

Tigers win away

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on the fifth and final day at the Arnos Vale Sports Complex.

Shakib Al Hasan formalised Bangladesh's second Test victory here, when he trapped Tino Best lbw plumb in front for nine with a dipping full toss, and ended with three wickets for 39 runs from 28.1 overs.

The result means that Bangladesh lead the two-Test series 1-0 with the final match set to start on Friday at Grenada's Queen's Park Stadium Complex.

Bangladesh's victory which came about 4-1/2 years after their solitary Test win against Zimbabwe on home soil in Chittagong was made more remarkable because their new captain and primary fast bowler Mashrafe Bin Mortaza spent the entire West Indies innings off the field, nursing a knee injury he aggravated earlier in the match.

"I feel much better now following this victory," said Mashrafe. "Special thanks to Shakib for deputising for me, and the way he handled the side."

"It was probably a blessing in disguise when we got bowled out [on Monday morning] which gave us more time. We were looking to bat until lunch and get a lead of about 300 or more, but we lost our last five wickets quickly."

"But we have good spinners like Shakib and Mahmudullah and they bowled really well, so special thanks to them and the rest of the bowlers because we were operating one bowler short because of my injury -- and we still won."

Bangladesh had pressed their claims almost from the start of the West Indies innings, and had restricted the hosts to 66 for two at lunch.

They got the breakthrough quite fortuitously, when Rukibul Hasan ran Dale Richards out for 14 with a direct hit from gully, after umpire Asoka de Silva turned down an lbw appeal from Shahadat Hossain, and the batsman absently sauntered out of his crease.

There was further success for Bangladesh, when Shakib had left-hander Omar Phillips lbw for 14 to leave West Indies 33 for two, but the Tigers could make no further headway, as West Indies captain Floyd Reifer joined Travis Dowlin, and they batted out the remainder of the session.

By tea, Bangladesh had a strong scent of victory, after Mahmudullah and Shakib shared four wickets in the afternoon session to leave West Indies wobbling on 128 for six.

"We are obviously disappointed that we lost this Test," said Reifer. "I thought we let ourselves down in the first innings, when the batsmen did not capitalise on the starts that they got."

"Many of us got a start, but never really carried on. Young Omar Phillips scored 94, but I thought that a lot of other guys, including myself, got starts, and we never carried

onto a big score."

He continued: "That would have meant we would have scored a bigger total in the first innings, and would have been in a position to put them under a little more pressure."

"But I thought all of the guys played well for a team that was assembled a night before the Test match. I thought we fought really well, and we are looking forward to the Test in Grenada."

Mahmudullah made the breakthrough in the fifth over after lunch, and triggered a collapse which saw West Indies lose three wickets for 13 runs in the space of 37 balls.

The off-spinner tightened Bangladesh's grip, when he trapped Reifer lbw for 19, had Dowlin caught at forward short leg for the same score, and also had Chadwick Walton lbw for 10 to leave the home team on 82 for five.

But Bangladesh were put on their heels, when Darren Sammy joined Dave Bernard Jr and added 37 for the sixth wicket before he was caught at point for 19 off Shakib in the last half-hour before the break.

After tea, there was token resistance only from the West Indies batting, although Bernard batted almost 3-1/2 hours to complete his second half-century of the match, and top-scored with an undefeated 52 from 134 balls.

Mahmudullah suffered the most, when Bernard drove him through cover off the back-foot for the last of his five fours to reach his 50 from 112 balls, but no other batsman could get on top of the Bangladesh bowling.

Earlier, Bangladesh's lower order had been undermined by Darren Sammy -- in particular -- who finished with five wickets for 70 runs from 30.1 overs, and Kemar Roach, who ended with three for 67 from 26 overs.

After they continued from their overnight total of 321 for five, only Mushfiqur Rahim with 37 and Shakib with 30 showed any prolonged resistance.

Bangladesh also play three one-day internationals and a Twenty20 International on their five-week tour of the Caribbean.

PM GREETES TEAM
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina congratulated Bangladesh cricketers on their maiden test victory abroad, reports UNB.

In a felicitation message yesterday, the PM hailed the newly appointed captain, players, coach and the team management and officials of Bangladesh Cricket Board for the emphatic test win at Arnos Vales in Kingstown, St Vincent.

The prime minister also asked the cricket team to build on the success "to maintain continuity."

In separate messages, State Minister for Youth and Sports Ahad Ali Sarker and Deputy leader of the House and acting president of the ruling AL Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury also hailed the home team on their win.

HC outlines

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It ruled that the government and Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha (Rajuk) would have the liberty to take legal actions against encroachers and illegal occupants by filing compensation suits against the perpetrators.

The court directed police and other law enforcement agencies to cooperate with Rajuk in completing this job.

The surveys will be done with the help of deputy commissioner of Dhaka and the director general of Department of Land Record, it said. The director general of the Department of Environment will ensure that environment laws are maintained during this job, the court said.

The court fixed February 22, 2010, for issuing possible further orders on the matter.

The HC directives came after Kazi M Mosharraf Hussain, executive secretary of Gulshan Society, a registered development organisation, filed a writ petition in this regard in May this year.

The bench in the order said the case would continue in the court until the directives are implemented. It said any parties concerned in this case could appear before the court any time for any necessary court order to protect the lakes.

The petitioner stated that land of Gulshan-Banani and

Gulshan-Baridhara lakes are being encroached upon at many places and some pieces of land have already been grabbed.

The banks of the lakes are being filled and buildings and temporary structures are being erected there. People are even filling the middle of lakes, the petition said, adding that the perpetrators are adopting various techniques to gulp the lakes.

It said the lakes are shrinking every day and the result of which would be devastating and dangerous for the environment of the area.

It stated that Rajuk failed to prevent criminals from encroaching upon the lakes, which was a blow to the preservation of city dwellers' interest.

Repeated violations of laws or non-implementation of laws by the authorities concerned undermine the rule of law and jeopardise people's fundamental rights to life guaranteed in the constitution, it added.

The petition sought from the HC directions for the authorities concerned for taking immediate steps to protect and preserve the lakes.

Barrister ABM Siddique Rahman Khan moved for the petitioner while Deputy Attorney General Mostafa Zaman Islam stood for the government.

Review starts

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members at the meeting raised the issue, army chief General Abdul Mubin informed the meeting about the prime minister's instruction to look into the matter, committee sources said.

Idris Ali said the army chief informed them that after finalising the review, a report would be placed before this parliamentary body as well as the prime minister.

The committee is comprised of senior officials of the army, navy and air force.

"We will see what actions are taken. If adequate measures are taken, then it will be all right. Otherwise, we will make our recommendations to this effect," Idris Ali said.

Asked how many officials of the armed forces became victims of such irregularities, Idris Ali said the army chief did not give them any numbers.

Talking to The Daily Star after the meeting, Awami League lawmaker Monjur Kader Quraishi, a member of the parliamentary standing committee, said he has been receiving a number of letters from victims seeking remedies to "injustice." He said he placed the matter before the standing committee for discussion.

Contacted by The Daily Star, AL lawmaker MA Mannan, who joined the meeting as a representative of the defence minister, said all committee members want the victims to get justice.

However, a member of the committee wishing not to be named said it is unlikely that those who have lost jobs would get them back. The member said they would try to provide remedies for the "injustice."

Meanwhile, the armed forces division placed outlines of the draft defence policy at yesterday's meeting for discussion.

Idris Ali said on completion of the draft policy, it will be sent to the prime minister and as well as the chiefs of the three forces. The draft defence policy will also be placed before the committee for discussion.

"We will examine the draft to ensure that people's welfare and desires are ensured," the committee chief said.

The air force through a presentation yesterday informed the committee about its problems including shortage of budgetary allocation, inadequate equipment, manpower, and age-old aircraft.

Talking to The Daily Star a member of the parliamentary body said the air force wants the government to increase their budgetary allocation for replacing the old aircraft and address other problems it is facing.

BDR rebels

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proposal of BDR authorities on the ways of holding trial of the mutineers and finally take the decision.

Besides, it may also finalise the names, uniform and other recommendations made by the BDR authorities for restructuring the border force, sources said.

"The meeting will decide under which laws the trial of those involved in BDR mutiny and carnage will be held," Shafique Ahmed told The Daily Star yesterday.

Asked whether any decision has already been taken to try those who were directly involved in the February 25-26 BDR headquarters mutiny under the Army Act, he replied in the negative and said everything will be decided at the meeting.

Asked about the meeting, BDR Director General Maj Gen Md Mainul Islam said they have already submitted a proposal with recommendations about holding of the trial.

Sources said BDR authorities in a letter sent to the home and law secretaries on June 23 proposed to hold trial of the mutineers at BDR headquarters and elsewhere in the country under the Army Act.

The letter signed by the BDR DG also has proposed to make a government announcement of quick trial of the border guards who staged mutiny in 28 other districts following the Pilkhana carnage.

The letter also said if the trial is held under the conventional law, it will be tough to prove the mutiny charge against BDR jawans in the cases filed outside the capital.

All concerned including representatives from Armed Forces Division will attend the meeting.

OC removed after Mirpur shooting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Following Monday's gun attack on a market, Mirpur Police Station's Officer-in-Charge Nazimuddin Ahmed has been suspended on charges of negligence of duty.

The market remained closed yesterday.

Police and local sources said feuds between groups led by Litu and Shahadat over extortion and control of Swadhin Bangla Super Market are the key reasons for the attack that left one person dead and eight others injured.

Top terror Shahadat, who is believed to be in India, got furious as Litu teamed up with Bikash and Prokash to take control of the market.

Bikash is behind bars and his brother on the run.

Meanwhile, Mirpur police yesterday arrested Shamsher Ali, the man who used to control the slums on the land where the market was built.

Police said Litu and Shahadat, both former president of Mirpur thana Chhatra League, are top listed criminals. They are involved in extortion from transport and garment sectors.

They extort money also from the owners of under-

construction buildings, and buyers and sellers of land.

Sources said Litu sought to establish control over extortion from transport, garment and other sectors soon after Awami League government came to power in January.

In the past, Shahadat would control the extortion in the area.

Litu and Shahadat became fierce rivals after Shahadat's men killed Litu's younger brother Monu Haji on August 15, 2007, added the sources.

Litu and his group took Tk 1 to 2 lakh for possession of each of the 380 shops at the market.

Sabina Yasmin Nipa, wife of Abdul Rahim, filed a case with Mirpur Police Station, accusing six to seven unknown persons for killing her husband Monday.

Tejgaon Zone DMP Deputy Commissioner Chowdhury Manzurul Kabir, who is also in charge of Mirpur zone now, told The Daily Star that Shamsher Ali was arrested as he is the former occupier of the land.

Meanwhile, some locals claimed police picked up two others in connection with the market shooting.

Police however did not admit the arrests.

BSF won't kill

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Bangladesh Rifles DG Maj Gen Md Mainul Islam informed the press briefing that they told the BSF about the killings of innocent Bangladeshis along the border.

"The BSF delegation took the matter seriously and assured us of curbing such incidents in future," he said.

"Most of the residents along the border areas are innocent. We discussed the human rights aspects and got assurance from BSF that no innocent people would be killed there anymore," he told the briefing.

The BDR DG emphasised making people aware of the border situation and asked them to be more careful while moving along the borders.

At the conference, India proposed to launch a joint patrol to combat trans-border crimes, human trafficking and smuggling.

On the proposal Mainul said, "Joint patrol does not mean that the border forces will patrol together; it can be done by taking positions in the border areas of the respective countries. We need to finalise the modalities of joint patrol."

Two countries exchanged lists of criminals holing up in the border areas. BDR handed over a list of 1,227 criminals who are either hiding in India or staying in jail there while India gave a list of 77 criminals reportedly hiding in Bangladesh.

United Liberation Front of Asam chairman Raj Khoya, its military chief Paresh Barua,

general secretary Anup Chetia, Deb Borma and Jiban Singh are among the Indian terrorists.

The Bangladesh list includes two militants -- Mursalin and Muttakin -- who are currently detained in Tihar Jail.

About the BSF list, BDR DG said it is out of purview of BDR and the list will be handed over to the home ministry. BSF DG promised to arrest the fugitive Bangladeshi criminals and hand them over to Dhaka.

An 18-member Indian delegation led by the BSF DG arrived in Dhaka on Saturday while the BDR DG led a 24-member Bangladesh team at the conference that took place at the BDR Pilkhana headquarters amid tight security.

PM leaves

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Hasina will hold a series of meetings with the heads of state and government on the sidelines of the Nam summit to discuss bilateral, regional and international issues.

Around 60 heads of state and government are expected to attend the summit being held this time with the theme 'International Solidarity for Peace and Development', suiting the present times of strife in different corners of the world.

About 110 countries will be represented at the meet that focuses on economic, development and social issues confronting the member nations as well as the world community as a whole.

Public hearing

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The parliamentary standing committee on forest and environment ministry formed the subcommittee to find out causes and solutions to saving the country's rivers and environment.

The subcommittee is also working with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to prepare a master plan, first of its kind in the country to give new life to the rivers.

"We will receive recommendations from the four organisations on how to free rivers from pollution and grabbers as they are working on environment," Sabar Hossain Chowdhury, chief of the subcommittee, told The Daily Star after a meeting held at the parliament complex yesterday.

Saber said they will finalise their report after getting recommendations from the four organisations.

He said Bela and Bapa often go to High Court to protect rivers and environment from pollution as the respective ministry could not work properly while Channelli and The Daily Star are also campaigning on this issue.

So the committee decided to hear their views at the public hearing, which will be held from 10:00am to 1:00pm on July 20, Saber added.

"We will invite two officials from Bela and Bapa, Mahfuz Anam of The Daily Star and Shaikh Siraj of Channel-I to come before the committee and to give their recommendations," he said.

He also informed the reporters that the UNDP for the first

Dulu, Nadim sued for abetting militants

UNB, Rajshahi

A case was filed yesterday against former deputy minister for land Ruhul Kuddus Talukdar Dulu, former BNP lawmaker Nadim Mostafa and 33 others on charges of patronising militants, extortion and repression.

Manjur Rahman of Daspara village in Bagmara upazila filed the case with the Judicial Court-3 in Rajshahi city at noon.

After the filing of the case, Judge Asafudoula asked Bagmara thana police to take "legal action" in this regard.

In his complaint, the plaintiff alleged that the accused demanded Tk 2 lakh as toll from him on April 22, 2004--the prime time of militancy in the upazila under the leadership of Siddiqui Islam Bangla Bhai.

Bangla Bhai was later executed along with JMB chief Shaikh Abdul Rahman and four other kinnings.

"I was taken to the local JMB camp and tortured as I refused to give the money," Manjur stated in the case.

Later, he was released after his father Abdul Karim gave them the money.

Manjur had to be admitted to the hospital due to the inhuman torture meted out to him.

The other accused are Sujauddin Chhoton, reporter of a private television channel, former chairman of Chandpara Abdul Razzak, Ismail Hossain of Nimpara, Moyennuddin, Abul Kashem, Abdul Jabbar, Abdul Hannan, Mannan, Abdul Hakim of Daspara, Kalimuddin of Jhikra, Altaf Hossain, Chand Mohammad, Ismail Hossain, Aminul Islam, Azahar Ali, Rezaul, Monirul alias Hiro, Liton of Konepara, Hassan Ali, Kamal Hossain, Abdul Jalil of Dokholpara, Nurul Islam of Jatkachchi, Syed Ali, Afzal, Abdul Hamid of Larupara, Abdul Aziz of Mangalpara, Lutfar Rahman, Zakaria, Jasimuddin of Chakirpara, Ashraful Islam of Bhabaniganj, Jorenuddin of Goalpara, Ismail Hossain of Surjapara and Abdul Rashid of Sajuria village in Bagmara upazila.

Home ministry ministry, which has been taking a lot of flak for the recent spate of killings, extortion, mugging and other crimes.

Home Minister Sahara Khatun has been undergoing treatment in Singapore since July 2, while State Minister Tanjim Ahmad Sohel Taj has been in the US on leave since June 6.

Sources said Sahara might return home within a week. Sohel Taj was scheduled to come back on July 7.

But no one officially confirmed when Sohel Taj will return.

The PM took charges of the ministry to run the activities of the ministry smoothly in absence of its minister and state minister.

Talking to The Daily Star, Home Secretary Abdus Sobhan Sikder said the prime minister has given them necessary instruction to deal with the ministry and law and order prior to her going abroad.

He said they are also keeping constant contacts with the home minister over telephone regarding any decision of the ministry.

4 more judges

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appointment as per Article 95 (1) of the constitution.

Their appointment will come into effect from the date of their taking oath, a handout said yesterday.

Earlier on July 9, the president increased the number of posts of judges in the appellate division of the SC from 7 to 11, as per Article 94 (2) of the constitution.

Attorney General Mahubey Alam said the appointments of the judges will beef up the strength of the Supreme Court to deal with a huge backlog of cases.

While talking to The Daily Star at his office yesterday afternoon he said he is very happy and delighted with the appointments of the four new judges to the appellate division.

"These four judges had not failed to protect the rule of law and the constitution, while functioning at the High Court Division and I am hopeful that they will protect the rule of law, the priority of the constitution and the spirit of the liberation war through dispensation of justice at the Appellate Division," he said.

Mahubey Alam said the appointments will pave the way for disposing of some long pending historic cases, including those of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman assassination, and the fifth amendment of the constitution.

He also said three benches of the Appellate Division can be constituted after taking oath by the new judges and the pending cases of this court will be speedily disposed of.

al-Qaeda vows to hit China over crackdown on Uighurs

AFP, Hong Kong

al-Qaeda is threatening for the first time to attack Chinese interests overseas in retaliation for the deaths of Muslims in the restive region of Xinjiang, according to a risk analysis group.

The call for reprisals against China comes from the Algerian-based offshoot al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), according to a summary of its report sent to AFP by the international consultancy Stirling Assent.

"Although AQIM appear to be the first arm of al-Qaeda to officially state they will target Chinese interests, others are likely to follow," said the report, which was first divulged by the South China Morning Post Tuesday.

Osama bin Laden's network has not previously threatened China, but the Stirling report said a thirst for vengeance over Beijing's clampdown in Xinjiang was spreading over the global jihadist community.

Hundreds of thousands of Chinese work in the Middle East and North Africa, including 50,000 in Algeria, estimated the group, which has offices in London and Hong Kong providing risk advice to corporate and official clients.

This threat should be taken seriously," Stirling said, basing its information on people who it said had seen the AQIM instruction.

"There is an increasing amount of chatter -- among Jihadis who claim they want to see action against China."

"Some of these individuals have been actively seeking information on China's interests in the Muslim world, which they could use for targeting purposes."

Stirling said the extremist group could well target Chinese projects in Yemen in a bid to topple the Beijing-friendly government of President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

The intelligence firm also noted al-Qaeda's killing of 24 Algerian security officers who were meant to be protection for Chinese engineers three weeks ago.

"On that occasion they did not attack the Chinese engineers because the target was the project on which they were working."

"Now, future attacks of this kind are likely to target security forces and Chinese engineers alike," the report said.

The most likely scenario would be that al-Qaeda's central leadership would encourage their affiliates in North Africa and the Arabian peninsula to attack Chinese

targets near at hand, it said. al-Qaeda centrally does "not want to open a new front with China," the analysis said.

"But equally their sense of Muslim solidarity compels them to help and/or to be seen to be helping. This is also a factor in helping the organisation regain support and funding from their global constituency."

Chinese authorities have said that riots in the Xinjiang city of Urumqi by Muslim Uighurs on July 5 left 184 people dead -- most of whom were Han, China's dominant ethnic group -- and more than 1,600 injured.

National council

FROM PAGE 16
and treatment, Cap (retd) ABM Tajul Islam discipline and Abdul Mannan Khan will head the office sub-committee.

Dhaka City AL will be in charge of the sub-committee on food.

Earlier on Monday, AL President Sheikh Hasina was made chairman of the council preparation committee.

Mannan Khan said over 5,000 councillors would participate in this year's council.

Of them, 1,562 will represent Dhaka division, 1,076 Chittagong, 1,211 Rajshahi, 319 Sylhet, 587 Khulna and 325 will come from Barisal division as per the updated population census of 2007.

Besides, he added, the AL president would nominate 100 more councillors from among the general members.

The AL charter prescribes one councillor for every 25,000 people in an organisational district and an additional one if more than 12,500 people are left over.

Mannan, also state minister for public works and housing, was speaking to reporters after the meeting at the party chief's political office in Dhanmondi.

At the briefing, AL spokesman and LGD Minister Syed Ashrafur Islam said they are holding the council at short notice to comply with the Representation of the People Order, not to put any political party in a tight spot.

Through the council just a day before the Election Commission's deadline ends, the party will ratify provisional changes made to its constitution for registration with the EC before the December 29 general election last year.

BPC's costly oil

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of \$5.15 per barrel. The BPC also has a deal with the Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC) charging the same.

"The premium is a flexible issue which is periodically negotiated and re-fixed. For instance, the premium with the KPC was re-fixed and drastically lowered through a successful negotiation in late May. But for some unknown reason, the BPC is not doing the same with Petco which is charging very high," said a BPC official.

Premium covers freight forwarding, commission and other charges asked by the exporting company. A lower premium means lower cost for the BPC in importing over 3.5 million tonnes of petroleum each year. Unlike the premium, the price per tonne of petroleum cannot be exactly fixed beforehand through negotiations as it goes up or down on a daily basis.

The BPC has been paying high level of premium for petroleum purchase from various sources for the last two years, as exporters were hesitant with the company's financial losses in the context of \$100 plus oil prices.

The KPC has been Bangladesh's lead oil supplier and it has been charging \$4 for diesel till early 2005. Afterwards it increased the rate up to \$4.85 till June 2006. From then on, the premium shot up to \$5.45 and finally to \$6.6 till December 2008.

But as the heat of high oil price cooled down to a great degree from early this year, the KPC agreed to lower its premium at a meeting on May 25-26 last.

But on the issue of renegotiating premium with Petco, the BPC and the desk concerned of the energy ministry are not showing much interest.