

Seeking quota reforms, demonstrators chanting slogans in the TSC area on the Dhaka University campus around 1:00pm yesterday. Inset, three injured protesters lying on the street after police baton-charged them near the Faculty of Fine Arts earlier in the day around 1:20am. More photos on page 5.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN/FAHD MANNAN

## QUOTA REFORM AGITATION

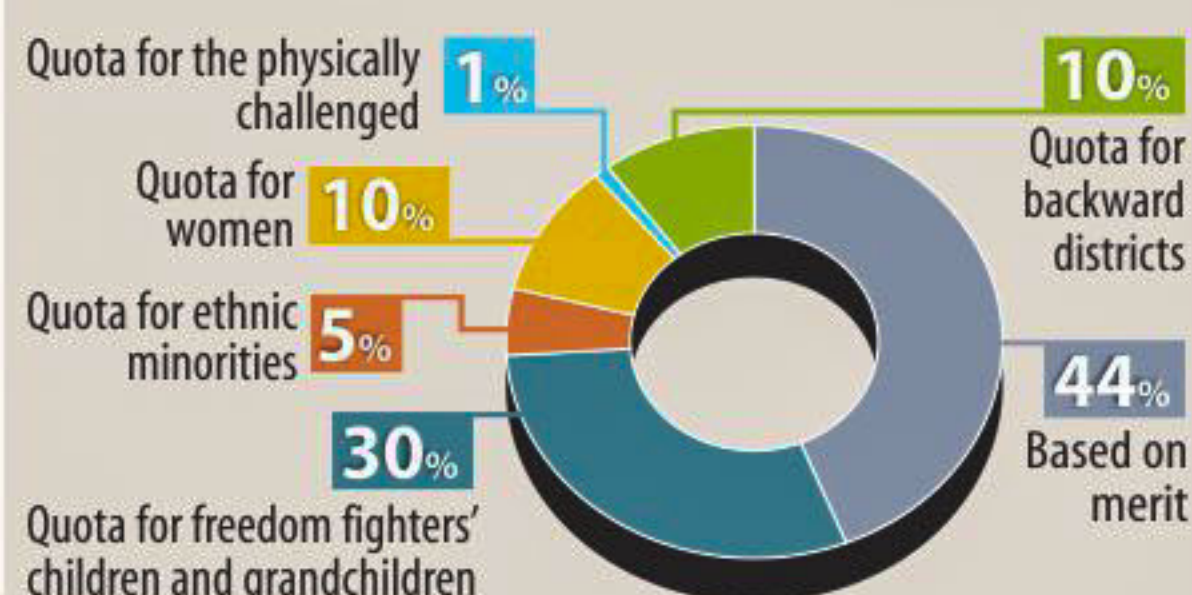
# 'Postponed', not quite

A group of students defies announcement of one-month suspension following meeting with govt; authorities to 'examine' system; protesters leave Shahbagh to be back this morning

### FIVE-POINT DEMAND

- Reducing quota privilege to 10% from 56% in govt jobs
- Merit-based recruitment in vacant posts if eligible candidates are not available for quota-based jobs
- Stopping special recruitment tests
- Unified age limit for all job seekers
- Ending use of quota privilege in getting jobs more than once

### QUOTA IN PUBLIC SERVICE



AASHIQ ABDULLAH APU and MUNTAKIM SAAD

Within an hour after a leader of demonstrating students yesterday announced a one-month pause in their movement for quota reforms in public service recruitment, a group of protesters defied it and vowed to press on with their agitation.

Hasan Al Mamun, convener of Bangladesh Shadharan Chhatra Odhikar Sangrakkhan Parishad, a platform spearheading the protest, made the announcement following a meeting with representatives of the government and the ruling Awami League.

At the meeting, joined by a 20-member student delegation and held at the Secretariat, the government pledged to "examine the existing quota system" and inform all about the "outcome" by May 7.

But the group, which was agitating in TSC area of Dhaka University even during the two-hour talks that started at 4:00pm, rejected the government assurance.

Bipasha Chowdhury, coordinator of a newly formed committee of the agitating students, announced around 9:30pm that strikes will continue at all universities and university colleges.

RELATED STORY ON PAGE 5 SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

## Put more pressure on Myanmar

PM urges India on repatriation of Rohingyas; Dhaka calls for solution to Teesta issue

### STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged India to put more pressure on Myanmar to take back over one million Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh.

She made the call when Indian Foreign Secretary Vijay Keshav Gokhale met her at her Sangshad Bhaban office, PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim told reporters after the meeting, reports UNB.

Gokhale said India was well aware of Bangladesh's problems due to the arrival of Rohingya refugees. "We shall continue to urge Myanmar to take back Rohingyas."

Hasina said her government is preparing an island to relocate about one lakh Rohingya refugees as landslides might occur in Cox's Bazar during the monsoon.

Bangladesh was in touch with five neighbouring countries, including India, China and Thailand, over settling the issue, she added.

The Indian foreign secretary said his government would provide the second package of assistance for the refugees following discussion with Bangladeshi officials.

Gokhale put emphasis on building field-level hospitals saying the problem would be very serious, particularly for

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina talking with Indian Foreign Secretary Vijay Keshav Gokhale at her office in the parliament building yesterday.

PHOTO: PMO

## A horror, but what for?

VC's residence ravaged at DU; draws widespread anger, criticism

WASIM BIN HABIB and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

The charred furniture frames on the driveway of the Dhaka University vice-chancellor's residence gave little hints of the destruction inside.

As one steps inside the two-storey building, going around the heap of burnt wood beside the lush green lawn, one may think the house was war ravaged.

From the master bedroom to the dining room, meeting rooms to the VC's home office room, and kitchens to toilets, everything was in pieces. Doors, windows, wardrobes, lockers, ceiling fans, lights, TV sets, refrigerators, utensils, photo frames and even teacups were



A bedroom at the residence of Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Md Akhteruzzaman after a group of attackers went on the rampage there early yesterday. The photo was taken around 7:30am.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



"... I cannot describe the experience in words. My family was there, and their lives were at risk."

MD AKHTERUZZAMAN  
DU VICE CHANCELLOR

## Digital security bill placed in JS amid concern

### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The much-debated Digital Security Bill-2018 was placed in the Jatiya Sangsad last night amid concern from various quarters.

Telecom and ICT Minister Mustafa Jabbar placed the proposed law before parliament, which was sent to the parliamentary standing committee on the ministry concerned for scrutiny. The committee had also been asked to submit a report to parliament within four weeks.

"One of the main objectives of the proposed law is to ensure the country's security from digital crimes and ensure security of people's lives and assets," the minister said while placing the bill.

However, Jatiya Party lawmaker Fakhrul Imam strongly opposed placing of the bill saying that "the total Bangladesh will turn into a jail" if the proposed law is passed.

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