

Razzaq restricts Sri Lanka

AFP, Jaipur
Seamer Abdul Razzaq grabbed four wickets as under-strength Pakistan restricted Sri Lanka to 253 in a Group B match of the Champions Trophy tournament here on Tuesday.

Pakistan had lost much of their bowling strength on the eve of their opening match when new-ball bowlers Shoab Akhtar and Mohammad Asif returned home after falling a doped test. Sri Lanka looked like posting a big total when they raced to 108-1 in less than 18 overs, but Pakistan came back strongly to make their opponents struggle for runs in middle and end overs.

Razzaq finished with 4-50 to SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

Contractor shot dead in Kushtia

UNB, Kushtia

A contractor was shot dead by a gang of miscreants in Kalishankarpur area of the district town yesterday evening.

The dead was identified as Foyezuddin, 38, a resident of Courtpara near Kushtia Govt University College, and a first class contractor of Kushtia LGED.

Police said three gunmen stormed into the house of Swapan Ghosh, a fish trader, at about 7:00pm and shot Foyez point blank. He died instantly.

Foyez went to the house of his friend Swapan Ghosh in the evening and was reading a newspaper when he came under the gun attack.

The gang left the scene immediately after the incident. Police said Foyez might have been killed as a sequel to previous enmity over construction works.

Police recovered five cartridges from the spot.

Lanka hits back after suicide bomb attack

Fate of talks hangs in the balance

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lankan jets pounded Tamil Tiger areas in the wake of the rebels' deadliest-ever suicide bombing, officials said Tuesday, amid heightened international moves to keep next week's scheduled peace talks on track.

The defence ministry said its Israeli-made Kfir war planes hit targets in the northeast of the island, destroying a rebel base. The pro-rebel website Tamilnet.com said the planes had hit a civilian settlement.

The raids were a response to the embattled island's worst suicide bombing, in which Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) fighters detonated a truck packed with explosives next to a convoy of buses packed with sailors.

At least 103 people were killed and 150 others wounded in Monday's attack, according to hospitals in the area.

The bombing occurred about 170km northeast of Colombo at a transit point near the restive district of Trincomalee.

"Air force Kfir jets pounded a Tiger terrorist base in Puthukuddeerippu in the evening," the defence ministry said. "According to intelligence sources, air strikes have completely destroyed the Tiger military base."

However, Tamilnet.com said two children were killed and 15 others wounded when four jets struck a civilian settlement and destroyed nine homes.

With the death toll rising, Norway's peace envoy Jon Hanssen-Bauer was due back on the island in a bid to finalise arrangements for peace talks scheduled to take place in Switzerland on October 28 and 29.

The LTTE have indicated that they will confirm their presence on Thursday when they meet with Hanssen-Bauer, diplomats said.

The suicide bombing came as Japan's special peace envoy Yasushi Akashi was holding talks with President Mahinda Rajapakse on reviving efforts to end the ethnic violence, which has claimed the lives of 60,000 people since 1972.

Akashi is due to hold separate talks with the Tigers in the rebel-held town of Kilinochchi on Wednesday.

International concern over Sri Lanka's deteriorating security situation was led by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, who described Monday's suicide attack as "appalling".

"The Secretary-General stresses once again that a return to civil war will not resolve the conflict," his spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

"He calls upon all parties to refrain from the use of force and to return to the negotiation table at the end of this month, as tentatively agreed between the government of Sri Lanka and the LTTE."

In Washington, State Department spokesman Sean McCormack also called on the LTTE to "renounce the use of terror".

Diplomats said the violence has dimmed peace hopes.

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ATTACK ON SHOOTERS
Judicial enquiry starts on Oct 22

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The judicial enquiry of the attempted murder case against five police personnel filed by the National Shooting Federation for attacking three shooters, including the Commonwealth Games gold-medallist Asif Hossain Khan on October 2, will begin on October 22.

Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Shafiq Anwar yesterday set the date and issued summons upon the complainant and others to appear before the court on the fixed date.

Metropolitan Magistrate Syed Mohammad Mojibul Haq ordered the judicial probe into the matter after Range Officer AFM Sahab Uddin Ahmed filed the case with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka on October 8.

The accused are: Deputy Commissioner (DC) of police Obaidur Rahman Khan, Officer-in-charge (OC) of Gulshan Police Station Mahub Alam Khan, sub-inspectors Jasim Uddin and Faisal Zaman and driver to the deputy inspector general (DIG) of Special Branch Havildar Abdul Khaleq.

In his complaint, Sahab Uddin mentioned that Zumman Ali, one

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Used mineral water bottles are gathered in Dhaka University area for selling to illegal mineral water companies who reseal the bottles with impure water.

DEMAND FOR BONUS, ARREARS
100 injured as cops club RMG workers

JU CORRESPONDENT

At least 100 garment workers were injured yesterday when police clubbed a procession demanding salary and Eid bonus around the EPZ area under Ashulia thana in Savar.

The agitating workers vandalised a dozen vehicles at Nabinagar and Kaliakoir bus stations and barricaded the Nabinagar-Kaliakoir highway for two hours.

The clashes between the workers and law enforcers left several policemen injured while a number of commuters were also injured being

caught in the middle of the clash.

The workers said the owners of around 10 garment factories had closed their production units several days back without paying salary and Eid bonus.

The affected employees of the factories said the owners promised to pay the dues yesterday, but no responsible officials of the factories were found when they showed up at their workplaces.

The workers from several factories around the EPZ area brought out a procession at around

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HC stays graft case against Manju

UNB, Dhaka

The High Court (HC) yesterday stayed the proceedings of a graft case against Anwar Hossain Manju, the energy minister during Ershad regime.

The case relating to Haripur oil and gas exploration with Scimitar Company is now pending with the Dhaka Divisional Special Judge's Court.

A division bench, headed by

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A rickshaw-puller searches for his rickshaw-seat that contained the registration number in Agargaon in the capital yesterday. Law enforcers earlier seized rickshaws and kept it there.

Addict kills uncle, aunt over mobile money

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A drug-addict youth murdered his elderly uncle and aunt at East Basabo under Sabujbagh Police Station in the capital yesterday, as they did not give him money to buy a cellphone set.

Jahangir Shawkat Jewel, 25, admitted to having killed his aunt, mother's sister, Tajifa Begum, 55, and her husband Afsar Uddin Ahmed, 65, a retired warrant officer of the air force, after police arrested him.

Quoting Jewel, police said that he has been demanding Tk 3,000 from his uncle and aunt to buy a cellphone set for the last four days. Irritated at their delay, he bought a

hammer, a chisel and a knife from Khilgaon Bazar on Monday evening with a plan to loot money from his aunt's wardrobe, police said.

Jewel, living in the same area, came to his aunt's house at around 8:30am soon after her son Babul Ahmed, an official of a private company, left for office.

At first, he threatened his aunt to give him the money at knife's point. As she refused and tried to resist him, he struck her on the head leaving her critically wounded. Hearing Tajifa's groaning, Afsar, who was asleep, got up and tried to resist Jewel, but got severely wounded as Jewel hit his

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Sehri, Iftar timing

Ramadan	Oct	Sehri	Iftar
24	18		5-33
25	19	4-38	5-33
26	20	4-38	5-32

Prayer Timing
October 18

	Azan	
Fajr	4-37	4-47
Zohr	12-45	1-20
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	5-33	5-54
Esha	7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation

GP taking internet to villages

SHARIER KHAN, from Singapore

Eight months ago, when Fizaz Ahmed opened an Internet service using a mobile modem in Kapalia Bazar of Jessore, the local people hardly knew what it was as the nearest Internet service was 35 kilometres away. Now the internet is rapidly changing the lives of the people of about 15 villages around Kapalia Bazar.

Villagers are now buying print-outs of documents like passport forms or licenses from Fizaz's establishment. For Tk 5, a farmer can obtain a listing of prices for any agricultural commodity sold at nearby markets. Students have started exploring admissions in universities and compiling education related information. Mothers and fathers are chatting with their expatriate children or relatives on the internet where they can see each other through the web-cam.

Fizaz's Internet service is one of 80 Community Information Centres (CICs) set up with the help of Grameen Phone. Again the Grameen Phone initiative came from a development fund of the GSM Association (GSMA), a trade platform of 12 leading mobile operators of the world. The vision of this scheme is to take internet to remote locations using the GSM technology.

"This is such an educational venture for our community," says

Fizaz, "because people are personally interested to use this technology for various reasons. They come to me for free training on the Internet. I get 25 to 30 customers a day." The shop generates daily revenue of Tk 350 to Tk 450.

The success story of Fizaz was shared among 6000 participants from 96 countries of the GSM world congress being held in Singapore from October 15 to 19.

With the help and training from Grameen Phone, Fizaz took micro-credit worth of Tk 50,000 to set up this CIC with a PC, a GSM modem, a scanner, a printer and a web-cam.

Based on the success of this venture, Grameen Phone expects to help roll out 500 such CICs across Bangladesh by the year-end and help spark local entrepreneurship and knowledge dissemination.

"If one per cent of the population can be given internet access, it will contribute to 4 per cent growth to export," said Erik Aas, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Grameen Phone. He added that the CICs are not exactly a business for the Grameen Phone. "From our perspective, we feel that it's important to give people access to the Internet."

Addressing a press conference, Erik noted that Bangladesh holds opportunities for the GSM technology. The mobile broadband has

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