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## Windies-SA battle for title today

By Al-Amin and Rabeed Imam



West Indian keeper Jacobs shouts in vain for a stumping against Rahul Dravid off Simmons Saturday. — Star photo

A cool and collected Brian Charles Lara played an unconquered captain's innings as West Indies heralded the fall of India, the last of the three sub-continentals, to set up a date with formidable South Africa in the final of the Wills International Cup today.

West Indies defeated India by six wickets in the second semi-final at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Lara scored an unbeaten 60 in his 89-ball vigil at the wicket to steer the Caribbean past the fighting Indian total of 242 for five in the stipulated 50 overs. Keith Arthurton, the man-of-the-match against Pakistan, played another responsible innings in tandem with his captain to ensure a comfortable victory for the West Indies with three overs to spare. Arthurton hit the winning runs, a delicate boundary through the covers, as West Indies reached 245 with six wickets to spare.

The platform of a West Indian victory against the crowd favourites India was initially set by their two new ball bowlers — debutant Reon King and the ever-improving Mervyn Dillon — followed by explosive batting from the right-left combination of Philo Wallace and Shivnarine Chanderpaul in the first 15 overs.

Dillon, the speedster from Trinidad, gave the West Indians a sensational start after the Indian skipper Mohammed

Azharuddin had won the toss and decided to bat. The 24-year-old fast bowler rattled the Indian nerves by removing the phenomenal Sachin Tendulkar and Azhar in successive overs, laurels enough to earn him the man-of-the-match award.

Dillon sparked off a Calypso celebration when he had Tendulkar magnificently taken at slips by an airborne Carl Hooper. The little maestro, who scored a brilliant century in the previous match, was only on four when Hooper, diving full to

the express bowler from Guyana, virtually had the Indians pinned down by bowling a superb line and length. Brought ahead of Nixon McLean, the rookie right-arm pacesetter bowled his allotted 10 overs at a stretch and returned with fantastic figures of 10-2-26-0.

The Indians never quite settled down after the fall of the two invaluable wickets and, despite a fluent 116-ball 83 from Bengal's Saurav Ganguly, they needed a swashbuckling unbeaten 73 off just 63 balls from

**SIEMENS**  
 MINI WORLD CUP '98  
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his right, plucked a beauty in the last ball of the fourth over.

Dillon then had Azhar (11) plumb in front of the wickets in his next over to have India reeling at 21 for two in six overs.

Azhar, who scored a duck in his record 300th one-day appearance on Wednesday, misjudged the line completely and was declared leg before for the second consecutive occasion.

Dillon then, returning in his second spell, clean-bowled Navan Mongia to finish with three for 38 in eight overs.

While Dillon struck, King,

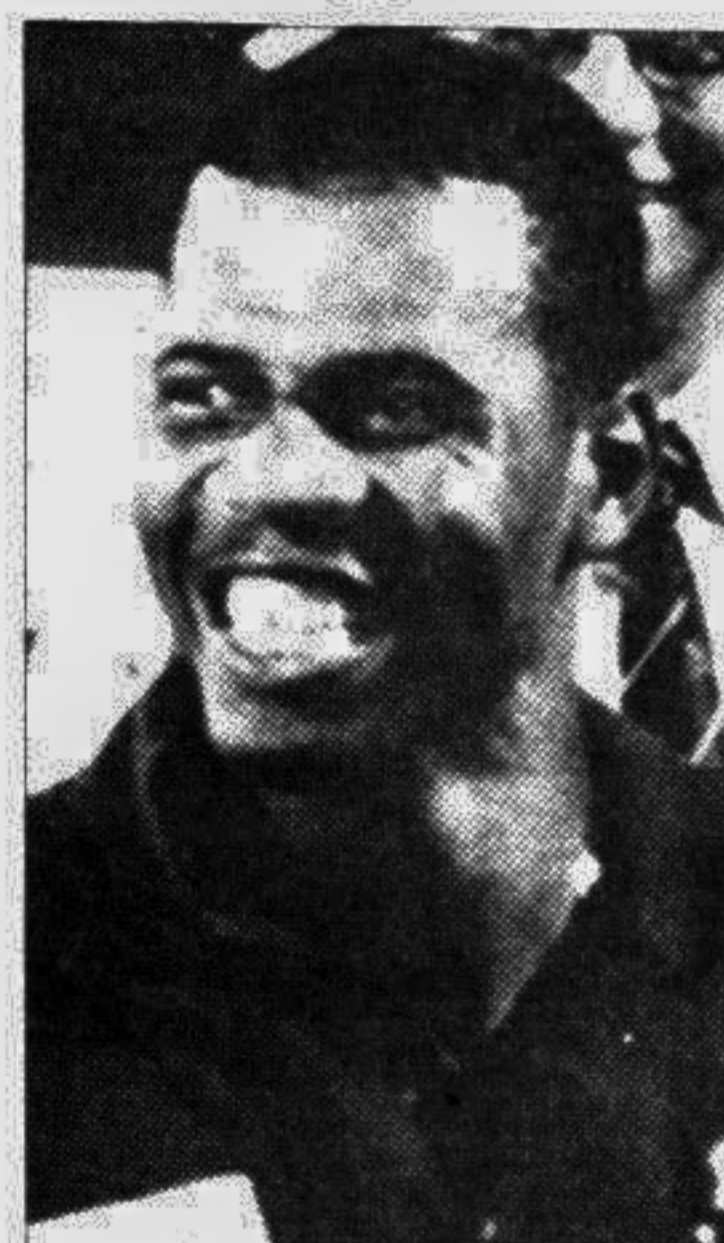
Robin Singh to attain respectability.

A silky Saurav hammered eight sweetly-timed fours and a couple of sixes in one prodigal over from slow left-armer Arthurton.

Robin, who virtually set the stadium alight with a barrage of lusty blows, plundered most of the 80 runs in the last nine overs. In his whirlwind innings, he clubbed five fours and three huge sixes, including two in the 47th over of leg spinner Raul Lewis.

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**hit with**  
  
**Player of the match**



Mervyn Dillon

### PM witnesses match

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday witnessed the second semi-final of the Wills International Cup Cricket Tournament between India and the West Indies for some time at Bangabandhu National Stadium, reports BSS.

On arrival at the stadium, the Prime Minister was received by State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidur Quader and President of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) and Deputy Minister for Shipping Saber Hossain Chowdhury.

The Prime Minister talked to the President of International Cricket Council (ICC) Jagmohan Dalmiya on different aspects of the tournament, arrangements and facilities, while watching the match.

**A VIEW FROM THE GULLY**  
 Tawfiq Aziz Khan

At the outset, I must apologise to the readers of The Daily Star for taking a forced leave on Friday. This column did not appear for reasons beyond our control. The printing schedule is so tight that even a couple of minutes could prove vital for the timely despatch of this newspaper across the country to thousands of readers.

It is better to produce a timely normal issue which hits the stands in time rather than a brilliant one that does not reach the readers. In my efforts to achieve the first premise I thought it better not to delay the normal process of publication

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### Letter to Speaker Obaidur Rahman wants to attend JS session

By Staff Correspondent

BNP lawmaker KM Obaidur Rahman, now in Dhaka central jail, in a letter to Speaker Humayun Rasheed Choudhury has sought his 'cooperation' so that he can attend the forthcoming session of the Jatiya Sangsad, due to begin on November 5.

The letter was sent through the jail authorities on Wednesday, a press release issued by his wife Shaheda Obaid said yesterday.

Obaid was arrested on September 29. He was accused in the Jailing Killing Case.

In the press release, Shaheda Obaid alleged that the government implicated her husband in a "conspiratorial case."

Shaheda Obaid, who visited her husband at the jail yesterday, also expressed her grave concern at his "broken health and sickness" and apprehended "sudden deterioration" of his health condition.

Obaid is now suffering from boils and lost weight by 10 pounds in the last one month, she claimed.

### One succumbs to bomb injuries, 2 others attacked

By Staff Correspondent

An unidentified person succumbed to bomb injuries at Dhaka Medical College Hospital and two others were wounded in bomb attacks in separate incidents in the city yesterday.

The two — Haider, 19, and Anwar, 20 — were admitted to DMCH. They came under bomb attacks by snatchers, hospital sources said.

Quoting witnesses, the sources said one person brought the unidentified man aged about 30 to the DMCH by a push cart at about 9 am. He left the man with fatal bomb injuries at the gate of emergency wing and fled. The man was admitted to DMCH where he succumbed to injuries at about 2:30 pm.

Police control room, however, could not confirm the incident till the filing of this report last night. The body was sent to DMCH morgue for autopsy, hospital sources added.

Haider came under attack by a gang of six muggers at Gopibagh. The gang took away two tickets of the Wills Cup cricket tournament.

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### Non-cadre govt doctors threaten agitation

By Staff Correspondent

Non-Cadre Government Doctors' Association (NGDA) has threatened agitation from January next year if they are not absorbed in the cadre service.

At a meeting held at the BMA Bhaban in the city yesterday, NGDA also demanded the same facilities for its members as those enjoyed by the cadre service doctors.

The meeting, with NGDA president Dr Gollaz Hossain in the chair, was also attended by BMA secretary general Dr Mostafa Jalal Mahiuddin, treasurer Dr Mohammad Sharfuddin Ahmed, joint secretary Dr Badiuzzaman Bhuiyan and other senior BMA leaders.

### 6 more viscera exam centres to be set up

By Staff Correspondent

The autopsy system should be updated with the application of modern instrumental facilities, speakers at a seminar in the city suggested yesterday.

The seminar on 'Autopsy' organised by Child, Women, Relief and You (CWRY) was held at Dr Milton Auditorium of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University.

Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Abdul Matin Khasru presided over the seminar, conducted by Dr Syedia Feroza Begum.

The minister said that the government plans to set up six more viscera examination centres in six divisions of the country to help expedite the process of justice and ensure punishment of the criminals.

At present, there is only one viscera examination centre at Mahakhali in the city.

It takes at least three months to get the viscera report from the law examination centre in the country, said human rights activist Alena Khan, speaking to The Daily Star.

Such examination centres should be set up in every district

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### November 8 verdict Security to be stepped up around court

By Staff Correspondent

Security will be stepped up around the District and Session Judge's court, Dhaka and its adjacent areas on November 8, the day scheduled for delivery of judgement of the Bangabandhu Murder Case, according to official sources.

Sufficient security was always ensured around the court building during the trial of the case. "The day the judgement will be delivered, it will be further strengthened," home secretary Shaifur Rahman said while talking to The Daily Star yesterday. The government will take all necessary measures to ensure law and order in the country on that day, he added.

Anisul Huq, one of the special public prosecutors in the case said, "Since it is an open court, there will be no restriction on entry of people, particularly journalists to the court room on that day." But security men will definitely verify identities of the people entering the court room, he added.

"We also hear rumours that

### Four councillors to retire Lottery leaves DSE chief out in the cold

By M Shamsur Rahman

Four councillors including current DSE chairman Rakibur Rahman will have to quit the bourse policymaking body, according to an open lottery yesterday after a last moment bid to find four willing to withdraw failed.

The election commission had no option but to hold the open lottery as none came forward to withdraw voluntarily on the last day yesterday.

Three others who will be out are: Kazi Feroz Rashid, Ahsanul Islam Tito and Dewan Suhel Afzal.

Rashid is a former DSE chairman and former minister under General Ershad. Tito is son of Awami League MP Mokbul Hossain.

Under the DSE rules, four of the 12 members of the policymaking Council are to retire every year.

Sources said DSE kingmakers including several past

### November 8 verdict Security to be stepped up around court

By Staff Correspondent

BNP and its allies will call a hartal on November 8.

"Against all odds, the judgement will be delivered on the scheduled day," he added.

"In normal cases, the judge usually reads out the order portion of the judgement in the open court. But the Bangabandhu Murder Case is a special one. I do not know what the judge will do. Legally, there is no bar on reading out the whole judgement."

Asked about the legal position of the absconders he said, they have been given adequate notice under the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) to come and stand the trial in person but they decided to abscond.

The court also fulfilled all the procedural conditions in the CrPC to hold the trial of the absconding accused persons. The only way open to the absconding accused now is to surrender and appeal in higher court, he added.

Serajul Huq, the chief spe-

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### Import duty on onion to be reduced

By Gobinda Bar

Commerce and Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed yesterday said import duty on onion might be reduced.

Onion was selling in the city markets at between Tk 48 and 60 yesterday.

The minister told The Daily Star that price of onion shot up in recent days due to panic buying against the backdrop of abnormal price rise of the item in India.

"There is no shortage of onion in the country and new onions will come in the market next month," the minister said.

"The item is now scarce in India from where we usually import it. The problem is that it is a perishable item and cannot be imported from far away countries."

He said import duty on onion was reduced to 22.5 per cent from 30 per cent a couple of months back and its price hike was contained at that time.

The minister however said the government sometimes

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### Massive crackdown: Over 100 MQM activists held

KARACHI, Oct 31: Security forces swept through troubled neighbourhoods of Karachi today arresting over 100 activists of a minority ethnic party following the dismissal a day earlier of the Sindh provincial government and the imposition of federal rule, reports AP.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said relentless violence between feuding factions of the Muttaheda Qami Movement, a former ally of the Sindh government, prompted the dismissal.

It was followed by a massive crackdown.

Police and paramilitary rangers conducted dozens of raids before dawn today on MQM strongholds throughout the city. Sharif accused the MQM of harbouring the killers of a prominent philanthropist Hakim Saeed, who was shot at his clinic in Karachi last week.

Earlier Sharif warned the MQM to hand over Saeed's killers.

The MQM balked at Sharif's warning and accusations that their party was involved in terrorism.

The standoff between Sharif and the MQM ended Friday when Sharif went on television and announced the Sindh provincial government was dismissed and the federal government would run the province through the governor, retired general Moinuddin Haider.

Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League did not have a majority in Sindh to form a government without the MQM which was the majority partner in the provincial coalition government.

In his speech Sharif promised a sweeping crackdown on MQM activists, belonging to both factions of the divided movement. The movement split several years ago and the two factions routinely clash to gain control on each other's areas.

Their relentless war for control of Karachi has left 1,000 people dead so far this year and according to Sharif prompted the decision to impose federal rule.

Entire neighbourhoods of Karachi have become battle grounds for the rival factions. Police in riot gear and Rangers in armoured personnel carriers patrol some of the hardest hit

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### Inheritance law should be reformed: Minister

By Staff Correspondent

The law of inheritance in the country is against development of womenfolk and should be reformed, state minister for planning Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir said yesterday.

"We have deprived them keeping as mother, daughter and wife," the minister told a seminar on Role of Women Entrepreneurs in the National Economy organised by Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FBCCI).

"Most developed countries have reformed their inheritance law to ensure free thinking but we are still far behind," he said.

"As a nation, we should reform this law and there are scopes for reforms," he said, terming the issue "very sensitive" which could draw protests from various quarters.

"We would do a mistake if we do not consider women as free and equal as men."

Earlier, the seminar recommended special credit allocation and credit window for

### Benazir fears 'insurgency'

KARACHI, Oct 31: Pakistani opposition leader and former premier Benazir Bhutto said today she feared an 'insurgency' in Karachi as a result of the imposition of direct federal rule in southern Sindh province, reports AFP.

Reacting to Friday's suspension of the provincial government by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, the opposition leader condemned the action as "another attempt" to establish 'dictatorship'.

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**Today's match**  
**FINAL**  
 West Indies vs South Africa  
 Time: 2 pm. Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

### Ex-Shantibahini men threaten movement

KHAGRACHHARI, Oct 31: Former Shantibahini leaders today said they would launch a vigorous movement, including sit-in, if the CHT peace agreement is not implemented properly, reports APB.

The members of the disbanded Shantibahini, who had returned to normal life before the signing of the CHT Peace accord, announced their option in a press release.

Shashi Kanti Talukder, president of the Pratygata Shantibahini Kalyan Sangstha, a platform of the former insurgents, issued the press release.

Leaders of the organisation alleged that the government's commitment to rehabilitate the Shantibahini men had not materialised till date.

Meanwhile, Rakta Utpal Tripura, a frontliner of the See Page 12 Col 8

### Deadline ends 130000 illegal immigrants leave Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 31: About 130,000 illegal immigrants have returned to their own countries during the two-month amnesty period which ends today, reports AP.

Of those, 104,000 were Indonesians and the rest mostly from the Philippines, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Myanmar. Deputy Home Minister Tajol Rosli Ghazali said.

Most of the illegal immigrants worked in the plantation and construction sectors, he told the national news agency Bernama.

Tajol Rosli said more than 400,000 immigrants were still in the country, both legally and illegally. Those without work permits face arrest and deportation.

But before they are deported they will be fined 3,000 ringgit (750 dollars).

### AL public meet at Paltan Maidan Nov 3

Awami League was drawn up an elaborate programme to observe the Jail Killing Day on November 3, reports UNB.

It will hold a public meeting at Paltan Maidan at 2 pm to commemorate the killing of the four national leaders.

Party chief and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will address the meeting, said a party press release yesterday.

Other programmes of the day include hoisting of black flag atop and national and party flags at half-mast at the party central office, Bangabandhu Bhaban and party offices across the country, wearing of black badges and placing wreaths on the portrait of Bangabandhu.

Wreaths will also be placed on the graves of the martyred leaders at Banani graveyard. Fateha will also be offered and milad mahfil and munajat will be held there.

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