

Pounced again

'BCL activists' and police swoop on students protesting assaults on schoolchildren; at least 30 injured; ruling party men take over streets across the capital



Snapshots of a violent afternoon

Journalists of The Daily Star, stationed at different points, share their experiences of what happened on the streets in the capital's Dhanmondi area yesterday.

Muntakim Saad, reporter
Around 12:45pm, a procession of road safety campaigners -- mostly university students -- from Shahbagh crossed the Science Lab intersection, and proceeded towards Jhigatola.
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Armed with sticks, iron rods and a machete, alleged ruling Awami League men attack freelance photographer Rahat Karim in front of the Police Box at Science Lab intersection in the capital around 2:30pm yesterday.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It was apparently a synchronised attack by police and alleged BCL men on the students, mostly from universities, who took to the streets yesterday protesting the assaults on school children in the capital's Jhigatola area on Saturday.
At least 30 students and about a dozen

photojournalists and reporters suffered injuries in the attacks that rocked Jhigatola-Dhanmondi neighbourhood yesterday afternoon. At least three were hacked with machetes.

It all began as police fired teargas shells when a several-thousand-strong procession of students that began at Shahbagh was about to take a U-turn at Jhigatola bus

stand around 1:00pm.

The fleeing students were caught and beaten up by alleged BCL activists armed with sticks and sharp weapons and wearing helmets. Anyone found taking video on mobile phones was assaulted.

However, replying to a query, DMP (Ramna) Deputy Commissioner Maruf
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PHOTO: STAR

Take your kids back to school

PM asks guardians, teachers, urges all not to listen to rumours

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked guardians and teachers to take their children back to schools.

"I'll request all that this is enough now, stop it, take the children back to their homes and let them pay attention to studies," she said.

The PM was speaking while inaugurating optical fiber connectivity in 300 unions of 10 districts under "National Information and

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY (SEE PAGE 2, 16)

1 Drik founder Shahidul Alam picked up

2 Actress Nawshaba on 4-day remand

3 Detectives pick up Naomi in Comilla

4 Attackers snatch jourmos' helmets



How dare you hit my child!

SYED ASHFAQUL HAQUE

How dare you hit my children!

These are the children whom we protect every single moment from every single harm. We leave nothing to chances as far as their security is concerned.

Every day we drop them off to school, college or coaching centres and pick them up to bring them home. When they are in pain, we feel more pain. When they get one blow on their tender bodies, we get hit with an intensity 10 times more. We become the bravest of persons on earth when they are in danger.

So protective we're, so sensitive we're, so desperate we become about their safety and security. If need be, we do the unthinkable for their wellbeing. These are the out-of-the-planet instincts that make us parents.

Our children on the streets have come under attack, and we, the parents, have every right to ask who has given them

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Students marching towards the Science Lab intersection from Shahbagh around noon yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Journos attacked while on duty

12 injured by 'ruling party men'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Alleged ruling party men attacked journalists for the second straight day yesterday.

About a dozen photojournalists and reporters came under attack at different places of the capital.

Witnesses said after dispersing student protesters in Jhigatola area around 1:15pm, a group of policemen came near City College. At that time, around 150 supposed BCL men, a few with machetes, started shouting at some stranded protesters near Science Lab police box.

Many of the "ruling party men" were wearing helmets and carrying sticks and iron rods.

As some photojournalists present there tried to take photographs, some of the "BCL" men got furious and warned the newsmen not to do so.

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UN worried about safety of children

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The United Nations, Bangladesh, has urgently called upon all parties to keep everyone, including children and young people, safe on the roads and safe from any kind of violence.

"UN agencies are increasingly concerned for the safety of children and young people caught up in recent protests over road safety in Dhaka and other parts of the country," UN, Bangladesh, said in a statement shared on its official Facebook page yesterday.

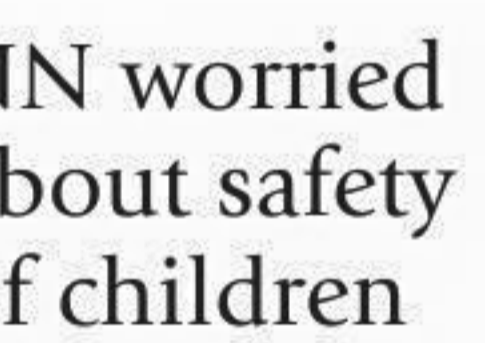
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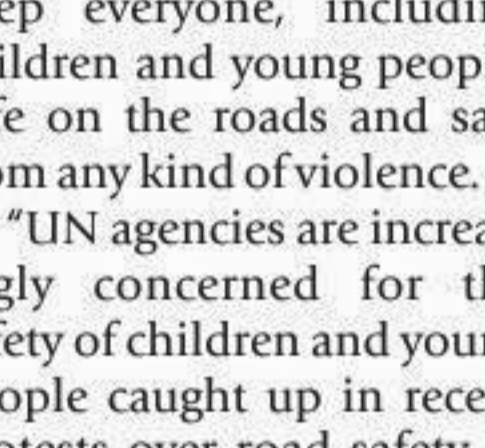
UNITED NATIONS, BANGLADESH

SAID IN A STATEMENT



AL GENERAL SECRETARY

OBABDUL QUADER



HOME MINISTER

ASADUZZAMAN KHAN

An initiative of:

The Daily Star **CROWN CEMENT** FOR SOLID FOUNDATION

BOARDING PASS
PARTICIPANTS CAN WIN AN INTERNATIONAL TRIP

BE A PART OF OUR COUNTRY'S FUTURE GROWTH
BY PARTICIPATING IN THE CONTEST

University Students Should Register at:
campaign.thedailystar.net/risehighbd
Last date of submission: 20 September, 2018

3rd EXPORT IDEA COMPETITION BEGINS

RISE HIGH BANGLADESH 2018