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Dhaka for gas export in 'value added form'

By Staff Correspondent

Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed has said while the government has adopted a policy of not exporting gas through pipeline without ensuring gas reserves for 50 years' domestic consumption, it is encouraging gas export in the form of value added products like electricity and fertiliser.

Speaking at a seminar on 'Energy Sector Restructuring: Current Issues' in the city yesterday, organised by the Centre for Policy Dialogue, the minister said while a number of economic projections showed that pipeline gas export would be most profitable, Bangladesh is moving very cautiously in

this regard. He mentioned that countries like Nigeria despite having huge natural resources were not economically benefited because of the lack of understanding of energy sector. "But we must also remember that our potential gas buyer—India—would not wait forever for us to decide whether we

would export gas," Tofail said. The future of gas as a source of energy should also be considered.

The next government would have to think seriously about these issues, Tofail said, because by then many economic problems relating to purchase

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Adarsha Market at Fulbaria

487 owners charged Tk 5000 each as 'cost for getting back' shops

By Staff Correspondent

The committee of shop owners of Adarsha Market at Fulbaria in the city has imposed a 'charge' of Tk 5,000 on each of the 487 shop owners for returning their shops which were 're-captured' by the DCC on May 22 after two years of occupation by a group.

Chairman of the 22-member committee Rafiuddin Ahmed claimed that the money was being realised to 'recover the cost' for getting back the market. He said that after the market was 'illegally occupied' by a group 25 months ago, they had to run court cases which involved a lot

of money.

The controversy over Adarsha market arose when the Waqf Administration under the Religious Affairs Ministry leased out the land about three years ago. At the same spot, DCC had already built structures in 1989 with a temporary scheme to rehabilitate the hawkers in Gullistan area. A cluster of four markets at Fulbaria including Adarsha market, popularly known as Bangabazar, became one of the busiest garment markets in the country.

The lease holders of Waqf

Administration forcibly occupied Adarsha market more than two years ago and ousted the DCC lease holders. On May 22, DCC officials with the help of police 're-captured' the market and handed it over to the market committee.

On Sunday, the committee office on 'top floor' of the two-storied tin shed market was seen full of DCC lease holders depositing the 'charge' and obtaining a card each to take possession of their shops.

"I am happy to pay this amount and get back my shop

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Anniversary of Zia's death today

By Staff Correspondent

The 19th death anniversary of President Ziaur Rahman will be observed today.

The freedom fighter who founded the Bangladesh Nationalist Party was assassinated in Chittagong Circuit House today by a group of army mutineers.

In a message on the occasion, President Shahabuddin Ahmed said yesterday that the valiant freedom fighter and former president had re-established

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Between Parivar and NDA

BJP in an Uneasy Truce
by Praful Bidwai
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May	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
30	5:11 am	6:41 pm
31	5:11 am	6:41 pm

Prayer Timings

May 30

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4:15	4:45
Zohr	12:30	1:30
Asr	5:00	5:15
Maghrib	6:43	6:45
Esha	8:00	8:30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Workshop on traffic problem in city

4 citizens' motivation teams to pursue, help relevant depts

By Staff Correspondent

Four 'citizens' motivation teams' have been formed to pursue and co-operate with relevant government departments and agencies to ease the awful traffic problems in the city.

The teams, comprising high officials, educationists, engineers and some businessmen, were formed yesterday at a workshop on 'Traffic Problems in Dhaka City' organised jointly by The Daily Star and the Bangladesh Scouts.

The workshop, held at the

Scouts Bhavan in the city, also adopted some recommendations, specifying the relevant government departments and agencies for their implementation.

Time to time, the teams will inquire with Rajuk, DCC, BRTA and BRTC and other government departments and agencies about the progress in implementation of the recommendations and try to make those bodies pro-active to solve the traffic problem.

Yesterday's workshop was a follow-up of the workshop on April 29 on the same issue, organised by the same organisations.

Representatives from BRTC, DMP, Rajuk, and the transport sector participated in the workshop, moderated by Dr Nizamuddin Ahmed, Deputy National Commissioner of Bangladesh Scouts and a professor of Architecture at BUET. The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz

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Man of the Match



Aravinda de Silva of Sri Lanka

Every Run Counts



Today's match

Bangladesh vs India (2-30 pm)

Tomorrow

Tomorrow is a rest day

I LOVE



It comes naturally!



Bangladesh opener Javed Omar Belim watches a delivery on his way to scoring an unbeaten 85 in the Pepsi Asia Cup opener against defending champions Sri Lanka at Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

—Star photo

Hosts succumb meekly to Lankans

By Sports Reporter

Defending champions Sri Lanka thumped down a nine-wicket defeat on hosts Bangladesh yesterday in the opening match of the Pepsi Asia Cup at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Master batsman Aravinda de Silva scored a magnificent unbeaten 96 as Sri Lanka, chasing a modest Bangladesh total of 175 for six in 50 overs, raced to 178 for one in only 30.4

overs. Opening the innings with his captain Sanath Jayasuriya, the experienced right-hander showed his class and guile even though he was not playing at his customary number four position.

The only Sri Lankan to score more than 8,000 runs in the abridged version of the game, Aravinda taught Bangladesh a lesson in a ruthless way after being dropped on 13. He slashed an outswinger from left-arm seamer Monjurul straight to the

throat of Naimur Rahman at point. But Naimur dropped that hot stuff, much to the disappointment of his teammates.

That was however the only blemish of an innings which could be treasured as a teaching manual for our batsmen in the years to come. Aravinda hammered 13 sweetly timed hits

across the rope and three massive sixes in his 93-ball knock to win the man of the match award. He shared 66 runs with Jayasuriya, who became the lone casualty in the Sri Lankan chase after scoring a 39-ball 28.

After the departure of the left-handed opener, Aravinda took his side home without fur-

ther damage, putting on 112 runs for the unbroken second wicket with Marvan Atapattu, who remained 41 not out.

Aravinda took little time to finish off the match after completing his 57th half century, whacking the first delivery of the 31st over from medium pacer Khaled Mahmud for a six over square leg and hitting successive boundaries.

While Sri Lanka needed the brilliance of Aravinda for a cakewalk in defence of their title, Bangladesh did little to justify their claim as an improved side after the match started on a perfect condition.

It was a refreshing experience for all and sundry at the big bowl as the rain, which cast a gloom over the fate of the meet, stayed off the horizon and the game finally rolled on the ground in front of a 10,000-strong crowd.

But the home crowd had little to cheer about.

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View from the Gully

Good day at the office

By Tawfiq Aziz Khan

Asia Cup champions Sri Lanka gave a lesson or two to their comparatively junior and weaker opponents in the opener on Monday. First, the islanders gracefully agreed to transform the rest day into a working one and held office quite profitably, though for a short period of time. Secondly, on the field their batting, bowling and fielding were as immaculate as it can be expected from a team that have won the Asia Cup twice in the last 16 years and a World Cup in 14 years since they were made a permanent member of the ICC.

The newlook Sri Lanka under Sanath Jayasuriya, the

master blaster, has been doing quite well. And they look a handful for the other two giants of world cricket—India and Pakistan. After the heavy deluge of the last fortnight or so, specially of the last weekend, start of play was almost impossible with the outfield at the Bangabandhu Stadium submerged by rain waters. But one must give more than full credit to the ground staff, who had did wonders to make play possible on Monday. Despite some soggy patches on the lush-green outfield, the wicket behaved superbly and was an ideal strip for any strokemaker worth the

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Beyond the Boundary

The fact is...

By Shakil Kasem

Had everybody who mattered decided to keep their brainwaves in cold storage, where they belonged, and let the Asia Cup be played according to the prescribed playing conditions, who knows? It may have been the Sri Lankans who would have been left biting their nails until the next match came their way.

But no, we had to overthink on the simple facts of cricketing life. Rest days had to be turned into reserve days. Therefore Bangladesh, who could have been sitting pretty with one point when the first day was washed out, now have had the mortification of being told in no uncertain terms that they

are not yet ready to take on the big boys.

Come the rain again, come another point, Duckworth-Lewis in the last encounter (and Bangladesh scraping through after only a handful of overs) presence in the final, to the unbounded joy of the country's faithful, rain and Duckworth-Lewis again, Bangladesh—Champions!! Yesyesyesyes!!!! Why not? Since it was not meant to be as we had already shot ourselves in our designer Reebok clad foot, we had to be content and awestruck at the manner in which Sri Lanka demolished our pretensions for this competition.

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