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Police block 'March for Justice'

Use teargas, stun grenades, charge batons; at least 100 hurt; 83 held

STAR REPORT

The law enforcers yesterday foiled the quota protesters' March for Justice by using teargas and stun grenades and charging batons in different districts.

At least 100 people were injured and 83 detained during the protests.

Teachers, parents, and citizens from various walks of life joined the programme called by the "students against discrimination" in protest of the killings and arrests of students and people, filing of cases, and abductions.

In Barishal, at least 11 people, including five journalists, were injured when police hit them with batons.

The injured journalists, The Daily Star photographer Titu Das, Jugantar photographer Shamim Ahmed, Jamuna TV videographer Hridoy Chandra Shil, NTV videographer Gobinda Saha, and Barta24.net reporter Tuhin, took primary treatment at Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital.

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A female student, who said she was just 17, being carried away in a prison van after police obstructed the "March for Justice" near the BMA Bhaban in Khulna city yesterday. *Right top*, Nusrat Noor, a law student of Stamford University being dragged away by cops while Nusrat Noor, a student of the same university, refuses to let him be taken away during the protests near the High Court. *Right bottom*, students from different universities gathered near the HC gate.



PHOTOS: HABIBUR RAHMAN, AMRAN HOSSAIN

ABU SAYED MURDER CASE 16-yr-old in Rangpur jail for 12 days

Father says he was shot in his leg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaajpur

A 16-year-old is in Rangpur jail for 12 days after his arrest in the case filed over Abu Sayed's killing.

Begum Rokeya University student Sayed was shot and killed during the quota reform protest near his university on July 16.

Video footage shows police shooting Sayed, who posed no threat to the law enforcers. He died soon afterwards.

But contradicting what is clear as daylight, the First Information Report filed by police says Sayed was not a victim of police firing. "The protesters fired weapons and threw chunks of bricks from different directions, and at one stage, a student [Sayed] was seen falling to the ground," read the FIR.

"Police have shown my son Mahim arrested in the Abu Sayed murder case," said Md Shahjalal, who owns a photo studio in Rangpur city.

Alfi Shahriar Mahim, a first-year HSC student of Rangpur Police Lines School and College, is 16 years and 10 months old, said his father, citing his birth certificate.

Public Prosecutor Rafiq Hasnain at the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court in Rangpur said Mahim was not a named accused in the Abu Sayed murder case.

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Mahim

Process underway to ban Jamaat and Shibir

Home boss says it may happen any time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The banning of Jamaat-e-Islami and its student front Chhatra Shibir is under process, said the home minister, despite expectation that it was going to happen yesterday.

Yesterday, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan mentioned no date for issuing a notification in this regard but said it could be issued any time.

"I have not received the file yet. We are waiting. We had meetings in the morning and in the afternoon ... A few issues were discussed with the prime minister, including the ban on Jamaat," he said. "We will announce whenever the decision comes."

Asaduzzaman said Jamaat was going to be banned as per Section 18 of the Anti-Terrorism Act.

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PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT EU postpones negotiations with Dhaka

Cites 'prevailing situation' as reason

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The European Union has postponed its first round of negotiation with Bangladesh on a new agreement meant to elevate its partnership with the South Asian country.

"In light of the prevailing situation, the first round of negotiations on the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement envisaged for September has been postponed with no later date fixed as yet," Nabila Massrari, EU spokesperson for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, told The Daily Star in a message yesterday.

The decision comes a day after EU High Representative and Foreign Policy Chief Josep Borrell on Tuesday issued a statement condemning the "shoot-on-sight policy" announced by the authorities in Bangladesh.

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Harun transferred from DB 5 other top DMP officials also transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Additional Deputy Commissioner Harun or Rashid has been removed from the Detective Branch.

In a major reshuffle, six top officials of DMP including Harun were transferred yesterday.

Harun has been transferred to the crime and operations division of DMP, said a notification signed by DMP Commissioner Habibur Rahman. He will be replaced by DMP Additional Commissioner Ashrafuzzaman, it added.

Harun's transfer came two days after a meeting of the Awami League-led 14-party alliance, where some alliance leaders expressed their discontent about Harun.

On Monday, the High Court also expressed its displeasure over a photo of

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'Structures can be rebuilt, lives lost will never return'

PM says about violence centring quota protests

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said the destroyed structures can be rebuilt but the lives lost during the recent violence in the country can never be returned.

She was speaking at a programme marking the inauguration of the National Fisheries Week 2024 at the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre yesterday.

Hasina said there was no issue for waging a movement as she fulfilled all the demands of the students and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court ordered status quo on the High Court judgment, restoring the effectiveness of the government's 2018 notification that abolished the quota system in government jobs.

Despite that, such incidents happened and destructive activities were carried out, leading to loss of so many lives, she said.

"I never thought such a situation would arise and so many lives would be lost."

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Quader booted off a meeting with ex-BCL leaders



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader faced the wrath of former Chhatra League leaders yesterday as he began speaking to the media instead of having discussions with them at a views-exchange meeting.

The AL organised the meeting at the party's Bangabandhu Avenue head office at 11:00am and according to the invitation letter, Quader was supposed to exchange views with the former Chhatra League leaders.

However, Quader reached the venue around 11:20am and immediately started talking to the media without having any

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Palestinians attend a protest in Hebron in the Israeli-occupied West Bank yesterday, after the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Iran.

PHOTO: AFP

Hamas leader killed in Iran by Israeli air strike

Says the Palestinian group, warns assassination takes war to 'new levels'

AGENCIES

Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh was assassinated in Iran yesterday morning, the Palestinian group and Tehran said, drawing threats of revenge on Israel in a region already shaken by the offensive in Gaza and a deepening conflict in Lebanon.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards confirmed the death of Haniyeh, hours after he attended a swearing in ceremony for the country's new president, and said it was investigating. Haniyeh has been killed in an Israeli air strike in the Iranian capital, Hamas said.

Haniyeh, normally based in Qatar, has been the face of Hamas's international diplomacy as the Israel's offensive in Gaza began on October 7.

The health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said yesterday that at least 39,445 people have been killed in the offensive. The toll includes 45 deaths in 24 hours, according to the ministry figures.

Hamas' armed wing said in a statement Haniyeh's killing would "take the battle to new levels and have major repercussions", while Iran also vowed to retaliate.



Ismail Haniyeh

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