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RECENT KILLINGS Independent probe body has to be formed

Says HRSS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Human Rights Support Society yesterday demanded the formation of an independent investigation commission to ensure justice for all the killings during the recent anti-discrimination students' protest.

The rights body, in a statement, also demanded compensation for the families of the deceased, coverage of medical expenses for the injured, and their rehabilitation.

They also demanded to take steps against those involved in the recent attacks on minority communities across the country.

HRSS statement read they have got information on the deaths of 819 people from the victims' families, hospitals, witnesses, and national dailies.

According to their

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A cyclist coasts through the empty streets in the Agargaon area, right by a graffitied wall that features only one word, "Reform". The characters in the wall art show an ideal Bangladesh, one where people follow traffic lights and dispose of their waste properly. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

High-ranking cops concerned as ACC probe looms

DIPAN NANDY and MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

The high-ranking police officials loyal to the previous Awami League regime, are now passing days amid fear of losing their jobs, lawsuits, arrests and public wrath.

Their concerns follow the Anti-Corruption Commission's recent decision to launch investigation into allegations of corruption, irregularities, and amassing wealth illegally by abusing power, against at least 80 present and former police officials.

Confirming the ACC's move, ACC's secretary Khorsheida Yasmeen said, "Decision has been taken to investigate the corruption and illegal wealth of Habibur Rahman, former commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, and Harun Or Rashid, former chief of Detective Branch. An investigation team has also been formed."

Khorsheida said complaints against any other police official will come under the jurisdiction of the commission and will be investigated.

Sources alleged that these police officials amassed ample wealth through bribery, recruitment, posting, tender manipulation, interference in cases, and arrest trade.

Some of these top police officials used ruthless force and opened fire to stop the protesters who joined the quota reform protest.

A dozen cases have already been filed including murder charges against top police officials including the former inspector general of police, former DMP commissioner, and dozens of other officials.

Some officers have yet to join their workplace after Hasina's fall, while others submitted medical certificates

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ISPR protests misleading media report

BSS, Dhaka

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) yesterday protested a report published by various media outlets titled, "Army Chief faces anger by young army officers at a meeting that day."

In a rejoinder, ISPR said the news was published based merely on a report in the Indian newspaper "The Week", which was motivated and misleading. It is advisable to contact ISPR for an accurate presentation of any internal information related to army affairs, said an ISPR press release.

In fact, the meeting was a regular internal meeting of the Bangladesh Army, held in a very cordial and conducive atmosphere, and ended amicably. An attempt has been made to tarnish the glorious image of the Bangladesh Army before the public

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Take clear stance on women's issues

Demand women leaders at meeting with chief adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of women's rights organisations proposed the establishment of a Women's Rights Commission to tackle women's issues in a more comprehensive and unified manner.

They made the call in a meeting with chief adviser of the interim government Dr Muhammad Yunus yesterday.

The meeting, held at the state guesthouse Jamuna, was attended by around 30 women leaders and two coordinators from the anti-discrimination student movement.

Syeda Rizwana Hasan, Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Adviser, briefed the media on the meeting's outcomes.

She said the Information Commission and National Human Rights Commission have faced difficulties under partition governments and emphasised the need to ensure their independence

DEMANDS

- Establish a Women's Rights Commission
- Ensure equal inheritance rights
- Increase budget allocation for women
- Find truths about Kalpana Chakma, Tonu, Munia
- Recognise women's unpaid work

and effectiveness.

Rizwana announced the interim government's plan to set up a foundation to provide medical treatment for individuals injured during recent student protests. Supported by the interim government, the foundation will expedite treatment and rehabilitation through donor funds.

"While setting up the foundation will take time, an immediate interim solution is needed to provide funds for urgent

medical needs," Rizwana said.

Discussion also centered on the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.

"While the ministry implements various projects, it is also expected to oversee 45 other ministries, a role it is not adequately fulfilling," she added.

Addressing gender discrimination, the leaders highlighted both national and international discriminatory laws.

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BLAST condemns remands of women Calls for adherence to SC directives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) has expressed deep concern over the recent arrests and remands of women in various cases, calling for strict adherence to Supreme Court directives by law enforcement agencies.

In a press release issued yesterday, BLAST highlighted reports from newspapers and social media indicating that women have been arrested and taken on remand following the recent anti-discrimination movement.

The organisation noted that these actions often disregard the directives set by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court regarding arrests and interrogations during remand.

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MUNIA MURDER CASE Family demands reinvestigation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The family of college student Mosarat Jahan Munia, whose body was found in a Gulshan flat in 2021, yesterday demanded reinvestigation into the rape and murder case filed against Bashundhara Group Managing Director Sayem Sobhan Anvir and seven others.



Saying that previous investigation officers were bribed to cover up Anvir's crimes, Munia's sister Nusrat Jahan Tania appealed to the interim government to immediately arrest and interrogate the accused.

Tania, the complainant in the case, was speaking at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club.

Following Munia's death, two cases were filed against Anvir, his family members, and some others. The accused were later cleared in both cases.

The other case was filed over abetting her death by suicide.

Tania alleged that several law enforcement officials, including the then IGP Benazir Ahmed and deputy commissioner of Gulshan Division, played a "shameless role" in saving Anvir.

She termed the previous investigation and the

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Metro likely to resume Sunday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The metro rail authority aims to resume operations on Sunday after employees, who had been on work abstention since August 6, returned to work yesterday.

However, trains will not stop at the vandalised Mirpur-10 and Kazipara stations, the road transport and bridges ministry announced.

Employees from grades 10 to 20 resumed work after the Dhaka Mass Transit Company Ltd board agreed to their demand for a pay rise, according to two officials.

Speaking to The Daily Star* on Sunday, DMTCL Managing Director MAN Siddique said that five days would be needed to complete all necessary tests, including a trial run, once employees returned.

On Monday night, the DMTCL board held a lengthy meeting and eventually invited

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DHAKA SOUTH, NORTH New administrators vow to improve services

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The newly appointed administrators of Dhaka North and South City Corporations yesterday pledged to ensure smooth and efficient service delivery.

Speaking to reporters on their first day in office, Md Mahmudul Hasan, administrator of Dhaka North City Corporation, emphasised the importance of meeting public expectations.

"The interim government was formed through a student uprising. We will prioritise fulfilling the students' expectations from this government," Hasan said.

DNCC will enhance its services, particularly in mosquito control, to combat dengue during the rainy season, he added.

He also pledged to clear canals of illegal encroachments and maintain routine services like birth and death registration.

Dr Mohd Sher Ali, administrator of Dhaka South City Corporation, echoed a similar commitment.

"The services provided by DSCC will continue uninterrupted," Ali assured.

He highlighted improvements in the birth and death certificate services, now managed through a central server, and vowed to ensure the efficient delivery of trade licenses and other services.

Ali also warned that any deliberate obstruction by officials in providing these services would result in legal action.



Jisa Chakma stands with her one and a half year old daughter in front of the secretariat yesterday. They have come all the way from Khagrachhari to demand for the job regularisation for those working in field services delivery in the current healthcare system.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN