

We were protesting peacefully, but police attacked us

Say female protesters from 'Tathyapa' project; demand job regularisation and arrears

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday dispersed a group of women protesters near Kakrail Mosque in Dhaka, as they attempted to march towards the chief adviser's residence, demanding job regularisation and payment of pending salaries and allowances under the government's "Tathyapa" project.

The protesters, who had been on a hunger strike in front of the Jatiya Press Club since May 28, began marching towards the Jamuna around 11:00am yesterday.

Despite police resistance at the press club, they moved forward due to the absence of female officers. Around 12:30pm, they were intercepted again near Kakrail Mosque by police, including female personnel.

A scuffle broke out, followed by a brief baton charge, according to witnesses.

"We were protesting peacefully without blocking roads, but police attacked us. A dozen were injured, including



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A scuffle broke out between police and a group of women protesters yesterday near Kakrail Mosque in Dhaka, as police dispersed them when they attempted to march towards the chief adviser's residence. They have been demonstrating since May 28, demanding job regularisation and payment of pending salaries and allowances under the government's "Tathyapa" project.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

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JULY ATROCITIES
No permission needed to arrest FIR accused: SC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld till further order a High Court decision that cleared the way for the law enforcers to arrest any FIR-named accused or suspects without permission from the higher authorities in connection with the cases filed over the July uprising.

The SC also asked the HC to dispose of the rule that asked the government to explain why the DMP commissioner's order over this issue should not be declared illegal.

A three-member bench headed by Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury passed the order following a petition filed by the government challenging the HC order.

Following the SC order, law enforcers can arrest any FIR-named accused or suspects without permission from the higher authorities in connection with the cases filed over the July uprising, petitioner Advocate Md Jasim Uddin told The Daily Star.

PRAYER TIMING
JUNE 2

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrab	Esha	
4:05	12:45	5:00	6:45	8:15	
AZAN					
JAMAAT	4:40	1:15	5:15	6:50	8:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Implement health reform proposals without delay'

Experts call for addressing shortcomings in commission's report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health experts and campaigners yesterday urged the government to begin implementing the recommendations of the Health Sector Reform Commission to bring about major positive changes.

They acknowledged that the commission's report may have some shortcomings that can be addressed, but stressed the need to start acting on feasible measures -- particularly the enactment and amendment of key laws -- without delay.

A member of the commission also said efforts are underway to correct the errors in the report.

The remarks came during a discussion titled "Health Reforms: Review of Commission Recommendations and Way Forward", held at the CIRDAP auditorium in the capital.

The event was organised by the Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC) and the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Forum, with support from Unicef.

The commission submitted its report last month, recommending an overhaul of the health sector. Key proposals included making primary healthcare a constitutional obligation and providing it free of cost to ensure universal access.

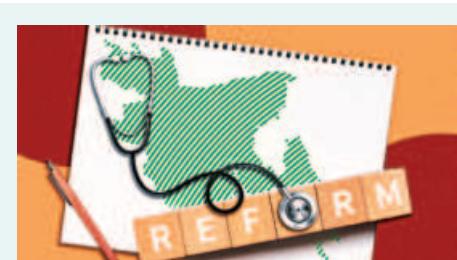
The report also called for the formation of an independent and permanent Bangladesh Health Commission to develop essential policies and strategies. It further recommended the separation of health services by restructuring the current health cadre.

Hossain Zillur Rahman, executive chairman of PPRC and convener of the UHC Forum, said the post-report phase is crucial, especially in a country where progress is rarely linear.

He said implementation of some achievable actions that could trigger significant change should begin immediately.

"We can launch a movement demanding that primary healthcare be made a constitutional right by 2025," Zillur said.

He also stressed the need for social validation and collective ownership, urging the Health Sector Reform Commission and



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Hossain Zillur Rahman

civil society to jointly develop a priority action agenda for 2025.

In addition, he called for a feedback mechanism based on user experience and community input.

Prof Abul Kalam Azad, former director general of the Directorate General of Health Services, said the interim government should urgently do two things -- amend the

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BNP to win two-thirds majority if polls held in Dec

Says Khandaker Mosharraf; Farroque alleges conspiracy underway to eliminate BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Standing Committee member Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain yesterday said many within the government privately acknowledge that if elections are held in December, the BNP would secure a two-thirds majority.

He made the remarks while speaking at a discussion at the Jatiya Press Club, marking the 44th death anniversary of party founder Ziaur Rahman.

Referring to BNP's meeting with the chief adviser on May 24, Mosharraf said there was no clear explanation as to why the polls would be held between January and June.

"February-March will be spent on fasting and Eid. April-May will have public exams, and June will be the monsoon season. So, elections are possible in December; the government should announce the date within this month," he said.

"The interim government will have to leave at some point. We think that if they leave by December, it would be possible for them to leave with dignity. There can be no greater honour than this. If there is a delay, conspiracies will arise, leading to uncertainty about when the elections will take place."

If the elections are delayed, the conspiracies of the fugitive autocrat will intensify, he said, adding that some signs of this are already visible.

Mosharraf said the BNP was disappointed by the chief adviser's remarks made during his visit to Japan.

"Apparently, only the BNP wants elections. Who doesn't want elections?"

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NAT'L EYE HOSPITAL
Services remain halted for 5th day



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

All medical services at the National Institute of Ophthalmology and Hospital in Dhaka remained suspended for the fifth consecutive day yesterday, leaving many patients without care.

Earlier on Saturday, the health ministry in a statement said it was working to resume the hospital's services. However, no visible steps were taken till yesterday.

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Nagar Bhaban stays locked

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Supporters of BNP leader Ishraque Hossain, along with a significant number of Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) employees, yesterday continued their sit-in in front of the Nagar Bhaban, demanding Ishraque's formal appointment as mayor without further delay.

The protest, which began around 10:00am, saw a large gathering of Ishraque's supporters and members of the DSCC employees union on the premises of the city corporation headquarters.

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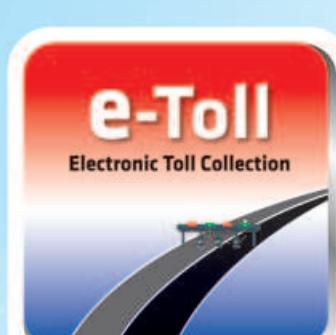
সড়ক ও মহাসড়কের টোল প্লাজায়
লাইনে দাঁড়িয়ে অপেক্ষার দিন শেষ



প্রয়াজল, ভাত-বালা ব্যাথকের যে কোল শাখা, উপমার্যা ও
কাস্ট প্লাজক মেগাম্যান কর্তৃত অথবা ভায়াল কর্তৃত

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পার হওয়া যায় নির্বিঘ্নে

e-Toll মোবাইল অ্যাপ ডাউনলোড করে
নিজের গাড়ি নিজেই রেজিস্ট্রেশন করুন

নির্বিঘ্নে Fast Track Lane দিয়ে টোল প্লাজা অতিক্রম করুন



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সড়ক পরিবহন ও মহাসড়ক বিভাগ
সড়ক পরিবহন ও সেতু মন্ত্রণালয়



ডাচ-বাংলা রচান্ত
আপনার বিশ্বস্ত সহযোগী