Give their details

asking the authorities to explain in four weeks why their inaction to recover the money laundered from the country and deposited with foreign banks, including the ones in Switzerland should not be declared illegal.

The court asked the authorities to show causes as to why they should not be ordered to form a special investigation team to find out Bangladeshi nationals' illegal money in foreign banks.

At the same time, the HC ordered the government to explain why it should not be recommended to reform the relevant laws in order to easily recover the huge amounts laundered out of the country.

The HC bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice Mohi Uddin Shamim came up with the order and rule after hearing a writ petition filed over the issue.

The bench fixed March 30 for the next hearing on the issue.

During the hearing, one of the petitioners Abdul Qaium Khan told the court that money laundering had gone up at an alarming rate in recent years.

Names of different Bangladeshi individuals and companies have reportedly been published in the Panama Papers and Paradise Papers for depositing large amounts of money with overseas banks.

But no enquiry was made to look into the allegations, said lawyer Abdul Qaium.

The ACC, Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit, and other authorities concerned have failed miserably to prevent money laundering and to bring the money back to the country, the lawyer argued.

He said 426 Indian citizens and companies were named in the Panama Papers and Paradise Papers and it was subsequently reported that they faced investigations.

ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan said the name of Abdul Awal Mintoo, owner of a Bangladeshi company, was mentioned in the Panama Papers and an enquiry was being conducted by the ACC.

He also said the ACC and government were working on bringing back the laundered money and were framing a work plan to this effect.

Lawyers Qaium and Subir Nandi Das filed the writ petition with the HC as a public interest litigation on February 1, seeking its directive on the authorities to take steps to bring back the money that Bangladeshi nationals and organisations laundered abroad and deposited with foreign banks, including Swiss ones.

In the petition, they prayed to the HC for an order to constitute a special investigation team to find out Bangladeshi nationals' illegal money deposited to foreign banks.

Yahya suspends national

on March 3, 1971, and "general situation of tension" created by India.

It may be mentioned here that Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, chief of the majority party Awami League, had suggested February 15, 1971, for the opening of the National Assembly but the Assembly was called for in the first week of March 1971 following the wishes of the minority party, Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party. Awami League conveyed messages to Yahya through East Pakistan Governor SM Ahsan that postponement of the Assembly would lead to a political explosion in the eastern wing. Ahsan confirmed that he had transmitted the message. [Kamal Hossain, Bangladesh Quest for Freedom and Justice, UPL, 2013,

Yahya Khan was expected to arrive in Dhaka on March 1 to hold a talk with Sheikh Mujib. Kamal Hossain shares that even on the night of February 28, 1971, there were indications that Yahya might still arrive in Dhaka on March 1 and the usual procedures of receiving the president were underway. Referring to a government official who travelled on the plane which was expected to carry the President from Karachi, Kamal Hossain informs that the departure of the plane had been delayed twice in Karachi as Yahya was expected to join the flight.

Yahya decided to stay back. GW Choudhury provides an interesting background of the event. Yahya asked him to prepare a statement, in a conciliatory vein, on the postponement of the Assembly session. In his draft, it was mentioned that the postponement will not exceed two or three weeks [the radio statement reads: I have, therefore, decided to postpone summoning of National Assembly to later date Choudhury handed over the draft to Yahya at Islamabad Airport while he was leaving for Karachi. The draft was subsequently given to Lt Gen G.S.M.M Peerzada (PSO of Yahya Khan) who in alliance with Bhutto torpedoed it, adds Choudhury. Bhutto and Peerzada were reported to have drafted the statement. [GW Choudhury, The Last Days of United Pakistan, UPL, 1998,

Commenting on the episode, Siddiq Saliq who was then Public Relations Officer in the Pakistan Army at Dhaka writes in his memoir, Witness to Surrender: "When I checked up details of this important development with Major-General 'I' who was on Yahya's personal staff he said, "The President was in Karachi then. We were all downstairs. Major-General 'H' and Major General 'O' were going



Bangabandhu speaking at the press conference held on March 1, 1971 at Hotel Purbani in Dhaka.

up and down. They painted such a strike on March 2 in Dacca and a picture to the President that he had to agree to the draft already prepared." 2017: 44]

When asked about his response Bhutto declined to make any comment. However, his party called off the pre-scheduled general strike.

Pakistan Muslim League Chief Khan Abdul Qayyum called the decision of the President "the only correct decision" and welcomed it. In opposition to this secretary-general, Khan A. Sabur resigned from the party. DHAKA'S RESPONSE

Upon hearing the news of the suspension of the National Assembly, Dhaka city erupted in anger and hundreds of people rushed from their shops and offices screaming and shouting in a spontaneous display of

The cricket match being held in Dhaka stadium between BCCP (Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan) and International XI was suspended.

Immediately after the radio broadcast Bangabandhu directed all Awami League Members of Parliament to assemble at Hotel Purbani at 3:00pm. After the parliamentary party meeting, in a crowded press conference, Bangabandhu "Only for the sake of a minority party's disagreement the democratic process of constitution-making has been obstructed and the National Assembly session has been postponed sine die. This is most unfortunate as far as we are concerned. We are the representatives of the majority people and we cannot allow it to go unchallenged."

In reply to a question, whether would proclaim unilateral Independence, Sheikh Mujib said "You Wait". When asked by correspondent whether he was consulted before the postponement of the National

Assembly, he said, "No". Bangabandhu announced programme for the next 6 days which included observance of a complete

country-wide strike on March 3 the date earlier fixed for the National Assembly to meet. On March 7, the final programme would be announced in a public meeting at the Race Course

Mujib uttered a note of warning: "You will see history made if the conspirators fail to come to their

Thus began the historic noncooperation movement.

Political leaders, student leaders, and representatives of various professional groups from East Pakistan individual statements expressing their opposition against the suspension of the National Assembly inaugural session.

Later in the evening, Mujib discussed with various political leaders including Ataur Rahman Khan, Mozaffar Ahmed, Maulana Shah Noorani about the changed political situation. Awami League representatives were sent to Santosh to apprise Maulana Bhashani of the situation and to invite him for a meeting with Bangabandhu.

DIPLOMATIC RESPONSE The US Embassy in Islamabad welcomed Yahya's announcement as possibly providing a "needed coolingoff period". But the US Consulate in Dhaka had a quite different reaction. The then Consul General of Dhaka Archer K Blood sent a telegram to the Embassy ending with the words: "I believe I have just witnessed the beginning of the end of a unified Pakistan." [Archer K Blood, The Cruel Birth of Bangladesh, UPL, 2006, pg.

GOVERNOR AHSAN REMOVED Later that night, Governor of East

Pakistan Admiral Ahsan, who was known as a Bengali sympathizer, was removed by Yahya Khan, and Lt General Shahibzada Yakub Khan took over the charge of the province.

The writer can be contacted at sajen1986@gmail.com

Irregularities widespread

supporter of councillor candidate Nazrul Islam Royal, was killed in a clash with supporters of rival candidates at Mohila College centre in ward-5

Witnesses said they clashed over establishing supremacy near the polling centre

At one point, followers of councillor candidates -- Madedur Rahman and Akhtar Hossain -- attacked Chhoton. He fell to the ground and was taken to Saidpur 100bed Hospital where he was declared dead on arrival.

Omidul Hasan, resident medical officer of the hospital, said, "Further details [about his death] could be known after performing autopsy."

Abul Hasnat Khan, officer-in-charge of Saidpur Police Station, said the clash took place near the poling centre and police brought the situation under control immediatelv.

Five others were also injured during the clash.

Earlier, Jatiya Party mayoral candidate Siddiqul Alam boycotted the polls, alleging irregularities and attack on his supporters.

In Brahmanbaria municipality polls, AL, Jubo League and Chhatra League men took control of voting booths in many polling stations and voted for AL mayoral nominee Nayar Kabir, alleged voters.

While visiting several polling centres, our district correspondent also found that a group of young men wearing badges of "boat symbol" around their necks took position next to the voting booths in most of the centres.

At Brahmanbaria Government Mohila College centre, the EVM machines for mayoral polls were set up outside the voting booths, while the machines for election in general councillor posts and those for the reserved seats for women were inside the voting booths.

Asked why the EVM machine for mayoral polls was kept outside the voting booth, polling official Abdul Baset of booth-1 said, "It [EVM machine] was moved

Satya Das, a voter who came to the polling station, said, "I wanted to vote for the candidate of my choice, but they [AL men] forced me to vote for the boat symbol. I protested. In the end, I was forced to vote in front of them.

Many candidates alleged that members of law enforcement agencies did not prevent the youths wearing badges of "boat symbol" from entering the voting booths. Mahmudul Haque Bhuiyan, an independent mayoral contender, said his agents were driven out from 23 centres after 10:00am. "Since then, those who came to the centre have been forced to cast votes for the boat symbol.

Returning Officer Zillur Rahman said nobody made any complaints about taking ontrol of voting booths. "I visited many centres and did not see such things."

In Laxmipur's Raipur municipality election, ruling party activists took position inside the voting booths and voted for AL mayoral candidate after voters' identities were confirmed, alleged many voters at Madhupur Government Primary School centre.

Talking to reporters, Presiding Officer Sharif Hossain claimed that no voter made such complaints. "Voting is going on properly". BNP mayoral candidate Shah Mohammad said he would not take part in

famalpur municipality polls, alleging that ruling party men took control of polling centres and did not allow his agents to enter most of the centres. Shamsul Haque, BNP mayoral nominee in Joypurhat municipality election,

demanded a re-lection, bringing allegation of irregularities during the polls. EC'S REACTION Election Commission Secretary Humayun Kabir Khandaker yesterday evening

said the hourly reports sent by returning officers and the Monitoring Cell showed that the polls were held in a festive atmosphere. About a man's death in Saidpur of Nilphamari, Humayun told reporters at the EC secretariat in the capital's Agargaon, No death is desired. That is why we are all sorry.

"There were no signs of injuries on his body. We can know the cause of his death when autopsy report is available," he added.

[Our correspondents in Nilphamari, Brahmanbaria, Noakhali and Dinajpur contributed to this report.]

Iran, allies could be behind Israeli ship blast: newspaper

The "resistance axis" of Tehran and its regional allies may have been behind an explosion that hit an Israeli-owned "spy" vessel four days ago, an ultraconservative Iranian newspaper said yesterday. The MV Helios Ray, a vehicle carrier, was travelling from the Saudi port of

Dammam to Singapore when the blast occurred on Thursday, according to the London-based Dryad Global maritime security group.

Citing unnamed "military experts," Kayhan, Iran's leading ultraconservative daily, wrote in a front-page report that "the targeted ship in the Gulf of Oman is a military ship belonging to the Israeli army".

Entire phase-1 of MRT-6

be operational in December this year.

the first phase in December, MAN Siddique said they would be able to inform about the plan after the metro rail reaches Bangladesh, expectedly in April.

He, however, said they were running behind their schedule to bring metro trains from Japan due to the Covid-19 situation.

The original implementation period of the project was 2012-2024.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina later directed that metro services from Uttara to Agargaon be made operational by 2019, and from Agargaon to Motijheel by 2020. Failing to meet the deadline, the authorities

in May 2019 said the project would be launched on December 16, 2021, when the country would be celebrating the golden jubilee of its independence. PROGRESS OF THE FIRST PHASE

Uttara to Agargaon -- of metro rail is likely to percent progress as of February 25, MAN the first metro rail service in July, as the first Asked whether they would start operation of installed at 8.72 km, out of the 11.73 section, he said.

Besides, 16.20km, out of 19km rail lines, inside the depot at Diabari, has already been installed and installation of a mast for the overhead catenary system has been done inside the depot and to Kazipara station, he added

Full installation of rail rile in the first phase is expected to be completed within May, he added.

Nine, out of 52 structures to be built inside the depo, have been completed, he said hopping to complete all civil works within five to six months.

Works for building concourse roof for first three stations -- Uttara north, central and south -- have already done while same work for five others station is now going on, he said.

MAN Siddique, on February 4, told

The first phase of the project saw 81.38 reporters that they might start a trial run of Siddique said. The rail line has been train is expected to arrive in April. The trial run might continue for as long as six months,

The first train was supposed to leave the Port of Kobe on February 20 for Bangladesh and could reach a depot in the capital's Diabari on April 23 via the Mongla port. But, the train could not be sent on February 20 due to incline weather and now they are expected to be shifted on March 1, MAN Siddique said.

The second train is likely to reach the depot on June 16, and the third one on August 13.

As they had to complete inspection of the trains engaging third party due to Covid restriction, the authority would check 19 major elements after the trains reach Bangladesh and then they would carry out an integrated test before going for a trial run, he



Bangladesh Bank

Common Services Department-1 (Equipment Section) Head Office Dhaka-1000



Not applicable

Invitation for Tenders			
Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka			
Not applicable.			

3	Procuring entity name	Bangladesh Bank.		
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.		
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.		
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Original HP Black Prink Cartridge for HP		
		LaserJet Pro M404dn Printer of Bangladesh Bank, Head		
		Office, Dhaka.		
7	Invitation Ref. No.	CSD(EQUIPMENT)69(3)/2021-13		
8	Date	25/02/2021		
KEY	INFORMATION			
9	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method.		
FUN	DING INFORMATION			
10	Budget and source of funds	Own source.		
11	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable.		
PAR	TICULAR INFORMATION			
12	Project/program code (if applicable)			
13	Project/program name (if applicable)			
14	Tender package No.			
15	Tender package name			
		Date		
16	Tender publication date	01/03/2021		
17	Tender last selling date	Not applicable.		
		Date	Time	
18	Tender closing date and time	14/03/2021	03:00pm	
19	Tender opening date and time	14/03/2021	03:30pm	
20	Name & address of the office(s)	Address		
	-Receiving tender document	BB website and hard copy document (only for Tender Security		
		money).		
	-Opening tender document	Common Services Department-1, 6th Floor, Annex-2 Building,		
		Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka.		
21	Pre-tender meeting	Not applicable.		
	Last date, time of receiving security	14/03/2021 01:30pm		
INFO	RMATION FOR TENDERER			

Brief eligibility of tenderer Brief description of goods or works

Tenderers having 5 years overall business experience and minimum specific experience as supplier in supply of similar goods of at least 2 (two) contract(s) of similar nature successfully completed within the last three (3) years. Supply of 200 (two hundred) Pcs Original HP Black Print Cartridge (CF2764) for HP LaserJet Pro M404n Printer of Bangladesh Bank, Head Office. N/A

Brief description of related services Lot Identification of lot Location Tender security amount Completion time in weeks/months from the date of contract singing No. Original HP Black CSD-1 Tk 50.000.00 8 weeks Print Cartridge (CF276A) for HP LaserJet Pro M404n Printer PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS Name of official inviting tender Md. Abul Kalam Azad

General Manager

The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the tender proceedings. ব্যাংকিং ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

পত্র নং ডিসিপিঃ ৪৮/২০২১-৭৮০

তারিখঃ ২৮-০২-২০২১ইং

GD-407

Md. Abul Kalam Azad General Manager Phone: 9530148 E-mail: ma.azad@bb.org.bd

Common Services Department-1, Bangladesh Bank, Head

Tel: 9530148 Fax: 9564117 E-mail: ma.azad@bb.org.bd

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার প্রকল্প পরিচালকের কার্যালয়

পলিটেকনিক ইনস্টিটিউট স্থাপন" শীর্ষক প্রকল্প কারিগরি শিক্ষা অধিদপ্তর

এফ-৪/বি, আগারগাঁও প্রশাসনিক এলাকা, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭ www.techedu.gov.bd ১৫ ফাল্লুন ১৪২৭ বঙ্গাব্দ

নম্বর-৫৭.০৩.০০০০.০৪৪.১৫.০০৪.১৯-১৪৬

২৮ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২১ খ্রিষ্টাব্দ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

কারিগরি শিক্ষা অধিদপ্তর কর্তৃক বান্তবায়নাধীন "২৩টি জেলায় পলিটেকনিক ইনস্টিটিউট স্থাপন" শীর্ষক প্রকল্পে উল্লিখিত পদে প্রকল্পের মেয়াদকালীন সময়ের জন জনবল নিয়োগ করা হবে। এ উদ্দেশ্যে বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে নিমুবর্ণিত শর্ত সাপেক্ষে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচেছ। শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা পদের নাম ও বেতন (জাতীয় বেতন ক্ষেল ২০১৫ অনুযায়ী) (ক) কোন স্বীকৃত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে বাণিজ্য অনুষদভুক্ত যে কোন বিষয়ে অন্যুন দ্বিতীয় ٥٥. গীতে শ্রেণি বা সমমানের সিজিপিএ-তে স্লাতক বা সমমানের ডিগ্রী এবং (প্রড-১৪) (খ) কম্পিউটারে MS Office-এ কাজ করার দক্ষতা। (ক) কোন স্বীকৃত বোর্ড হতে অন্যুন দ্বিতীয় বিভাগ বা সমমানের জিপিএ-তে উচ্চ অফিস সহকারী কাম-কম্পিউটার অপারেটর গীংত ০২. মাধ্যমিক সার্টিফিকেট বা সমমানের পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ এবং (গ্রন্থত-১৬) সাকুল্য বেতন= ১৭,০৪৫/ (খ) কম্পিউটার ব্যবহারে দক্ষতা।

ণর্তাবলীঃ জনপ্রশাসন মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক চাকুরীর নির্ধারিত ০১ (এক) পাতার আবেদন ফরম নিজ হাতে পূরণ করে অথবা কম্পিউটারে কম্পোজের মাধ্যমে আবেদ করতে হবে। উক্ত নমুনা ফরমটি কারিগরি শিক্ষা অধিদগুরের ওয়েবসাইট <u>www.techedu.gov.bd</u> -এ প্রচারিত নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞণ্ডির সাথে সংযুক্ত অথবা বাংলাদেশ ফরমের ওয়েবসাইট <u>www.forms.gov.bd</u> -এ চাকুরীর আবেদন ফরমটি ডাউনলোভ করা যাবে।

আবেদনপত্রের সাথে নিদুর্বর্ণিত কাগজগত্রাদি সংস্কৃত করতে হবেঃ (ক) সকল শিক্ষাণত যোগ্যতা, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র/জন্ম সনদ, দক্ষতা/অভিজ্ঞতা সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত ছায়ালিপি। (খ) প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক চারিত্রিক সনদপত্র এবং সম্প্রতি তোলা ০৪ (চার) কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের সত্যায়িত ছবি।

(গ) ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের চেয়ারম্যান/পৌরসভার মেয়র/সিটি কপোঁরেশনের ওয়ার্ড কাউন্সিলর কর্তৃক নাগরিকতু সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত ছায়ালিপি প্রতল্প পরিচালক, "২৩টি জেলায় পলিটেকনিক ইনস্টিটিউট স্থাপন" শীর্ষক প্রকল্প, কারিগরি শিক্ষা অধিদপ্তর, ঢাকা বরাবরে পরীক্ষার ফি বাবদ ১০০/- (একশত) টাকা কোড নম্বর '১-৩৭০৩-০০০০-২০৩১'-এ বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক/বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক অনুমোদিত সোনালী ব্যাংকের যে কোন শাখায় ট্রেজারী চালানের মাধ্যমে জমা দিতে হবে। চালানের মলকপি আবেদনপত্রের সাথে সংযক্ত করতে হবে। (৬) খামের উপরে পদ ও পত্র প্রাপ্তির ঠিকানা লেখা ১০ (দশ) টাকা মূল্যমানের ডাকটিকেটসহ অব্যবহৃত ফেরত খাম সংযুক্ত করতে হবে চাকুরীরত প্রার্থীদের যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে।

আবেদনপত্র আগামী ২১/০৩/২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ের মধ্যে প্রকল্প পরিচালক, "২৩টি জেলায় পলিটেকনিক ইনস্টিটিউট স্থাপন শীর্ষক প্রকল্প, কারিগরি শিক্ষা অধিদপ্তর (৬**৪ তলা, কক্ষ নং-৬০২**), এফ-৪/বি, আগারগাঁও প্রশাসনিক এলাকা, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭ বরাবরে ভাকযোগে/সরাসরি পৌছাতে হবে। অসম্পূর্ণ ও নির্ধারিত সময়ের পরে প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্রসমূহ সরাসরি বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। ০১/০৩/২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখে সকল পলে আবেদনকারীর বয়স ১৮ হতে ৩০ বছর হতে হবে। মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের সন্তান এবং প্রতিবন্ধিদের ক্ষেত্রে বয়স ৩২ বৎসর পর্যন্ত শিধিলযোগ্য। মুক্তিযোদ্ধা নাতি-নাতনীদের বয়স ৩০ বৎসর হতে হবে। বয়স সম্পর্কিত কোন এফিডেভিট

সরকারি বিধি মোতাবেক লিখিত, ব্যবঃ ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। একই দিনে লিখিত, ব্যবঃ ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষা মাধ্যমে প্রার্থী বাছাই করা হবে মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের সময় সকল সনদপত্রের মলকপি প্রদর্শন করতে হবে।

ষ্ঠিস সহকারী কাম-কম্পিউটার অপারেটর পদের ক্ষেত্রে Computer Standard Aptitude Test (ব্যবহারিক) পরীক্ষায় উত্তীর্ণ হতে হবে বৈধ প্রার্থীদেরকে পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য তারিখ ও স্থান সংবলিত প্রবেশপত্র প্রার্থীর ফেরত খামে বর্ণিত ঠিকানায় প্রেরণ করা হবে নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে কোটা সংক্রান্ত সরকারি নীতিমালা ও অন্যান্য বিধানাবলী যথাযথভাবে অনুসরণ করা হবে। 201

ণাকুল্য বেতন নির্ধারণের ক্ষেত্রে অর্থ বিভাগ, অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়ের নির্দেশাবলী অনুসরণ করা হবে। লিখিত, ব্যবহারিক ও মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় অংশগ্রহণের জন্য প্রার্থীদের কোন প্রকার টিএ/ডিএ প্রদান করা হবে না

বর্ণিত শর্তাবলীর যে কোন অংশ সংশোধনসহ আবেদনপত্র গ্রহণ/বাতিলের পূর্ণ অধিকার কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করে।

উপরে উল্লিখিত হয়নি এরপক্ষেত্রে সরকারের প্রচলিত বিধানাবলী প্রযোজ্য হবে

মোঃ জামাল হোসেন

Launch judicial probe

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gradual mental torture.

Mushtaq, who was arrested under the Digital Security Act, died in Kashimpur High-Security Jail-3 in Gazipur on Thursday. The citizens also demanded immediate release of the seven students detained by police during a rally in the city's

Shahbagh protesting Mushtaq's death. They also called for withdrawal of the case against the seven. Besides, they demanded release of labour leader Ruhul Amin of Khulna who was held by detectives and shown arrested under the DSA on Saturday, allegedly for uploading a post on social media supporting the protest

against Mushtaq's death. They also wanted the case against him withdrawn. The citizens further demanded medical compensation for those injured in the "barbaric" police attack during Friday's incident in Shahbagh and punishment of the

They said both of the cases filed against the seven students under the Penal Code-1860 and against Ruhul Amin under the DSA are unjust, indiscreet, and repressive, adding that they, as commoners, are angered by the case-

filings and police attack on peaceful protesters. They demanded the abolishment of the repressive DSA and withdrawal of all cases filed under the act.

The citizens demanded release of ailing cartoonist Ahmed Kabir Kishore, also arrested under the DSA, on bail for better treatment, citing the cartoonist was allegedly tortured in

The signatories include Prof Anu Muhammad of Jahangirnagar University; author Rahnuma Ahmed; Zafrullah Chowdhury, founder of Gonoshasthaya Kendra; international relations expert Prof CR Abrar; human rights activist Shaheen Anam; Syeda Rizwana Hasan, chief executive officer of Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers' Association; rights activist Khushi Kabir; woman rights activist Farida Aktar, researcher Shapan Adnan; Azfar Hussain, vice-president of Global Center for Advanced Studies in New York, USA; Prof Asif Nazrul of Dhaka University; rights activist Nur Khan, and rights activist Shireen Huq.

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custody. They also demanded trial of the torturers.