



The World On Time

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**BB team to find why dollar price rose in kerb market**

By Monjur Mahmud

Bangladesh Bank yesterday decided to send special teams to different commercial banks which deal in foreign currency following sudden rise in its prices in the kerb market, sources concerned said.

The teams will check reserve position of dollars in the banks and find out why the price of dollar rose sharply in the kerb market.

Over the past few days, supply of dollars in the legal market and the kerb market was not enough against its demand, the sources pointed out.

There was not adequate supply of dollar in the legal market due to payment of Asian Clearing Union (ACU) and increase in import bills.

The prosecution story in brief is: The accused Ahad Molla, with the help of two others kidnapped Hosne Ara, 15, on January 28, 1998 while she was returning home from school.

A case was lodged with Mohammadpur than in this connection. Police after investigation charged Ahad, Babu and Monnu.

After examining all the witnesses and records, Additional District and Sessions Judge A K M Zahir Ahmed found Ahad Molla guilty and awarded him life term imprisonment.

Dollar price rose to Tk 55 in the kerb market on Tuesday but it fell slightly the following

day. The price was between Tk 54.50 and Tk 54.80 on Wednesday.

The present rate of dollar is around Tk 51.26 (selling) and Tk 50.80 (buying).

**One gets life term for kidnapping girl in Magura**

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, June 1: One person has been awarded life term imprisonment here for kidnapping girl.

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**Sharif to be charged in corruption case today**

KARACHI, June 1: Pakistani authorities today moved former prime minister Nawaz Sharif from a prison in Karachi to the Attok Fort jail, where he will be formally charged in a corruption case, officials said, reports AFP.

He is to be indicted on Friday by an accountability court, the same day the Sindh High Court is due to announce its ruling on whether to admit prosecution appeal seeking the death penalty for Sharif in relation to an earlier conviction.

The sitting will take place in the 16th century Mugal Attok Fort, located about 80 km north west of Islamabad, on the left bank of the River Indus, officials said.

The former prime minister

**Crime reporters to hold rally today**

By Staff Correspondent  
Bangladesh Crime Reporters Association will hold a rally in front of the National Press Club today to press home their two-point demand.

The demands are removal of DMP commissioner and withdrawal of false cases against journalists.

The programme was announced at a meeting of the executive committee of the association at Dhaka Reporters Unity office yesterday. The association will announce its next course of action in the meeting.

The association also condemned Home Minister's statements given to the media after a meeting with the leaders of the association.

It constituted a nine-member action committee to gear up the next course of action. Senior Reporter Sankar Kumar Dey will act as convenor of the committee. Other members are: Parvez Khan, Fakrul Islam, Kanchan, Samsus Salehin, Shah Manwar Jahan, Shaikh Nazrul Islam, Saleh Siby, Mohsinul Karim Lebu and Mor-taza Haider Liton.

**Capital city bears brunt of load shedding**

By Staff Correspondent

The country suffered over 130 MW load shedding yesterday with 110 MW in the capital and its adjacent areas, sources said.

Out of 63 power generating units in the country, eleven including two 210 MW units remained shut on the day, PDB said.

PDB generated 2470 MW power against the country's requirement of 2600 MW, and gave 960 MW to DESA, which needed 1050 MW yesterday, PDB added.

Load shedding in DESA areas was 110 MW with 50 MW only in the city, DESA sources said.

The eleven units which remained shut yesterday were Raujan-2, Sylhet Gas, Shajibazar-3, Fenchuganj Gas Turbine-1 and 2, Fenchuganj Steam, Khulna 60 MW, Khulna 110 MW, Baghabari Gas, Ghorasal-3 and Ashuganj-2.

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Students of Eden University College brought out a procession yesterday demanding deferment of honours examinations (third part) under the national university. —Star photo

**Zila Parishad elections**From page 1  
and members of Union Parishads.

A Zila Parishad will be elected for five years and MPs of the district concerned will be its advisers, says the bill.

Introduced in the Jatiya Sangsad on April 6, the Zila Parishad Bill, meant to have an elected body at the highest tier of local government administration, was sent to the parliamentary standing committee on local government ministry

for scrutiny. The committee has prepared a report for submission in the House during the forthcoming parliament session beginning on June 5.

"We have suggested only some minor changes in the bill. But the mode of election and other fundamentals of the bill have remained unchanged," chairman of the committee Abdul Mannan told the Daily Star earlier this week.

Opposition members in the parliamentary standing committee suggested as many as 10 changes in the bill, mainly on the mode of election and authority of the Zila Parishad.

They suggested that the chairman and members of the Parishad be elected directly by the voters in the district. Members should proportionately represent the thanas in a district -- three male members and one female member from each thana.

Justifying the indirect election, Mannan, a senior ruling party leader, said there will at least be a local body at the district level, which has not been there for long.

"We prefer to take one step at a time. Let's have an experiment. If there is any problem with this (election) arrangement, changes could be made in the law," he said, opposing the idea of direct election "since it would create many legal and administrative complications."

Elaborating, he said, the constituency of a Zila Parishad chairman would be very large -- eight to ten times that of an MP. There might be power struggle

The opposition parties also recommended that the Zila Parishad election be held simultaneously with parliamentary polls under the caretaker government. However, the bill has it that the government will decide the first election schedule.

Moreover, the opposition lawmakers wanted certain sections in the bill, which empower the government to dictate and dissolve the Zila Parishad, excluded.

The bill also provides for the government to dissolve a Zila Parishad if it failed to carry out financial and administrative duties or acted against public interest or abused power.

between the two public representatives, he feared.

Mannan however did not subscribe to the notion that indirect election to the Zila Parishad will go against the spirit of democracy and the relevant provision in the Constitution. "Zila Parishad is quite different from other local government bodies."

He blamed the opposition for trying to complicate the matter by raising all these issues, though acknowledging the opposition's right to differ.

But the opposition finds the proposed electoral system unconstitutional.

"The bill is contrary to Article 59 of the Constitution, that provides for election to all local government bodies directly by the people," said Barrister Nazmul Huda, a BNP member in the parliamentary standing committee on local government ministry.

He said the government move is aimed to win the next general election by capturing Zila Parishads by any means.

"Once elected to local bodies like Zila Parishad and Upazila Parishad as well, the ruling party men will definitely influence the caretaker administration to win the next parliamentary election," he explained.

The BNP leader feared that the government would use the newly-appointed chief election commissioner to implement its "blueprint to hold the two local polls unilaterally."

According to sources, the parliamentary body hastily examined the Zila Parishad Bill, although it had two months altogether. The committee had only two sittings to complete scrutiny of the crucial bill.

**Lankan juggernaut**

From page 1

from two matches.

On the other hand, India, who were off to a predictably smooth start Wednesday, will now have to beat arch-rivals Pakistan in their last match tomorrow to keep their hopes alive to feature in the June 7 final.

Jayasuriya and Aravinda de Silva gave Sri Lanka a good start featuring in a 58-run opening stand. The partnership was broken in the 13th over when De Silva, following his match-winning undefeated 96 against Bangladesh on Tuesday, spooned a return catch to right-arm medium pacer Thiru Kumanar on 23.

However, the dismissal hardly put brakes on the Lankan onslaught as they took the Indian bowling attack to the sword. Jayasuriya kept up the good work and dominated a 104-run stand for the second wicket with one-down Marvan Atapattu, helping the side cross the 150-mark in the 29th over.

It took the bowling exploits of Sachin Tendulkar to get a breakthrough. Sachin induced Atapattu into miscuing a leg-break and offering a simple catch to Rahul for 42.

But when Muttiah Muralitharan scalped Rahul for 24 India's hopes were all but dashed.

Sachin, nonetheless, continued with his magic before finally holing out to Sri Lankan vice-captain Mahela Jayawardena at deep square leg off Kaushalya Weeraratne. Sachin cracked ten hits across the fence.

His dismissal on 174 virtually clinched the match for the Lankans. The last four wickets fell for 31 runs.

Weeraratne, playing only his second one-day international, returned with three for 46 from nine overs. Left-arm seamer Nuwan Zoysa took two for 47 runs from ten overs.

For his match-winning knock of 105, Jayasuriya was later named man-of-the-match.

After the match, a happy Jayasuriya said that it was a very good match for them.

"We struggled in the middle. Otherwise it would have been a 300-plus innings," said Jayasuriya.

"Although, it was quite humid out there but thanks to god I could finally score a hundred here in Dhaka. I also want to thank Romesh (Kaluwitharana) and Chaminda (Vaas) who really batted well and helped us reach 276 in the end," he added.

However, little Kaluwitharana refused to give the toiling Indians any respite. Teaming up with big-hitting Chaminda Vaas, he helped his side reach 276 with a 39-ball 33, inclusive of two boundaries.

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