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QUOTA PROTESTS All deaths unfortunate Says HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday said the deaths in the violence over quota reform protests were unfortunate.

"These deaths are sad for all of us," the HC bench of Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam and Justice SM Masud Hossain Dolon said during a hearing on a writ petition.

Lawyer Aneek R. Haque presented newspaper reports on the death of six-year-old Ria on the roof of a house in Narayanganj. "When a life is lost, there are no sides. A six-year old child."

Justice Mustafa, presiding judge of the HC bench, said, "We will not address emotional issues in this court. We are deeply ashamed."

The petition was filed by Supreme Court lawyers Aynunnahar Siddiqua and Manzur Al-Matin on Monday seeking HC orders for the immediate release of six coordinators of the quota reform protests

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With red cloths covering parts of their faces, teachers and students of Jahangirnagar University yesterday brought out a silent march to protest the torture and detentions of students and also to demand justice for those killed during the unrest centring the quota protests.

PHOTO: AKHLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

BUSINESS

S&P lowers Bangladesh rating

S&P Global has downgraded Bangladesh's long-term sovereign rating from BB- to B+ amid deadly protests over the quota-based hiring system for government jobs. The country is still at risk of failing to rebound from lingering economic pressures, it said.

STORY ON B1

Teacher-student demo in several univs

Many take to social media to express solidarity; protesters to bring out processions today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Teachers and students at Jahangirnagar University and faculty members at Rajshahi University yesterday staged demonstrations, with red cloths covering parts of their faces, calling for an end to harassment, detention and torture of students.

They also demanded thorough investigation into the indiscriminate killings during the unrest over the quota reform movement.

In Khulna and Tangail districts, college students blocked intersections to press for the same demand.

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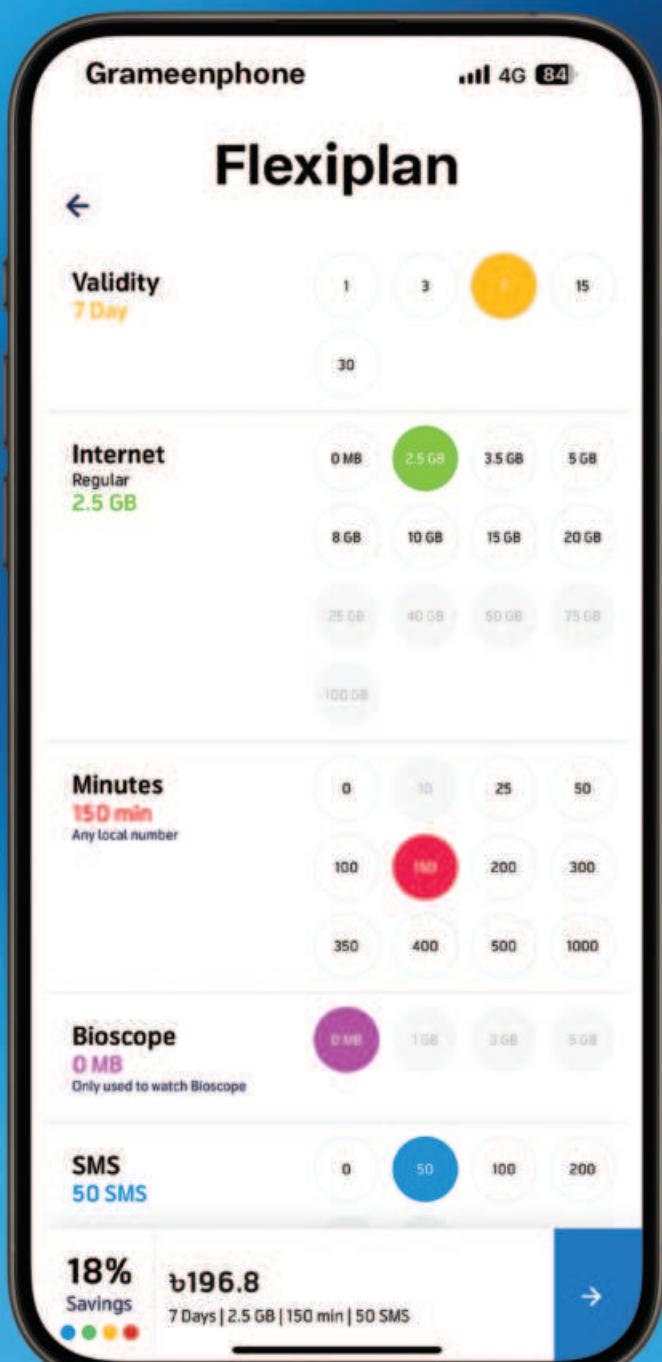
UN, EU call for thorough probe into the killings

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres remains concerned by emerging reports of excessive use of force by security forces and credible evidence of human rights violations in Bangladesh during the quota reform protest, said his spokesperson.

European Union Foreign Policy Chief Joseph Borrell also expressed grave concern at the announcement of a "shoot-on-sight policy" and unlawful

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