



JULY UPRISING DIG praised cop brutality, gave cash rewards Ex-police officer tells ICT-2

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Syed Nurul Islam, former deputy inspector general of police at Dhaka range, praised and rewarded officers for their headline actions against protesters during the July uprising, a former police officer told the International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday.

Enayet Hossain, former assistant superintendent of police who has been sent on retirement, testified as the 17th prosecution witness in the crimes against humanity case over killings of seven people and burning five of the dead and one alive in a police van near Ashulia Police Station on August 5 last year.

The witness said senior officers, including Nurul, encouraged strict measures

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Rows of tin-roofed shops at Khilgaon Bazar line the railway tracks in the capital's Khilgaon area. Shopkeepers and customers alike remain exposed to serious risks, especially when trains move along the tracks at such close proximity.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

JULY CHARTER Liberation War not accurately represented Four left parties tell consensus commission again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four left-leaning political parties yesterday met with the National Consensus Commission and submitted a memorandum explaining why they had not signed the July National Charter yet.

In the memorandum, the parties raised seven specific objections, arguing that the historical and political background of the Liberation War had not been accurately represented in the Charter and that their proposed amendments were ignored.

The parties are Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), the Socialist Party of Bangladesh (BSD), BSD (Marxist) and Bangladesh Jasad.

CPB General Secretary Abdullah Al Kafi Ratan and BSD (Marxist) Coordinator Masud Rana handed over the memorandum to Commission Vice President Ali Riaz. The memorandum was addressed to Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus, who is also the chief of the Consensus Commission.

The parties expressed concern over ambiguities regarding how the Charter's commitments would be implemented and incorporated into the constitution,

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UPCOMING ELECTION Up to 8.5 lakh law enforcers may be deployed for eight days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission is reviewing a proposal for the deployment of law enforcers for eight days during the February national election.

Members of law enforcing agencies yesterday placed the proposal before the commission during a meeting at the latter's headquarters in the capital. As per the proposal, around 1.5 lakh police personnel, 90,000 to 1 lakh members of the armed forces, and 5.5 to 6 lakh Ansar members would be on duty across the country to maintain law and order during the polls.

EC officials said the proposal is currently under scrutiny and the commission will finalise the deployment plan after assessing security requirements in coordination with the home ministry and other relevant authorities.

EC Senior Secretary Akhtar Ahmed shared this information with journalists, following a preparatory meeting on law and order at the EC headquarters yesterday morning.



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Gaza mediators step up diplomacy

Israeli fire kills 3 near ceasefire line;
Trump says truce still in place

AGENCIES

Israeli fire killed three people near a ceasefire line in Gaza yesterday, medics said, as US envoys in Israel tried to push forward the fragile truce that faced its gravest test so far over the weekend.

A Palestinian official close to ceasefire talks said efforts by Arab mediators and the United States would be stepped up, after helping restore calm in the enclave following a day of intense bombardment that killed at least 45 people.

Israel said it launched the strikes across the enclave on Sunday in response to a Palestinian attack that killed two soldiers who were operating within the agreed deployment line in Rafah, in southern Gaza, in what it described as a blatant violation by Hamas of the truce.

Despite repeated bursts of violence in the week since the truce was agreed, the US envoys Steve Witkoff and President Donald Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner met Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday, aiming to corral Israel and Hamas to get the ceasefire plan back on track.

US Vice President JD Vance is also due to visit Israel today, Israel's airports authority said. High level US diplomacy in the region, with talks also due later yesterday with Hamas in Egypt, underscore the importance of cementing the ceasefire to Trump, who last week proclaimed "the historic dawn of a new Middle East".

- » US envoys meet Netanyahu to shore up fragile truce
- » Violations will be handled 'toughly but properly': Trump
- » Kerem Shalom border crossing reopens for aid
- » Israeli forces arrest 11 Palestinians in West Bank raids

Local health authorities said Israeli tank fire had killed three people in the Gaza City suburb of Tuffah. The Israeli military said forces had fired at Hamas members who crossed the yellow line to remove the threat, reports Reuters.

US President Donald Trump said Sunday that a ceasefire in Gaza was still holding after Israel carried out the deadly strikes on the territory.

Asked by reporters whether the truce was still in effect, Trump said: "Yeah, it is". The US president, who helped broker the deal, also suggested that Hamas leadership was not involved in any alleged breaches, instead blaming "some rebels within".

JULY CHARTER NCP to call for protest rally this week

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Citizen Party (NCP) has decided to go for a "protest rally" in Dhaka on Friday to press for their three-point demand, including a legal basis for the July Charter and securing "shapla" as their electoral symbol.

"We are moving for street programmes and planning to hold a mass gathering in Dhaka this week since we haven't received a positive response from the Consensus Commission and the Election Commission," Monira Sharman, NCP joint convenor, told The Daily Star.

The NCP did not sign the July Charter as its three key demands including giving the charter a legal ground were not met.

According to the party leaders, the Consensus Commission contacted the NCP leaders multiple times for their signature. The Commission, however, did not respond positively to the NCP's three demands.

On Sunday, the NCP sent a letter to the Election

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JNU STUDENT MURDER Three more held, no case filed yet Mother of prime suspect hands him over to police

JNU CORRESPONDENT

Three people were detained last night for questioning over the murder of Jagannath University student Jobayed Hossen. However, no case had been filed as of last night over the incident that occurred on Sunday evening.

Mallik Ahsan Uddin Sami, deputy commissioner of DMP's Lalbagh division, confirmed the development to The Daily Star.

"We have detained three suspects in a special drive. Their identities will not be disclosed at this time due to the ongoing investigation. A detailed briefing will be held tomorrow [today] morning," he said.

Jobayed, a student of the Statistics Department (2019-20 session) and a member of the JnU unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal's convening committee, had gone to his student's apartment in Old Dhaka's Armanitola for a private tuition session when he was killed. His body was found on the staircase.

According to police, he had been tutoring her for about a year in the five-storey building.

Jobayed's student was detained on Sunday night for questioning after his body was recovered. Following her statement, investigators identified Mahir Rahman, a student of Sheikh Borhanuddin Post Graduate College, and his friend as the main suspects.

Bangshal Police Station Officer-in-Charge Rafiqul Islam told The Daily Star, "During initial interrogation,



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2 senior secys, 7 secys sent into forced retirement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday sent two senior secretaries and seven secretaries into forced retirement.

The senior secretaries are Md Mashiur Rahman and Monzur Hossain, while the secretaries are Shafiul Azim, Md Mizanur Rahman, Farid Uddin Ahmed, AKM Matiur Rahman, Md Azizur Rahman, Md Shamsul Arefin, and Md Nurul Alam.

The public administration ministry issued nine separate gazette notifications in this regard. The officers have been retired under Section 45 of the Public Service Act, 2018, which allows the government to retire any public servant without providing justification, as long as the individual has completed 25 years of service.

According to the notifications, the officials have completed 25 years in service, and the government has deemed their retirement necessary in the public interest.

All nine officials were promoted to the rank of secretary during the Awami League-led government and were made officers on special duty (OSD) at different times during the interim government.

They will receive retirement benefits and other entitlements as per the rules, the ministry said.



Bangladesh suffered an agonising seven-run defeat to Sri Lanka in an ICC Women's World Cup fixture in Navi Mumbai yesterday, despite a 77-run captain's knock from Nigar Sultana Joty. The result eliminated Bangladesh from the competition after one win in six matches. Chasing 203, Bangladesh looked on course for victory after reducing the target to 12 runs off 12 balls with six wickets in hand and Joty still at the crease, but Sri Lanka held their nerve to keep their semifinal hopes alive.

PHOTO: ICC

Amazon's outage disrupts internet services

AFP, Paris

Many popular internet services, from streaming platforms to messaging services and some banks, went offline for hours yesterday due to an outage in Amazon's crucial cloud network.

The disruption affected streaming platforms, including Amazon's Prime Video service and Disney+, as well as Perplexity AI, the Fortnite game, Airbnb, Snapchat and Duolingo.

Mobile telephone services and messaging apps Signal and Whatsapp were also affected in Europe, according to Downdetector, a website monitoring internet problems.

Some UK banks, such as Lloyd's were also impacted, and pointed to Amazon Web Services (AWS) as the problem.

AWS handles nearly a third of the planet's cloud infrastructure market, powering millions of apps and websites around the world.

AWS's maintenance site said its engineers scrambled to fix the underlying DNS issue once they became aware at 0711 GMT of "increased error rates" hitting multiple services.

More than four hours later, though some problems persisted, AWS said it was on the path "towards full recovery" and most of its operations were "succeeding normally".