

Sport

Anand, Short reach semis

GRONINGEN, Netherlands. Dec 22: Viswanathan Anand and Nigel Short both reached the semifinals of the FIDE World Chess Championships Sunday, but neither Grand Master knows who his opponent will be, reports AP.

Englishman Short (Elo rating 2660) took the most direct route with a second straight win over Michal Krasenkow (2645) to win the two-game mini-match 2-0.

Anand followed up his first-game win over Alexei Shirov (2700), who plays for Spain, with a relaxed and unconcerned draw with black to advance by 1 1/2 points to 1/2.

Meril badminton from today

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, Dec 22: The week-long Meril national badminton championships, organised by the Bangladesh Badminton Federation, will begin at the local stadium here tomorrow.

The championships, first of its kind to be held in Pabna, will conclude on December 29.

A total of 150 shuttlers from 20 districts, three divisional headquarters and three other organisations will take part in the meet sponsored by Square Toiletries.

Friendly cricket

A friendly cricket match was played between Siemens Bangladesh Ltd and Grameen Phone on December 20 at the Uttara Friends' Club ground.

In the exciting match, Grameen Phone won by four runs, says a press release.

Leadership course ends

A five-day long Olympic solidarity sports leadership course under the auspices of Bangladesh Olympic Association concluded yesterday, reports BSS.

State Minister for Youth and Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader was the chief guest and gave away certificates among the participants.

A total of 40 participants from different sports federations and organisations took part in the course.

TODAY'S MATCHES

- Janakantha Premier Division Cricket League: Wari Club vs Lalmatia Club (Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium) First Division Cricket League: Bangladesh Boys Club vs Orient SC (City Club) Premier Division Football League: Abahani KC vs YMC Fakirerpool (Mirpur Stadium, 4 pm) First Division Football League: Police AC vs Shantinagar Club (Mirpur Stadium, 2 pm) Badda Jagarani vs Mirpur Chalanika (Army Stadium, 2-30 pm)

Rokon replaces Sabbir

BCB's surprise selection

Sports Reporter



National selectors revealed their controversial choice of 14-member Bangladesh team yesterday for the second World Youth cricket championship starting in South Africa from January next year.

The selection committee headed by Luthfar Rahman Makhan, stirred up a row among the cricket followers of the country when they picked up few surprise names with Al-Shahriar Rokon, who is arguably in his early twenties, as the skipper of a side which will participate under the banner of under-20 test.

The panel of five selectors, who opted for a highly questionable change in the squad, has axed as many as five players from the victorious Bangladesh team which qualified for the gala event by emerging champions in the Asian qualifying zone in Hong Kong early this month.

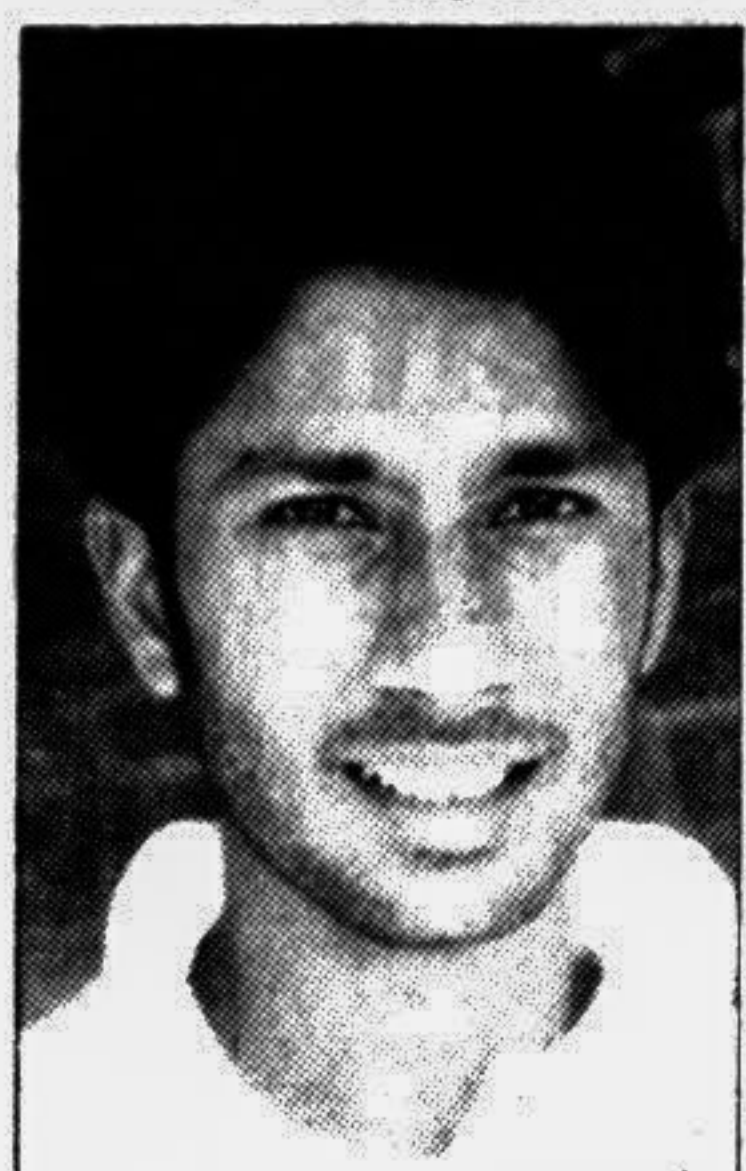
Their dubious verdict also went in favour of national opener Mehrab Hossain Ope, who was not even called up in the selection camp of 20 players on December 11.

All-rounder Sabbir Khan, who impressed the Hong Kong audience by successfully leading Bangladesh throughout the qualifiers, failed to woo the hearts of the Makhan and CO as he was unceremoniously replaced by a rather inconsistent performer like Rokon. But the fate of his fellow key-player Shymal was even worse. The young tweaker, who displayed some outstanding performances to help Bangladesh win the trophy, was unfortunately ignored by the infamous gang at the cricket board, who had never bothered to maintain a standard yardstick in their arbitrary choosing and chopping.

Selectors have also rendered their nepotic nods to three players in the stand-by list. Among the fortunate trio, Saiful Islam was reportedly failed to avail the Hong Kong trip for being over-aged. But Rubaiyat, who had earlier failed to impress the very selectors for a place even in the stand-by list of the team that played in Hong Kong, somehow managed to make a change of hearts of the panel ahead of the axed players.

"It is not necessary to pick a team from the selection camp", said the BCB executive secretary, Tanjib Ahsan Saad, last night while justifying the inclusion of Mehrab.

The board has selected a



AL-SHAHRIAR

strong team which is capable of winning the tourney", added a wishy-washy Saad.

Although BCB officials, oblivious to their recent humiliations in Kenya and New Zealand, still living in fools' paradise, the 16-nation tourney involving nine Test-playing nations along with seven associate member countries is going to be the biggest ever cricket carnival staged by the International Cricket Council (ICC).

However, the second edition

of the World Youth championship will kick off with the hosts taking on India on January 11. The sixteen teams will split into four groups expect for South Africa and India, who will be placed in one group to facilitate the opening match, scheduled to be held at the Wanderers ground.

The inaugural championship was earlier held in Australia in 1988 with eight Test-playing nations participating and the host nation winning the trophy. A combined team from the associate member, along with the players of Zimbabwe and Canada, also took part in the inaugural championship. Brian Lara, Inzamamul Haq and Sanath Jayasuriya were then found prospects in the meet.

This is, however, for the first time seven associate member nations -- Bangladesh, Kenya, Namibia, Ireland, Scotland, Papua New Guinea and Denmark -- have been drawn in the meet.

BANGLADESH TEAM

Al-Shahriar (captain), Sabbir Khan (vice-captain), Hanman Sarkar, Ehsanul Haq, Mushfiqur Rahman, Mehrab Hossain, Sajal Chowdhury, Golam Murtaza, AKM Ahsanullah, Monjurul Islam, Shanewaz Kabir, Rashidul Haq, Fahim Muntasir, Tanvirul Islam, Jalal Younus (manager) and Moshuiuddin Ahmed (coach).

Table with 3 columns: Date, Match, Venue. Contains preliminary round fixtures for various international matches.

(All matches are day matches. The Wild Card is likely to be Denmark.) - Source: Internet

Mohammedan scrape thru

Sports Reporter



A goal early in the first half by Mizanur Rahman Don guided holders Mohammedan Sporting Club to their ninth win in the Premier Division football league over Farashganj Sporting Club in their return leg clash at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

Don, after being brilliantly fed by defender Nazrul from the right side unleashed a powerful right foot volley from the edge of the small box to the far corner of the net in the 16th minute.

Although the black and whites dominated the match for most of the match, it was Farashganj who gave their mighty counterparts a good run for their money throughout with their counter attacks.

The old town outfit had an early chance to go up in the sixth minute when a curling shot from Ritu was kept out of the goal by a reflex save from custodian Ponir.

After surviving the early pressure, Mohammedans came back in style and took the lead when Don scored his seventh goal and only goal of the encounter.

The margin could have been doubled when Don headed on a Ladi Baba flag kick in the 38th minute, only to be denied by Farashganj keeper Nurul Islam.

The man-in-uniform, Ramkrishna Ghosh did not see the incident and signalled for a throw. But finding Babu Das on the ground the referee went on to discuss with his assistant about the incident. After learning what had actually happened, Ramkrishna called

Ladi Baba to show him the red card. At this point all the Mohammedan booters condoned him and visibly forced him not to bring anything from his pocket.

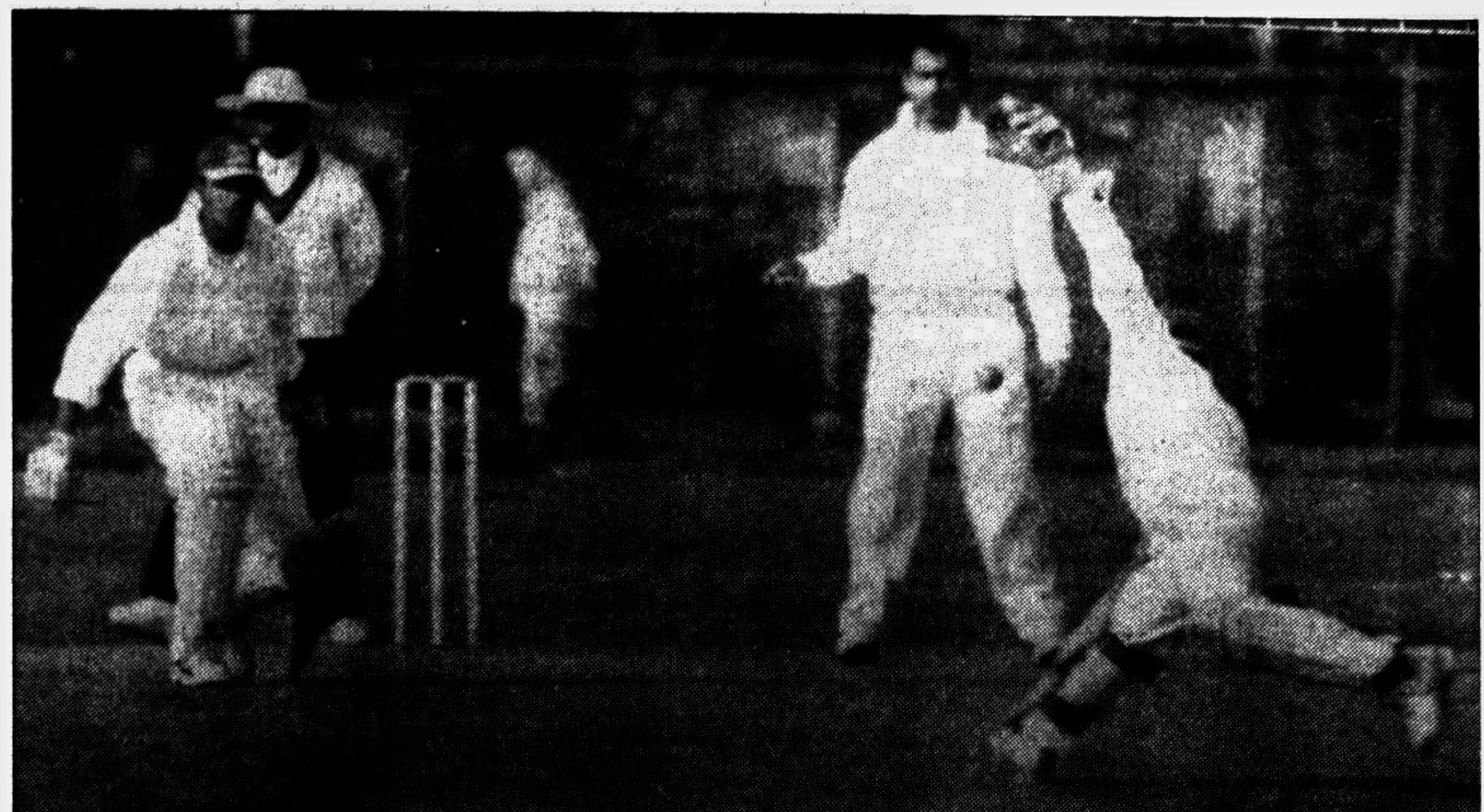
After the breather, Farashganj pressed hard on their counterparts with a series of offensives through both flanks. But all the creative forces went into vain because of poor marksmanship.

Mohammedans, on the other hand, also had their chances to increase the margin in the second session. But the goal-blind forwards failed to capitalise on those.

The most unfortunate incident of the match happened in the 79th minute when the referee signalled a handball against Mohammedan defender Nazrul.

The tall defender quickly reacted by attacking the referee and pushed him several times with his hands. However, he was also surprisingly spared by Ramkrishna Ghosh who only showed him a yellow card for the hostile behaviour.

With this win Mohammedan after the completion of their 14th league engagement are on 31 points, one behind pace setters Muktiyodha who have played a game less.



Action from yesterday's Janakantha Premier Division cricket league encounter between Agrani Bank and Ajax Sporting at the Dhanmondi Cricket Ground. - Star photo

Div I soccer BRTC suffer setback

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Boys Club recorded their third victory in the First Division football league with a 2-1 win over BRTC Sports Club in their return leg clash at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday afternoon.

After a barren first half, Rana put the winners ahead in the 60th minute while Mamun doubled the margin after seven minutes.

Hemayet pulled one back for BRTC through a penalty in the 88th minute.

With yesterday's win, Boys raised their tally to 13 points from 14 matches while BRTC, who suffered their second successive defeat in the league remained glued to their previous collection of 22 points from the same number of matches.

DULL DRAW Away at the Army Stadium, leaders East End Club were held to a goalless draw by Dhanmondi Club.

The outcome left East End with 25 points and Dhanmondi with ten points on completion of their 14th match.

Rafiq ploughs the sands

Bidyut ton ignites BU

Sports Reporter



BRIEF SCORES

BROTHERS UNION CLUB: 204 for six in 45 overs (Bidyut 101 n.o., Sanjeev Sharma 39, Jahangir 18, Shuvro 12 n.o., Shaheed Sayed 3/40, Ehsan 2/30) SURJO TARUN CLUB: 197 for nine in 45 overs (Javed Omar 78, Extras 34, Babu 26 n.o., Masum 24; Sanjeev Sharma 4/35, Sujon 3/23) Result: Brothers Union won by seven runs.

boundaries. Surjo Tarun were restricted to 197 for nine in the face of some accurate bowling from two medium pacers Sanjeev Sharma and Khaled Mahmud Sujon who shared seven wickets among themselves.

After his contribution with the bat, Sharma also shone with the cherry as he claimed four wickets for 35 runs from his nine overs. While Sujon, who ripped through the Surjo Tarun top order finished with three for 30 from his spell.

Opener Javed Omar fought a

next highest 34 run to Tarun total.

It was Brother's sixth win in eight matches while Surjo Tarun, who have played nine matches so far, suffered their third defeat against six wins.

Meanwhile, at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, a brilliant hundred by Ajax's Rafiqul win in vain as Agrani Bank escaped with a nail biting five-run victory.

Batting first, the bankers scored 215 for seven in the allotted 50 overs with opener Hannan Sarkar hammering highest 71. Shovon (42 n.o.), Nahid (38) and Babu (27) were the other notable run getters.

In reply, Ajax could muster 210 for nine before exhausting their quota of 50 overs. Opener Rafiqul, with a swashbuckling 104, was the lone warrior as teammate returned to the dressing room at regular intervals.

Rafiqul, who faced 145 balls, hit seven boundaries before being bowled by Pakistani paceman Shahed Iqbal.

Asif Iqbal (28), Dola (18) and Rownak (15 n.o.) were the other Ajax batsmen who reached double figures.

Shahed Iqbal was the most successful Bangladeshi capturing three for 25 while Efan claimed two wickets for 45 runs.

The win was Agrani's third win of the season while Ajax slumped to their eighth defeat.

Nat'l TT results

Sports Reporter

Ratna and Rumi of Biman moved into the girls' singles final of the UCBL 22nd national table tennis championships winning their respective semifinals at the NSC wooden floor gymnasium yesterday.

Ratna, who has already clinched the girls' doubles title along with Rumi on Sunday, came from behind to win the first semifinal against Sumi of Gabandha.

After losing the first set 22-24, Ratna made a brilliant comeback and won the next three sets 21-19, 21-10 and 21-8 to set up a final clash with her partner Rumi who eliminated Jemi of Gabandha 21-11, 21-16 and 21-15 in the other semifinal.

In the men's doubles, Rochi of Biman and his partner Mustafa of Ansars and Kochi and Saadi of Biman moved into the final.

Rochi and Mustafa defeated Manash and Rubel of Ansars 21-18, 21-16, 21-11 while Kochi and Saadi eliminated Ripon and Monir of Munahiganj 21-6, 21-11, 21-10 in the semifinal.

Goutam and Pappu of Biman reached the boys' doubles final defeating Tamim and Zia 21-12, 17-21, 21-9, 21-14. In the final, they will meet Edison of Biman and Shahed of Dhaka who won the day's other semifinal against Tuhin and Abid of Dhaka 19-21, 21-14, 21-15, 21-12.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH HIGH COURT DIVISION (ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION) MATTER NO. 142 OF 1997 IN THE MATTER OF: An application under section 12 read with section 13 of the companies Act, 1994. AND IN THE MATTER OF: Techno Real Estate Limited 288-290, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka Petitioner

Notice is hereby given that an application under section 12 read with section 13 of the Companies Act, 1994 was filed before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the amendment of memorandum of Association of the petitioner Company. Upon hearing, the Hon'ble Court was pleased to admit the application on 10.11.97 and fixed the date of hearing on 07.01.98.

Any one interested to oppose the said application may appear before the Court personally or through a duly authorised Advocate on the date fixed. Copy of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of prescribed fees.

M. Imman Ali, Advocate For: LEE, KHAN & ASSOCIATES City Hotel (4th Floor), 67 Naya Palton, Dhaka-1000

Advertisement for Dhaka University Library Planning and Development Date Extension of Tender for the Purchase of Hardware and Peripherals. Dated: 22.12.1997. Due to unforeseen reasons, the date for the receipt of the said Tender has been extended to Wednesday 7th January, 1998 up to 11.30 AM.

The Daily Star TV Guide. Lists TV programs for Tuesday 23rd December across various channels including BTV, Channel V, Star Movies, ESPN, DD Metro, EL TV, ZEE TV, SONY ET, and TNT Cartoon. Includes program titles, times, and brief descriptions.