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4–6 July 2024: Protests following the Supreme Court verdict

On 4 July 2024, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court upheld the High Court's ruling to reinstate the quota, by declaring the government's 2018 circular 'illegal'.1264 Following the verdict, protests intensified.1265 Students of Dhaka University repeated their march, and blocked Shahbagh intersection for the third consecutive day.1266 This time for six hours.1267 Protest coordinator Nahid Islam announced a new three-day protest programme from Friday to Sunday (5–7 July 2024).1268 According to local media, members of the Chhatra League, the student wing of the ruling party, locked the university's halls to prevent students from joining the protests1269 and a large number of students of Dhaka University were reportedly intimidated by Chhatra League leaders and activists.1270 Meanwhile, thousands of students blocked major highways, including those connecting Dhaka with the cities of Aricha,1271 Chattogram,1272 Barishal1273 and Rajshahi,1274 as well as Chattogram–Khagrachari highway.1275 Some highways were blocked for less than an hour, while others were blocked for up to three1276 and five hours.1277

Nationwide protests continued at educational institutions on 5 July 2024, including sit-ins and road blockades.1278 On 6 July 2024, students blocked Shahbagh intersection for an hour,1279 and also the Dhaka-Mymensing railroad.1280 The student movement launched the 'Bangla Blockade' initiative, set to start at 15:00 the next day, during which all major intersections and roads would be blocked nationwide.1281 They also criticised the government for not making any attempts to initiate a dialogue with the student movement.1282

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