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FEDERATION CUP
Abahani beat Sheikh Jamal to lift title

SPORTS REPORTER

Abahani emerged champions of the season's curtain-raising Grameenphone Federation Cup when they beat Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club 5-3 after extra-time in a thrilling encounter at the Birshreshtha Mostafa Kamal Stadium yesterday.

Abahani rode on their Ghanaian contingent with striker Awudu Ibrahim leading the way with a superb hat-trick as the Sky Blues triumphed over a ten-man Sheikh Jamal after the regulation period had ended in an enthralling 3-3 tie. Yussif Aminu and Twum Frank were the other scorers for the winners.

The full-house at Kamalapur was treated to an end-to-end encounter in a dramatic game punctuated at regular intervals with well-taken goals.

Abahani were behind twice to national striker Enamul Haque, but fought back both times and even managed to

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Graft gobbles up OMS rice

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

The government-appointed dealers for the ongoing open market sales (OMS) are selling rice on black market upsetting the effort to contain prices of the staple food.

The Daily Star investigation reveals that the dealers prepare fictitious list of potential buyers and sell the OMS rice on black market where each kilogramme of rice yields at least a profit of Tk 5.50.

Food department officials, who are "strictly monitoring" the dealers during and after the sale, are also enjoying benefits from the theft.

Under the OMS programme the government appointed 751 dealers across Rajshahi division. In the divisional city, 30 dealers each receiving four metric tonnes of rice from public granaries every day at a rate of Tk 22.5 per kg sell it at Tk 24 a kg on the black market. Rice of the same quality retails between Tk 30 and 33 in the market.

The Daily Star at random visited Alupatty, City Bhaban, Bornali Crossing, Shalbagan, Nawdapara Aam Chatter, Old City Bhaban and Shaheb Bazar OMS centres in Rajshahi city and three in Poba upazila over the last few weeks. Allegations of theft were made from all of the areas.

As per the government OMS Policy 2010, a dealer must record list and take fingerprint of every customer buying a maximum of five kilograms of rice from the outlet. A food inspector must be present at his assigned outlet during the entire period of the OMS operation and sign the registers.

During a spot visit at the City Bhaban intersection around 9:30am on October 18, a dealer, who identified himself as Wahed Ali, was found commencing the day's OMS sale showing 1.5

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The OMS outlets in Rajshahi have become lucrative centres for traders and consumers. This child is carrying his share of rice to retail market for sale and profit. Inset, unloading and transportation of OMS rice to black market.

PHOTO COURTESY: AZAHAR UDDIN

Target genocide apology

Foreign secys of Bangladesh, Pakistan sit tomorrow, may also discuss Bihari repatriation, assets division

REZAUL KARIM

After a break of three years, the Bangladeshi and Pakistani foreign secretaries will hold talks on bilateral relations at a two-day annual consultation to be held in Islamabad on November 1-2.

Bangladesh will dominate the talks with its three vital issues including Pakistan's apology for the 1971 genocide. It will officially raise the issue of its con-

tinual demand for repatriation of stranded Pakistanis and division of assets at the two days talks.

Official sources said Foreign Secretary Mohamed Mijarul Quayes would lead an eight-member Bangladesh delegation at the upcoming consultation with his Pakistani counterpart Salman Bashir.

"This will be an ice-melting session in the bilateral relations between the two countries as no such meeting was held for

long since the last Foreign Secretary-level consultation in Dhaka in August 2007," said a foreign ministry official.

He said both the countries are now keen to reinvigorate the bilateral ties and to suggest their present leaderships to undertake bold steps to take the bilateral relations to a genuinely meaningful level.

Sources said, at the upcoming talks, Pakistan would be asked to officially seek

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

11 sued for teasing school girls in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eleven youths were sued yesterday for harassing girl students of Rayerbazar High School in the capital and attacking the school's managing committee chief.

Abul Kashem Khan, president of the managing body, filed the case with Hazaribagh Police Station.

Most of the accused are residents of Rayerbazar. Of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Muhith spurs digital land recording

Laments rampant graft in land management at opening of ICT fair

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Rapid digitisation of land recording system is a priority for the government to curb widespread corruption in land management in the country, Finance Minister AMA Muhith said yesterday.

"Automating the land recording is certainly our priority at the moment under the digitis-

ation process of the country", the finance minister said at the inauguration of the BCS ICT World 2010 in the city.

"This could be an effective solution to the rampant corruption in the land registration, mutation, and other land-related irregularities that is tangling the sector", he added.

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Citizens of Dhaka yesterday formed a human chain at Banglamotor intersection to encourage people use footpaths and foot overbridges although many were seen risking their lives. The government has made the use of zebra crossings and footbridges mandatory for pedestrians from November 1.

PHOTO: STAR

World pledges for ecosystem

UN seals historic protection treaty

AFP, Nagoya

A historic global treaty to protect the world's forests, coral reefs and other threatened ecosystems within 10 years was sealed at a UN summit.

Rich and poor nations agreed to take "effective and urgent" action to curb the destruction of nature in an effort to halt the loss of the world's biodiversity on which human survival depends.

Delegates from 193 countries yesterday committed to key goals by 2020 such as curbing pollution, protecting forests and coral reefs, setting aside areas of land and water for conservation, and managing fisheries sustainably.

"This is a day to celebrate," UN Environment Programme chief Achim Steiner said straight after the accord was struck early on Saturday morning following nearly two weeks of tense talks in the central Japanese city of Nagoya.

Delegates and green groups also said the accord offered hope that the United Nations could help to solve the planet's many environmental problems, particularly after the failure of climate change talks in Copenhagen last year.

One of the most significant elements of the accord was a commitment to protect 17 percent of land and 10 percent of oceans so that biodiversity there could thrive.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

OnlinePoll

Do you think the government is sincere about shifting the chemical factories from residential areas in the capital?

Yes (18.5%)
No (80.4%)
No Comments (1.1%)

Total votes: 357

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think mid-level leaders' pressure on BNP top leadership to launch a tougher anti-government movement to resist the 'eviction' of Khaleda Zia from her Dhaka cantonment house is justified?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing

October 31

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-50	5-25
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-32	5-35
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

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বাংলাদেশ টেলিভিশনে

উপস্থাপনায় : খন্দকার ইব্রাহিম খালেদ

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক

GD-4649

War criminals must not have the last laugh

HR commission chief tells sector commanders' rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) will support the movement to bring war criminals of the Liberation War to justice, said Chairman of the commission Prof Mizanur Rahman yesterday.

Addressing a rally organised by the Sector Commanders' Forum (SCF) at the Central Shaheed Minar, the chairman said, "We want those responsible for committing atrocities against humanity during the Liberation War in 1971 to be brought to justice so that they don't have the last laugh at the cost of our freedom fighters' lives."

Crimes like murder, rape, genocide, mayhem, crimes against humanity and war crimes are recognised by the international law and so those criminals should be tried according to the International Crimes Tribunal Act, 1973, he added, demanding that the trial process should be sped up.

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বিআরটিএ'র জরুরি সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগিতের জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, সড়ক নিরাপত্তা বিধান কল্পে মোটরসাইকেল চালক ও আরোহীদের জন্য হেলমেট পরিধান এবং গাড়িচালক ও যাত্রীদের জন্য সিটবেল্ট ব্যবহার করা বাধ্যতামূলক। গাড়ি চালনাকালে চালক কর্তৃক মোবাইল ফোনে কথা বলা দণ্ডনীয় অপরাধ। এছাড়া, পথচারীকে রাস্তা চলাচলে ফুটপাথ ব্যবহার এবং রাস্তা পারাপারের জন্য জেব্রাক্রসিং, ফুটওভারব্রিজ ও আন্ডারপাস ব্যবহার করা বাধ্যতামূলক বিষয়ে আগামী ০১ নভেম্বর, ২০১০ তারিখ হতে আইন শৃঙ্খলা নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী বাহিনী তথা পুলিশ, র‍্যাভসহ বিআরটিএ ও সকল জেলা প্রশাসনের উদ্যোগে পরিচালিত মোবাইল কোর্ট এর মাধ্যমে অভিযান পরিচালনা করে এ সকল আইন/বিধি ভঙ্গকারীদের বিরুদ্ধে শাস্তিমূলক ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে।

এ অবস্থায়, মোটরসাইকেল চালক ও আরোহীদের হেলমেট পরিধান, গাড়িচালক ও যাত্রীদের সিটবেল্ট ব্যবহার, পথচারীকে জেব্রাক্রসিং, ফুটপাথ, ফুটওভারব্রিজ ও আন্ডারপাস ব্যবহার করার জন্য এবং গাড়ি চালনাকালে চালককে মোবাইল ফোন ব্যবহার না করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

জিডি-৪৬১৫

বিআরটিএ