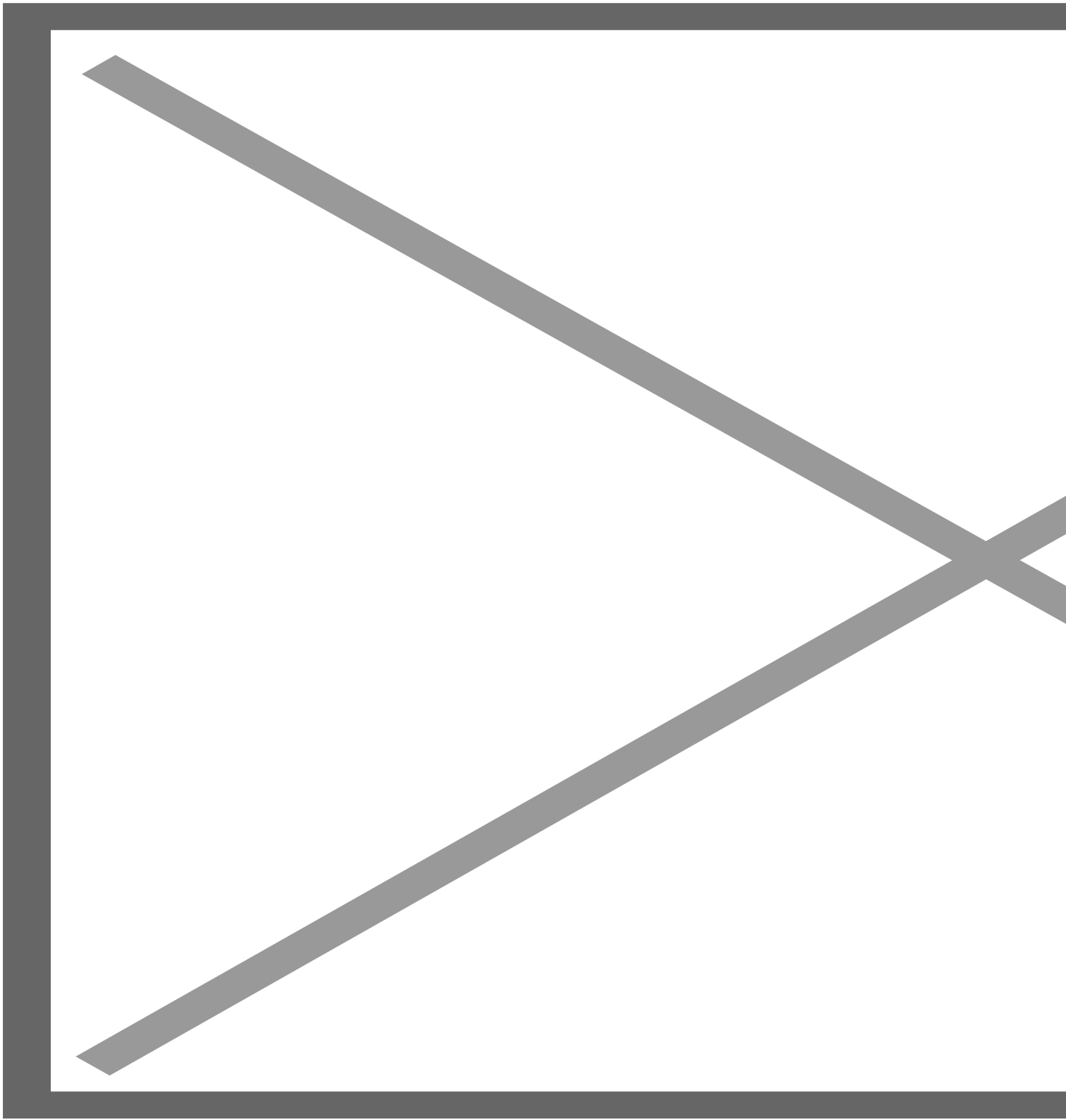


BNP sit-in protest: Party leaders, activists gather at Nayapaltan, police on high alert in city

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The Daily Morning Voice Online Desk: BNP leaders and activists have started gathering in front of the party's Nayapaltan headquarters from morning to hold the sit-in programme today. The programme is scheduled to start from 10:00am. The party activists were seen covering one side of the road with plastic sheets so that supporters and activists could stage the sit-in. Banners and festoons were seen hanging on the street and the BNP men were chanting slogans against the government.

The BNP has been demonstrating to press home its 10-point demand including the resignation of the government and that the national election be held under a non-partisan interim government. Centring today's programme, a large number of police personnel were seen deployed near Nightangle and Fakirapool intersections with armoured vehicles and water cannons positioned nearby.



The party's next course of action will be announced at the event. Like-minded parties will also organise simultaneous demonstrations in the 10 organisational divisions of the BNP. Yesterday, the BNP got Dhaka Metropolitan Police's permission to hold the sit-in in front of the party's Nayapaltan headquarters from 10:00am to 2:00pm today. AZM Zahid Hossain, vice chairman of the party, said they would hold the sit-in peacefully and systematically. Their first simultaneous demonstration was held in the capital on December 30.