

Protests over HSC exams continue

Staff Correspondent  16 July, 2026, 00:54



Higher Secondary Certificate examinees block the Shahbagh crossing in the capital on Wednesday to press their six-point demand, including the resignation of the education minister. | Sony Ramani

Pressing a set of demands that included the education minister's resignation, students continued their protests on Wednesday by blocking major highways across the country and key intersections in Dhaka, halting traffic and further disrupting daily life and business activities.

As they concluded their programme in Dhaka's Shahbagh area around 8:00 pm, the protesting students gave education minister ANM Ehsanul Hoque

Milon until 10:00 pm to step down, warning that they would resume their protest on Thursday if he failed to do so.

New Age correspondents in Chattogram, Rajshahi, Savar, Tangail, Barishal, Sirajganj and Jashore reported similar protests and road blockades involving Dhaka-Mymensingh, Dhaka-Rajshahi, Dhaka-Aricha and Dhaka-Barishal highways, which resulted in long tailbacks that lasted for hours, disrupting public transport and inconveniencing many commuters.

In the capital, students also blocked roads in Shahabgh, Uttara, Science Lab and Mirpur areas. The police intercepted a group of students, who were heading towards the secretariat as part of their scheduled long march to the education ministry to realise their demand, by putting barricades on Abdul Ghani Road.

The education minister, while making the announcement under Rule 300 in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday, said that the students who were unable to sit for the examinations in Dhaka and other districts due to adverse weather would be allowed to take the examinations on the dates fixed for the postponed examinations in Chattogram division.

Officials responsible for the errors in the Physics first paper question had already been suspended temporarily, he said, reiterating that candidates would be awarded full marks for question number 6 and 7 of the paper, where errors had been detected.

The prime minister's adviser for education, Mahdi Amin, in a Facebook post also disclosed five initiatives to ensure the smooth conduct of the ongoing HSC examinations.

Local administrations have been instructed to make any necessary decisions on the ground, including changing exam centres, postponing exams, or extending exam times, if students face transport disruptions or waterlogging, he added in the post.

On Wednesday, at around 1:30pm, some HSC examinees blocked the Dhaka-Mymensingh Highway in front of the BNS Centre Uttara in the capital after the examinations on physics 2nd paper, accounting 2nd paper and logics 2nd paper were held.

Students from several educational institutions, including Rajuk Uttara Model College, Nawab Habibullah College and Uttara High School, halted traffic on the road.

Students also gathered near the Science Laboratory crossing area at about 2:30pm and blocked both sides of the road till around 3:00pm. Commuters were seen getting out of public transports and started walking towards their destinations.

The students marched from the Science Laboratory crossing towards the education ministry where a huge number of police were seen taking position near the secretariat by putting barricades.

When the students reached near the secretariat at about 3:50pm, police stopped them.

Students from different colleges, including Dhaka College, Dhaka City College, Ideal College, Government Bangla College, Ideal College, and Dhaka Commerce College, were seen chanting slogans – ‘One point, one demand – resignation of education minister.’

Rohan Hasnat, a student of Mirpur Bangla School and College, said, 'We have only one demand now, the resignation of the education minister for his negligence towards the lives of students.'

He added that they will continue to protest until their demand is met.

Ahamad Farabi, a student of Mirpur English Version College, said that they would continue their movement until the education minister resigns.

Students held their positions at the area for around two hours before leaving at around 5:30pm towards Shahbagh intersection.

Ramna Division deputy commissioner SK Jahidul Islam said that the police intercepted the students on their way to the secretariat for security reasons while no untoward incident took place.

Protesting students said that although a discussion with the education ministry officials was scheduled, it ultimately did not take place.

New Age correspondent in Dhaka University reported that the students blocked Shahbagh crossing for around two hours from 6:00pm.

They left the area after announcing that they would continue their protest if the minister did not resign by 10:00pm on Wednesday.

According to the Dhaka Metropolitan Police's traffic division a group of protesting examinees put barricades at ECB Square at about 4:00pm for an hour while vehicular movement in the area came to a halt.

However, during the protests, some students said they were not seeking the education minister's resignation. Instead, they demanded that students who

missed the examinations be allowed to sit for them, that full marks be awarded for errors in the question papers.

But later, they reunited to demand the minister's resignation.

HSC examinees also blocked part of Dhaka-Aricha highway at Shaheed Yamin Square in Savar for an hour in the afternoon for a second consecutive day causing long traffic queues, reported by New Age correspondent in Jahangirnagar University.

New Age correspondent in Chattogram reported that students staged demonstrations in the afternoon in the port city's No 2 Gate area.

Rajshahi correspondent reported that students blocked Talaimari intersection on Dhaka-Rajshahi highway in Rajshahi city for around two hours.

They also burned tyres and chanted slogans while passengers on the highway suffered immensely.

Students continued agitations by staging demonstrations in Jashore town, Jashore correspondent reported.

Sirajganj correspondent reported that students staged a protest rally and brief road blockade at Elliot Bridge in Sirajganj in the noon before marching through the town's main streets.

Students in Sakhipur upazila of Tangail staged a protest in the noon at Taltala Square, Tangail correspondent reported.

Barishal correspondent reported that students also blocked Dhaka-Barishal highway for half an hour near the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Barishal.

On Tuesday, students brought out processions in different districts including Dhaka throughout the day as they demanded around 20,000 examinees could not attend the examinations held on July 13 due to floods.

The HSC and equivalent examinations started on July 2 and due to inclement weather the government suspended the examinations in Chattogram division on July 8-16.

Tags

[#HSC exams](#)

[#Protests](#)

[#education minister's resignation](#)



Editor: Nurul Kabir, Published by the Chairman, Editorial Board ASM Shahidullah Khan on behalf of Media New Age Ltd.

📍 Hamid Plaza (4th floor), 300/5/A/1, Bir Uttam CR Datta Road, Hatirpool, Dhaka-1205
PABX: +8802 41062247-50, Fax: +8802-41062245

✉ newage.editorial@gmail.com

Copyright © New Age - Media New Age Limited or its affiliated companies. All rights reserve.