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## Salman, Anisul arrested in Sadarghat

They're accused in case over killing of student during protest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Salman F Rahman, private industry affairs adviser to former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, and Anisul Huq, former law minister, were arrested in the capital's Sadarghat yesterday.

They were arrested in a case filed with New Market Police Station over the killing of a Dhaka College student, according to police sources.



The duo were trying to flee using the waterway, Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Mainul Hasan told The Daily Star.

Coast guards detained them in Narayanganj's Pagla area and handed them to police, said the media wing of Bangladesh Coast Guard last night.

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GAVE SHELTER TO ALL LEADERS WHOSE LIVES IN DANGER: ARMY CHIEF - PAGE 2



A woman holding the photograph of her elder brother Abu Bakar Sharif Titu, a member of Panchakaran Union Parishad of Bagerhat's Morrelganj upazila, who was picked up from in front of Sayedabad Police Outpost on September 19, 2016 and has been missing since then. Around 25 family members of victims of enforced disappearances, along with others, demonstrated in front of the State Guest House Jamuna, the official residence of Chief Adviser to the Interim Government Prof Mohammad Yunus, yesterday afternoon to demand the return of their loved ones. Related story on page 3.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



**'We're one family, no room for division'**

**Chief adviser urges Hindus to stay united, have patience**

STAR REPORT

Interim government Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus yesterday said all are equal in the eyes of law and there is no scope to create divisions.

"Establishing people's democratic rights and human rights is the main goal of this government," he said while visiting Dhakeshwari National Temple in the capital in the

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## Major shakeup in the police

Monirul, Habibur, two other top cops sent into forced retirement

STAR REPORT

Four top police officials, including former Special Branch chief Md Monirul Islam and ex-Dhaka Metropolitan Police commissioner Md Habibur Rahman, were sent into forced retirement yesterday.

The other two officials are Rangpur Metropolitan Police Commissioner Md Moniruzzaman and Rangpur Range Deputy Inspector General Abdul Baten. The two were in command on July 16 when police shot dead Begum Rokeya University student Abu Sayed in Rangpur.

A video showed Sayed, an organiser of the quota reform protest, being shot while holding a stick at the university gate.

Earlier yesterday, Monirul, an additional inspector general of police, was transferred to the Police Headquarters. Two days ago, Habibur was attached to the PHQ.

The police department yesterday underwent another major shakeup with 65 key officials transferred and given new postings.

Among them are the chief of the Criminal Investigation Department, key officials in the PHQ, the deputy commissioners of 15 out of the 16 crime divisions of DMP and the Detective Branch, and the officers in charge of 18 police stations in the capital.

Many of these officials had jurisdiction over the areas where the police recently opened indiscriminate fire on the quota reform protesters.

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## Hasina urges all to observe August 15

Posts Joy on his verified FB page

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, now in India after the fall of her government following a mass uprising, yesterday demanded an investigation into the killings, vandalism, and arson carried out in the name of agitation.

She also demanded that the culprits be identified and brought to justice.

Sajeeb Wazed Joy, Hasina's son, posted her statement on his verified Facebook page last night.

Hasina was compelled to step down on August 5 following the student protests, which saw over 400 people killed.

In the statement, she said, "Since July, lots of lives have been lost in violence, arson in the name of protests. I express my condolences and prayers

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## No national holiday on Aug 15

Decides meeting between advisers, parties; confusion remains over observance of Nat'l Mourning Day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The advisory council of the interim government yesterday took the decision that there would be no national holiday on August 15.

"The decision to cancel the national holiday on August 15 was taken unanimously after a discussion with the council of advisers and political parties," said a press release sent from the Chief Adviser's Office.

The development comes after seven political parties in separate meetings with Muhammad Yunus, the chief adviser of the interim government, on Monday conveyed that August 15 should not be observed as a day of mourning and the public holiday is not needed.

The seven parties include BNP, Jamaat-e-Islami, Amar Bangladesh Party, two factions of Gono Adhikar Parishad, Bangladesh Jatiya Party (Partha) and the National Democratic Movement.

However, it is still not clear whether August 15 would be observed as the National Mourning Day, which was introduced by the government of then prime minister Sheikh Hasina on August 8, 1996.

On August 15, 1975, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was assassinated along with most of his family members in a military coup led by a group of disgruntled army officers.

Following the Awami League government's decision, August 15 was used to be observed with due respect at

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## MALAYSIA-BOUND FLIGHTS Biman syndicate hiked ticket prices

Says civil aviation probe; several travel agencies main beneficiaries

ZYMA ISLAM

The civil aviation ministry has found several Biman officials, including high-ups, fully responsible for the syndicate that artificially hiked the prices of flight tickets to Malaysia in May this year.

It also found that tickets were being blocked in the names of its former minister Lt Col Muhammad Faruk Khan and the airlines' former managing director Shafiqul Azim.

The officials found to be running the syndicate also implicated Mohammad Salauddin, marketing director of Biman (currently on post-retirement leave) in their statements to the ministry-led committee.

The committee also found his involvement "beyond doubt". It issued a report, which was signed by the ministry's Additional Secretary



Fatema Rahim Veena, Joint Secretary Anup Kumar Talukdar and Deputy Secretary Ahmed Jamil on July 7.

"The last date for sending workers to Malaysia was May 31, 2024. Ticket prices for Biman flights shot up abnormally during that time," said the report.

"Between April 15, 2024, and May 31, 2024, the ticket price

of an economy class seat on a Biman flight between Dhaka and Kuala Lumpur rose from Tk 20,475 to Tk 73,710 [excluding taxes]."

Biman had operated seven regular and eight special flights during that period.

The price hike led to planes flying with empty seats even as migrant workers, who were trying to get to Malaysia, despaired at the airport.

Several thousand failed to make

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## Ahsan H Mansur new BB governor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent economist Ahsan H Mansur is set to become the governor of Bangladesh Bank, replacing Abdur Rouf Talukdar, who stepped down following the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government.

To pave the way for Mansur to become the 13th governor of BB, the council of advisers of the interim government yesterday approved a proposal to amend a proviso of the Bangladesh Bank Order, 1972 regarding the age limit for the central bank governor.

Mansur, who is 72, is over the permissible age for governor, set at 67

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A man uses a flag to signal the departure of a train from the Gandaria Rail Station. It had reached there from Narayanganj and was about to head towards the Kamalapur Rail Station yesterday morning. After eight days of rail services being completely suspended, trains began operating again yesterday, offering relief to hundreds of commuters.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

## JULY 19 POLICE FIRING Hasina sued over death of shop owner

Quader, Asaduzzaman, ex-IGP, former DB chief among other 6 accused

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former prime minister Sheikh Hasina and six others have been sued over the death of grocery shop owner Abu Sayed in police firing in the capital's Mohammadpur area during quota reform protests on July 19.

The other accused are Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader, former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan, former inspector general of police Chowdhury Abdullah Al Mamun, former DB (Dhaka Metropolitan Police) chief Harun Or Rashid, former DMP commissioner Habibur Rahman, and former DMP joint commissioner Biplob Kumar Sarker.

SM Amir Hamza Shatil, a resident of Mohammadpur, yesterday filed the murder case with the court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Rajesh Chowdhury.

This is the first case lodged against Hasina after she resigned and went to India amid an uprising on August 5.

After a hearing, the magistrate recorded the complainant's statement and directed the officer-in-charge of Mohammadpur Police Station to register the complaint as a first information report (FIR).

In the case, several unnamed top police officials and other government officials have also been accused, Mamun Mia, a lawyer for the complainant, told The Daily Star.

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