

Peruvian army and police repress pro-Castillo demonstrations

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Lima, December 16 (RHC)-- In the Peruvian provinces of Ayacucho, Cusco, Cajamarca, Apurimac, protests and repression continued on Thursday, regarding the demands for the release of the deposed president Pedro Castillo, as well as the advancement of elections and the convening of a Constituent Assembly.

In the locality of Loreto, demonstrators began a mobilization through the central streets of Iquitos demanding the next general elections, the resignation of the president appointed by Congress, Dina Boluarte, and the closure of Congress.

On the other hand, in Cajamarca, carriers from the province of Jaen are blocking the Jaen - San Ignacio highway at two points: the crossing to the district of Bellavista and the access to the Shumba airport. Likewise, the Fernando Belaúnde Terry highway remains blocked at the Chamaya crossroads.

In addition, mobilizations are announced in Jaen, as well as the closure of markets and the prohibition of motorcycle cab traffic. At the same time, in Ancash, more than 500 demonstrators are peacefully

mobilizing in the city of Chimbote also to demand the closure of Congress and general elections. The march is joined by supporters of Antauro Humala.

The day before, the Government of Boluarte declared a State of Emergency for 30 days throughout the country and ordered the deployment of the military forces together with the police. So far, the repression of the demonstrations initiated after the imprisonment of Pedro Castillo has resulted in the deaths of 18 people, according to the Ombudsman's Office.

Hours before debating the constitutional reform projects referring to the advancement of general elections in Congress, the defacto president, Dina Boluarte, asked the parliament to take what she called "the best decisions to shorten the terms and make the necessary reforms."

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