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Pakistan face Windies

BISHWAJIT ROY

The ICC Cricket World Cup kicked off just over a month ago here in Dhaka and the most crucial stage of the showcase event is also all set to start from here when favourites Pakistan take on inconsistent West Indies in the first quarterfinal at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur today.

With the Tigers exiting from the tournament early, the buzz and enthusiasm among the fans might not be as visible as it was before, but one

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Deceived in the desert

Bangladeshi fortune-seekers helpless in north Africa

MORSHED ALI KHAN
in Choucha, Tunisia-Libya border



ON TUNISIA-LIBYA BORDER

MORSHED ALI KHAN writes from the spot where thousands of Bangladeshi workers have taken shelter after fleeing the Libyan upheaval

"I came to Libya eleven months ago in a group of 15. At the airport, two men of the agency that organised my work permit and visa in Dhaka took all our passports as soon as we came out of the immigration. We then boarded a bus. In the evening, we reached a big rickety house. Not a single person was on the road. We were given mattresses and asked to sleep there and to wait to start our job."

"The place was very dirty. We were given khobja (local bread) to eat for the night. During the four months that we waited for starting our job, we were half starved, intimidated and warned of dire consequences if we tried to flee. After four months, as many of us started to get

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PHOTO: MORSHED ALI KHAN

Bangladeshis line up at a telephone booth at Choucha camp near the Libya-Tunisia border to make free phone calls home yesterday. Inset, Abdus Samad Mukul, who has been inspiring Bangladeshis at the camp with his songs.



Bangladeshis continue to flee Libya

50 more enter Tunisia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fifty more Bangladeshis entered Tunisia on Sunday and Monday amid the coalition forces' air strikes in various parts of Libya.

A spokesman for the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in Dhaka said around 700 Bangladeshi nationals were on their way home from Ras Ajdir border in Tunisia last night, and some 860 were still in the camps.

More than 30,000 Bangladeshis have arrived home so far, while an estimated 30,000 are still in Libya.

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in Short

AUG 21 PROBE
CID seeks 45 days more

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) yesterday sought one and a half months more to complete investigation into one of the two cases filed for the August 21 grenade attack on an Awami League rally in 2004.

Meantime, Harkatul Jihad (Huji) leader Maulana Abdur Rouf was placed on a four-day fresh remand yesterday in the case filed in connection

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BDR CARNAGE CASE
Charges sent to sessions judge's court

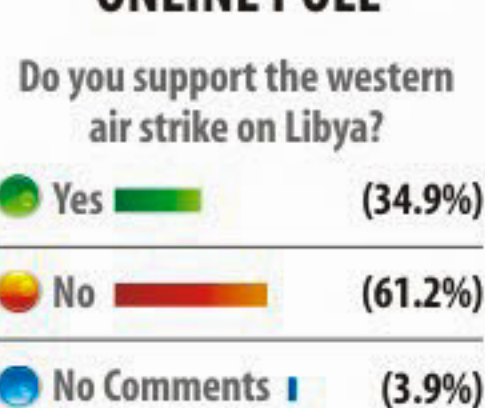
COURT CORRESPONDENT

The supplementary charge sheets against 26 indicted members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) for the Palkhona carnage in 2009 were shifted to the Dhaka Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court yesterday.

After scrutinising the case dockets and other relevant documents, Metropolitan Magistrate Keshob Roy Chowdhury

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ONLINE POLL
Do you support the western air strike on Libya?



TOTAL VOTES : 562

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the government decision not to publish the wealth statements of ministers and MPs those would be submitted to the Cabinet Division loses its purpose?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

Give info or face legal action

Information Commission warns govt officials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Information Commission yesterday warned the government officials of legal action if they neglect providing information to the people under the Right to Information Act 2009.

"You have two options - provide information or face legal action," Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) Muhammad Zamir told several public officials during hearing of appeals. The officials were facing appeals for alleged neglect in providing information or fitting out inaccurate data.

According to the act, the commission can fine a

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Uproar in JS over diatribes

BNP stages walkout to protest Taher trial verdict

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Upset by frequent use of indecent and vulgar words in parliament, former law minister Abdul Matin Khasru yesterday said the languages used by some lawmakers are not even used in the "red-light district".

"Stop live broadcast of the parliament proceedings. No gentleman's family now wants to watch parliament proceedings on TV. Those irrespective of the treasury and opposition benches who used indecent words will have to make public apology," a lamented Khasru continued.

Khasru, also chief of a parliamentary body, took the floor to speak on the thanksgiving motion on the president's address after the BNP-led opposition staged a stormy walkout.

They staged the noisy walkout at 7:20pm protesting against a citation from the High Court's verdict on the trial of Col Abu Taher and some other freedom fighters.

The opposition lawmakers however returned to the House after 20 minutes.

In the full House, Khasru, a senior ruling AL lawmaker, said an MP can launch an attack on opponent using decent words and in a decent way.

"Weight of such decent words is a thousand pounds.

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Govt won't make law against Quran: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her government would not enact any law that would go against the holy Quran and Sunnah.

"Awami League never enacted any law in the past that goes against the Quran and Sunnah and would not do so in future," she told a function organised at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium to mark the 36th founding anniversary of Islamic Foundation.

The premier complained a certain quarter is trying to misguide people with propaganda, mentioning the recently approved women development policy contains certain anti-Islamic

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JAPANESE NUKE PLANT
Rising heat new concern

REUTERS, Tokyo

Rising temperatures around the core of one of the reactors at Japan's quake-crippled nuclear plant sparked new concern on Tuesday and more water was needed to cool it down, the plant's operator said.

Despite hopes of progress in the world's worst nuclear crisis in a quarter of a century, triggered by an earthquake and tsunami that left at least 21,000 people dead or missing, plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co (Tepco) said it needed more time before it could say the reactors were stabilised.

Technicians working inside an evacuation zone around the stricken plant on Japan's northeast Pacific coast, 250 km north of Tokyo, have attached power cables to all six reactors and started a pump at one to cool overheating nuclear fuel rods.

But smoke and steam were later seen rising from two of the most threatening reactors, No.2 and No.3, threatening to dash hopes of progress in bringing them under control.

There have been several blasts of steam from the reactors during the crisis, which experts say probably released a small amount of radioactive particles.

Hidehiko Nishiyama, the deputy-director general of Japan's nuclear safety agency, later said the smoke at

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Bangladesh flags flutter over Dhaka

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

On March 23, 1971, the people of Bangladesh made their message to the Pakistan authorities loud and clear. On a day that annually and for long had been celebrated as Pakistan Day in commemoration of the adoption of what had come to be known as the Pakistan Resolution by the All-India Muslim League in Lahore on March 23, 1940, Bengalis went for a hoisting of Bangladesh flags atop all public and private buildings in Dhaka. It was the ultimate protest against Pakistan, whose national flag could be seen fluttering only over the President's House and in Dhaka Cantonment.

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Vandalism over death of worker

Truck kills child

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Workers of Dhaka Export Processing Zone (DEPZ) in Savar yesterday, vandalised vehicles and clashed with Ansar members protesting the death of a fellow worker in a road accident.

Mohammad Ibrahim, 27, operator of Softex Sweater Factory, was crushed to death as a speeding truck charged through the workers in front of Gate-2 of the DEPZ while they were returning to work after lunch around 2:00pm.

Following Ibrahim's death, DEPZ turned into a battle zone as several hundred workers engaged in a clash with the Ansar personnel leaving over 30

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A man walks with his dog at a destroyed residential area of Kesenuma in Japan yesterday, nearly two weeks after the area was devastated by a magnitude 9.0 earthquake and tsunami.

PHOTO: REUTERS

PRAYER TIMING March 23

Azan	4-55	5-30
Fajr	12-45	1-15
Zohr	4-45	5-00
Asr	6-16	6-20
Maghrib	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation