



Daylong violence on July 19 kills around 66 people and hundreds more are injured across the country, as violence escalates.



Effective from July 19 midnight, government announces nationwide curfew and deploys army.



At least 21 people are killed on the first day of curfew amid army deployment. Curfew is extended until further notice and a two-day general public holiday is announced. Over three days, police raids see law enforcers arrest 1,427 people in connection with the violence. Around 50 cases are filed with different police stations accusing 20,000 unidentified people of resorting to violence.



Late at night of July 20, Nahid Islam, a key organiser of the anti-discrimination student movement, is forcibly taken by plainclothes persons from a house in Sabujbagh. A day later, Nahid wakes up to find himself under a bridge in Purbachal. He alleges he was blindfolded and taken to an unknown location where he was tortured until he was unconscious. He was treated for severe pain and deep bruises on his left thigh and shoulder.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Bangladesh: End punitive mass arrests and arbitrary detention of student leaders and protesters

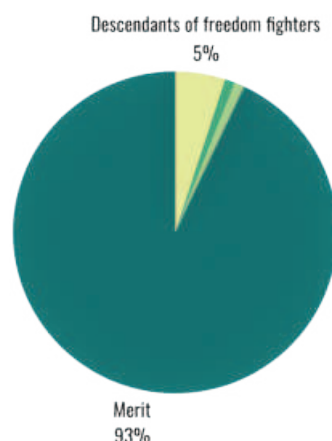


The mass arrest and arbitrary detention of student protesters is a witch hunt by the authorities to silence anyone who dares to challenge the government and is a tool to further perpetuate a climate of fear.

Smiti Singh, Regional Director for South Asia at Amnesty International



Supreme Court curtails quotas to 7 percent and at least seven people are killed amid curfew. Chiefs of three forces meet Hasina, as UN, EU, UK voice concern over violence. Amnesty International also responds to reports of violence.



On July 23, government issues a circular reforming quota system, allowing 93 percent of the recruitment at government, semi-government and autonomous bodies to be based on merit. However, quota reform protest organisers reject it, demanding justice for deaths and injuries that occurred during the protests.