between the blasts at the Paltan Maidan and Bangabandhu Avenue.

The investigators believe that the bomb at the CPB rally was supplied from a place at the Bangabandhu Avenue, a high official of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police told The Daily Star yesterday.

Requesting anonymity, the DMP official said that if there was a link between the two blasts, the investigators would be able to ascertain the motive behind the explosion at the CPB meeting. Otherwise, he feared, the case would be shelved like others.

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