



Speakers at a public discourse on “How to Ensure Public Safety and Security?” at the capital’s The Daily Star Centre yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Police must resume duty immediately

Say speakers on ensuring public safety, security

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police personnel should immediately resume their regular duty to ensure people’s safety, said speakers at a public discourse yesterday.

If there was any sense of insecurity or lack of trust among the police members, then the authorities concerned must sit with them and listen to their problems to find a solution, they said.

The discussion titled “How to Ensure Public Safety and Security?” was organised by The Daily Star at the capital’s The Daily Star Centre.

Pointing to police atrocities on student protesters and people during the recent nationwide movements that toppled the Sheikh Hasina government on August 5, they said rogue policemen should be identified and isolated from the force as well as be punished. However, rebuilding people’s trust on the police force as a whole is crucial for the country’s progress.

Following the August 5 changeover, many policemen deserted their workplaces amid attacks on police stations across the country.

At the event, former inspector general of police Muhammad Nurul Huda emphasised the urgent need for police, particularly traffic officials, to be more “visible” and to promptly resume their duties.

He said students were trying to fill the absence by controlling the traffic situation on the city streets but they need to go back to the classroom immediately as they are the future nation builders.

“It is important to understand why police behave the way they do,” he said, adding, the force is part of the executive branch and merely follows order.

There will be little to no gain in squarely blaming the police force, he further said.

Joining the discussion virtually, Supreme Court lawyer Barrister Jyotirmoy Barua said ordinary citizens are the most affected by the recent decline in law and order, while traders have also encountered difficulties in operating their businesses.

He emphasised that maintaining law and order is a role only the police can fulfill, and it cannot be effectively handled by any other agency.

Expressing concern over safety issues, Abdullah Hil Rakib, vice president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association, called upon the newly-formed interim government to take immediate steps for redeployment of policemen for smooth shipments of their goods.

In his opening remarks, Golam Mortaza, editor of The Daily Star Bangla, said police are the most important force when it comes to people’s safety.

However, they are also one of the most criticised ones for their controversial roles. He said immediate redeployment of police is crucial, as society is full of rumours and confusion.

Rights activist Ilira Dewan said it is important to build the police as a people-friendly force while police itself has to play a role to earn people’s trust.

Filmmaker Ashfaq Nipun, JAAGO Foundation founder Korvi Rakshand, Journalist Rashed Nizam, and Dhaka University Chhatra Union President Meghmalla Bosu, among others, spoke at the discussion.

Canada eager to work with interim govt

US secretary of state voices support

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

As Bangladesh undergoes a transition period, Canada is eager to engage with the interim government to support an inclusive process that involves everyone, including religious minorities, youth, women, and other marginalised groups.

“We welcome the inauguration of a new interim government, led by Dr Muhammad Yunus. This is the first step in restoring peace, to pave the way for free and fair elections and democratic governance,” said Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly in a statement yesterday.

She said Canada supports a peaceful way forward in resolving the ongoing crisis in Bangladesh.

She urged all parties to work together to promote the principles of democratic and inclusive governance, respect for human rights, and the rule of law.

Canada also called on the interim government to maintain full access to the internet and other communication means to support the exercise of freedom of expression.

She also urged the new

SEE PAGE 4 COL 8



More than 100 families formed a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club yesterday, demanding information about the whereabouts of their missing relatives, who were the victims of forced disappearances during the 15 years of Awami League regime.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

‘At least tell us where they are’

Over 100 families stage protest, want info on ‘missing’ loved ones

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

They shared a common grief: their sons, husbands, or brothers have been missing for years, allegedly abducted by state agencies during the 15-year rule of the Awami League.

Over 100 families of such enforced disappearance victims formed a human chain yesterday in front of the Jatiya Press Club, demanding information about the whereabouts of their missing loved ones.

The protesters, comprising mothers, sisters, fathers, and children, held up pictures of their missing relatives, with names and dates of the day they disappeared inscribed on them.

Some of the dates stretched back as far as 13 years, symbolising the long, painful wait of these families. Children who were young when their fathers were taken have since grown up; some mothers have died while waiting for the return of their sons.

Those who were present yesterday are unsure whether their loved ones are alive or dead. These families are still

waiting for any information that might bring them closure.

The human chain began around 11:00am, where the relatives stood in solidarity.

“We just want to know what happened to our loved ones. At least tell us where they are,” said one participant, a sentiment echoed by all present.

On August 6, a day after Sheikh Hasina’s fall, members of Mayer Daak, a platform of the families of people who fell victim to enforced disappearances, gathered in front of the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence office to know whereabouts of their missing relatives.

At least three victims of enforced disappearances, were released on the same day.

The next day, DGFJ said there were no detainees in their Dhaka facility.

On the same day, Michael Chakma, 40, a UPDF activist who was forcibly disappeared on April 16, 2019 from Narayanganj, returned to a friend’s house in Chattogram.



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Reform admin, police, judiciary

Demands University Teachers Network

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The University Teachers Network, a platform of teachers who had actively participated in the recent student-led mass uprising, has called for immediate reformation of the civil administration and police, and forming a neutral judiciary to ensure safety and justice to people from all walks of life.

In a dialogue held at Dhaka University yesterday, they also demanded all types of syndicates in the market to be abolished to reduce

the prices of essentials.

Not only teachers, but also people from other professions, participated in the discussion titled “What We Want from The Interim Government”.

Presiding over the event, Prof Anu Muhammad, a former teacher at Jahangirnagar University, said it is the third time that a possibility to rebuild Bangladesh has emerged.

The scope to do so was missed once after the Liberation War in 1971 and again after the fall of HM Ershad in 1990, he said, adding, “During the caretaker government in 1990,

Prof Rehman Sobhan proposed a reformation model, but none of the successive political governments followed it.”

Stressing that the situation is different this time, he said while the political parties were key players of all previous mass uprisings, this time the students are the main force.

“This generation once said they hate politics but they stood against the bullets fired by police. What could be more political than that?” he asked.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3



অভিনন্দন
ও শুভকামনা

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশের অন্তর্বর্তীকালীন সরকারের
মাননীয় প্রধান উপদেষ্টা নোবেল বিজয়ী **ড. মুহাম্মদ ইউনূস**
এবং অন্যান্য সকল উপদেষ্টাকে
বিসিএমইএ-এর পক্ষ থেকে জানাই
প্রাণঢালা অভিনন্দন ও আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা

সেই সাথে বৈষম্যবিরোধী আন্দোলনে শাহাদত বরণকারী সকল ছাত্র-জনতা
ও নিরাপত্তা বাহিনীসহ আত্মত্যাগকারী সকলের রুহের মাগফিরাত
এবং আহতদের দ্রুত আরোগ্য কামনা করছি।

অন্তর্বর্তীকালীন সরকারের সাথে **বিসিএমইএ** একসাথে কাজ করার
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**PRAYER
TIMING**
AUGUST 11



Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 4:25	12:45	4:45	6:41	8:00
JAMAT 5:00	1:15	5:00	6:44	8:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION