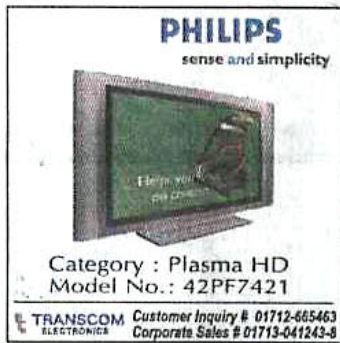




# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

Plus 32-page Star Campus



Regd. NO. DA 781

VOL. XVII NO. 63

DHAKA SUNDAY MARCH 18, 2007

People's Right to Know

www.thedailystar.net

CHAITRA 4, 1413 BS

SAFAR 27, 1428 HJRI

24 PAGES PLUS STAR CAMPUS PRICE: Tk 12.00

## Tigers turn India upside down

Bangladesh heroes dedicate famous victory to Manzarul Rana; batsmen complete job after bowlers' demolition of fancied India



QUAZI ZULQUARNAIN ISLAM

Bangladesh thrashed India by five wickets to seal a historic triumph and send shockwaves through the cricketing fraternity in their first group World Cup match at the Queen's Park Oval in Port of Spain early today.

Victory came when Mushfiqur Rahim, whose selection ahead of veteran Khaled Mashud caused an uproar at home, cut Zaheer Khan for a single to point in the 49th over sending expectant millions glued to their TV sets at home in the early hours of the morning into joyful celebrations.

Bangladesh toppled India's not so impressive 191 with nine balls to spare thanks to a devastating exhibition of fast bowling from man of the match Mashrafe Bin Mortaza who snared four wickets for 38 runs.

In reply, Mushfiqur showed maturity beyond his years as he scored a watchful 56 to guide his team home. He shared an 83-run partnership for the fourth wicket with Sakib Al Hasan who struck a fine knock of 53 off 86 balls after teenage sensation Tamim Iqbal had set the tone with a blistering



PHOTO: AFP

HANDLE IT IF YOU CAN...Bangladesh tearaway Mashrafe Mortaza sends down yet another thunderbolt at the India top order during a group World Cup match at the Queen's Park Oval stadium in the Port of Spain.

51. In what has been a month of pain for Bangladesh as regards the struggle for freedom thirty-six years ago, the Tigers did more than their share to uphold the spirit of the martyrs as well as the recently tragically deceased fellow teammate Manzarul Islam Rana, who died in a road accident in Khulna on Friday.

The Tigers, who promised to dedicate a victory against India to Manzarul, stood up to be counted and came out with a steely resolve and a spring in their steps immediately after the match began after

both teams observed a minute's silence in memory of Manzarul, who was long considered the true cheerleader of the team.

With the win the Tigers not only took a giant step towards qualification for the Super Eights but also erased their bitter memories of the last World Cup where they failed to win a single match. It was Bangladesh's second win against India after their victory in a Boxing Day encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in 2004.

Away at Sabina Park in Kingston, Ireland looked odds-on

for an amazing triumph after bowling Pakistan out for 132 in 45.4 overs with fast bowler WB Rana snaring three wickets. They were 81-4 in 27.3 overs before had light stopped play till filling of this report.

Victory was a collective effort of fielding, bowling and batting but there were two exceptional individual performances which will go down in the annals of history.

After Mashrafe's show during the first half, it was all Tamim as the left-hander played a dazzling cameo to score a quickfire 51 with seven fours and two sixes. He was

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## Homage paid to Bangabandhu

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 87th birth anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was observed across the country yesterday paying rich tribute to the leader for his great contributions to freeing the country from Pakistani occupation.

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed placed wreath at the grave of Bangabandhu at Tungipara in Gopalganj in the morning and stood in solemn silence for a few minutes.

He expressed dissatisfaction at lack of proper maintenance of Bangabandhu's mazar complex and instantly directed the authorities concerned to hand over the maintenance of the complex to the public works ministry.

"The chief adviser asked the authorities concerned to look into the matter," the CA's Press

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## Suspension on indoor politics to go soon

Law adviser also bins the idea of giving legitimacy to CG's steps by elected govt; BNP, AL speak against banning drawing room politics

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Law and Information Adviser Mainul Hossain yesterday said the government will lift the ban on indoor politics soon.

He also said it is not fair to raise questions right now over the legitimacy of the current caretaker government.

"We did not ban indoor politics, we rather suspended it until further notice...It has been suspended for a short time," Mainul said at the BBC Bangladesh Sanglap held at the

Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city yesterday.

"If indoor politics is not resumed, how will an election be held in the country and how will the political parties make preparations for that election?" said the law adviser.

Two senior leaders of Awami League (AL) and BNP—Abul Mal Abdul Muhith and Maj (ret'd) Hafizuddin Ahmed—said the present government was not right to impose the ban on indoor politics.

"The government should allow political parties to resume indoor politics as the politicians have lots of contribution for the country which should not be forgotten," said Hafizuddin, former commerce and water resources minister and a vice-chairman of BNP.

Muhith, AL Advisory Council member, said it was not right to impose the ban on indoor politics as such ban creates uncertainty in the country, which he said is not a good sign for the country.

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## CELL PHONE OPERATORS

### Govt to talk companies into hiking its revenue

Plans to encourage them to float shares

SHARIER KHAN

The government today sits with the association of mobile phone operators to discuss how they could increase revenue share of the nation as was originally intended in the mobile phone agreements signed in 1996.

Undue political influence regarding the contracts during the rule of the four-party alliance and also of the Awami League (AL) allowed the mobile companies to give the government only 5.5 percent revenue instead of 15 percent spelled out in the original con-

tracts.

Besides, the government will also encourage the phone companies to float shares in the local securities market, said a highly placed telecom ministry source.

The modalities and proportions of their shares to be off loaded will be decided in follow-up meetings.

The first meeting of its kind to be held by the telecom ministry today will also ask the mobile phone companies to find modalities through which a larger part of their revenue stays in Bangladesh.

The meeting will be attended by

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PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed pays tribute to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on his 87th birth anniversary placing wreath at his grave at Tungipara in Gopalganj yesterday.

## MOHIUDDIN'S REPATRIATION

### Dhaka giving US his travel permit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The United States has contacted Bangladesh seeking travel permit for sending back AKM Mohiuddin Ahmed, who is condemned to death for the killings of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and most of his family members.

Dhaka has already directed its Counsel General office at Los Angeles to issue travel permit as soon as possible, Syed Fahim Munayem, press secretary to the chief adviser, told a press briefing yesterday.

He also said the government will take legal steps concerning Mohiuddin after bringing him back to the country.

The retired army major, Mohiuddin, along with 14 others was convicted and sentenced to

death by a trial court in 1998 for killing Bangabandhu and the others.

Sources said the law ministry has already started looking into the legal aspects of how Mohiuddin would be brought back since he is not an ordinary offender. Necessary help from the home ministry and immigration department will also be sought.

Meanwhile, the immigration department of the US has already sent all papers relating to travel permit for Mohiuddin to the Bangladesh Embassy in that country.

The US immigration authorities will fix a date for deporting Mohiuddin after receiving travel permit from the embassy, private satellite television channel ATN Bangla said quoting the immigration officials.

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## 6,000 acres of land freed in a month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The caretaker government recovered over 6,000 acres of land from grabbers in January this year alone whereas the drive initiated in January 2005 recovered around another 6,000 acres in the following two years.

A total of 12,195 acres of land worth Tk 2,554 crore have so far been recovered from the grabbers in 64 districts since the drive started, the national executive committee for recovering grabbed land headed by the cabinet secretary recently disclosed at a meeting.

Around 20 lakh acres of land are still in the possession of encroachers because of negligence of the previous BNP-led coalition government and its departments concerned, sources said.

The land ministry has been gathering information on recovered land in different districts since

February, sources said, adding that the ministry officials do not know if it will be possible to recover all the pieces of grabbed land across the country.

Senior officials at the land ministry blamed a chronic lack of coordination among the government, municipal authorities and other organisations and agencies for not being able to detect and recover the grabbed land.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, Land Secretary Lutfar Rahman Talukder said it is true that the drive to recover land from grabbers gained pace this January. But the drive is still facing difficulties at some places due to legal complexities, Lutfar, also a member of the national executive committee, added.

The land ministry, however, has no specific figures on how much of that land and property it actually retains control over and how much

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## Prof Yunus gets Trailblazer award

UNB, Dhaka

Prof Muhammad Yunus received the 2007 Golden Trailblazer Award by Vital Voices, a US-based organisation of global women leaders working to strengthen democracy, increase economic opportunity and fight human rights abuses around the world.

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## Anti-graft team probing ex-MP Hafiz's bank documents

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A team of anti-corruption special task force yesterday collected various documentary evidence from a couple of banks and a hospital

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গর্বিত পরিচয়ে প্রতিটি প্রাণ মেতেছে আজ উচ্ছ্বাসে, আনন্দে।

অভিনন্দন- প্রতিটি প্রাণ থেকে উঠে আসা চেউয়ের মত, অভিনন্দন- বাংলাদেশ জাতীয় ক্রিকেট দলকে।

গ্রামীণফোন