

## Dhaka win big

SPORTS REPORTER



Dhaka stumped to a massive innings and 34 runs victory over Sylhet while Rajshahi were close to their second consecutive win at the end of the second day in the National Cricket League yesterday.

Rajshahi continued their second innings blues when they were shot out for 204 runs. That set visitors Chittagong a winning target of 367 runs. At stumps, they were 25 for no loss. Sylhet, forced to follow on after going down for only 96 in the first innings, again showed their batting frailties, being bowled out for a slightly-improved 221 runs.

The win gave Dhaka a maximum of 16 points, while Sylhet had to be content with three bowling points.

In Rajshahi, the hosts had Barisal in the ropes, trailing by seven runs after they followed on. At the end of the third day, Barisal were 216 for nine.

### SYLHET-DHAKA

Resuming the day on one run, Sylhet lost opener Imtiaz Hossain when the right-hander edged to the inevitable, adding 79 for the ninth, with Nazmul scoring 45 and Enamul chipping in with 36.

**KHULNA-CHITTAGONG**  
All-rounder Shakib Al Hasan backed up his first innings hundred with a

Shamsur Rahman. He scored only 1.

After Golam Rahman was bowled by Mehrab on 48, captain Rajin Shah and Alok Kapali batted with contrasting styles. Rajin, ever the stubborn batsman, scored his 32 off 87 balls while Kapali was more enterprising in scoring 29 off 33 balls, including five boundaries. But one similarity

composed half-century to keep Khulna on top at the Birsreshtha Shaheed Flight Lieutenant Matir Rahman Stadium.

His 69-ball 50 gave Khulna the much needed push to set Chittagong a target of 367 runs on the last day. After scoring 108 in the first innings and two half-centuries in Dhaka, Shakib struck three fours and a six in his fourth successive good score in three games (two first-class and one one-day).

From Shakib, none of the batsmen could match their first innings nerve. With focus on setting Chittagong a target, they threw their wickets and in the end, another crucial 30 from Mashrafe Bin Mortaza took the lead past 300 runs. Chittagong's opening bowler Tariq Aziz took four for 25.

Chittagong had the Iqbal brothers to thank as Tamim and Nafis made sure there was no damage in the nervous last hour.

Earlier, left-arm Syed Rasel cleaned up the tail claiming all three first innings wickets to give Khulna eight bonus points. Chittagong however took only one batting point, in addition to their four bowling points.

Chittagong need a further 342 runs for an outright victory.

### RAJSHAHI-BARISAL

Tottering on 77-9, Barisal added ten more to be forced to follow on

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