

The batting maestro

Holding the highest tally of runs in Test matches, Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar is also the highest Indian One-day international scorer, scoring 17657 runs in a career spanning from 1989 to 2011.

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Use 'Earth Hour,' save planet

AFP, Sydney

From Sydney to Seoul, London to Lima, and Dubai to Davis Station in frozen Antarctica, hundreds of millions of people were expected to switch off their lights yesterday to mark "Earth Hour".

The movement that began in Sydney in 2007 to raise awareness about climate change now brings together people from around the world to

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SL openers dispatch Eng

MOHAMMAD ISAM, from Colombo

What promised to be a real battle for the final semifinal spot was emphatically clinched by Sri Lanka as they banked on twin centuries and a world-class opening stand by Tillekaratne Dilshan and Upul Tharanga to race into the last four of the 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup through a thumping 10-wicket win over mercurial England at the R Premadasa Stadium yesterday.

The only battle was heat and Dilshan, the man-of-the-match and all-round hero, sank to his knees and had to be helped off by teammates.

"It was his best day. He was excellent in every department and I think his batting was simply superb," said skipper Kumar Sangakkara at the post-match press conference.

Sri Lanka will now face New Zealand at the same venue

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Sri Lanka opener Tillekaratne Dilshan smashes one through the off side on way to scoring a sublime century in the quarterfinal against England at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

20 hurt, 16 detained

Clash at Shibir's Independence Day rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday detained 16 members of Jamaat backed student organisation, Islami Chhatra Shibir, following a clash between them which caused injuries to at least 20 people.

Shibir activists said they were holding a peaceful rally on the occasion of the Independence Day at the Shantinagar Crossing when police swooped on them.

Police sources said that

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Retirees rule admin

About 200 bureaucrats now on contract; regulars tell of frustration

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

The ruling Awami League government has appointed a large number of retired civil and military officials as well as other professionals to key government positions, frustrating many serving officials.

About 200 administrative posts are now occupied by the retirees and

outsiders, which the serving bureaucrats claimed blocked their promotions and posting to the positions they yearned for long.

The number of contractual appointees was around 115 a year ago.

The deprived officers denounced the practice saying too many contractual appointments provide

scope for nepotism and politicisation of the civil service.

Cabinet Secretary M Abdul Aziz, Principal Secretary to the prime minister MA Karim, Secretary to the Prime Minister's Office Molla Waheduzzaman, Secretary of Statistics Division Riti Ibrahim and Secretary of Rural Development and

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FUKUSHIMA NUKE CRISIS

Radiation rises in sea nearby

BBC ONLINE

Levels of radioactive iodine in the sea near the tsunami-stricken Fukushima nuclear plant are 1,250 times higher than the safety limit, officials say.

The readings were taken about 300m offshore. It is feared the radiation could be seeping into groundwater from one of the

reactors.

But the radiation will no longer be a risk after eight days, officials say.

There are areas of radioactive water in four of the reactors at the plant, and two workers are in hospital.

The plant's operator says the core of one of the six reactors may have been damaged.

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Shah Alam acquitted

Court passes order as complainant in murder case did not appear before court

CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER

A Dhaka court has acquitted Bashundhara Group Chairman Ahmed Akbar Sobhan Shah Alam and 16 others of murder charges following an appeal from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID).

First Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate AHM Habibur Rahman Bhuiyan passed the order on January 10 clearing Shah Alam and others of Manik Chandra

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ONLINE POLL
Do you think elevated U-turns and underpasses will ensure uninterrupted traffic flow between Azimpur and Gabtoli in the capital?

Yes (57.2%)
No (38.7%)
No Comments (4.1%)

TOTAL VOTES : 318

TODAY'S POLL
Do you support the proposal to reduce the scope for MPs to remain absent from parliament proceedings for 90 consecutive days?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

Mother, baby killed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A housewife and her six-month old baby were allegedly slain here at Saraipara yesterday.

The victims were Rahima Begum Sumi, 22, and her son Hriday.

Rahima was the

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PRAYER TIMING March 27

Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45 5-20
Zohr	12-45 1-15
Asr	4-45 5-00
Maghrib	6-20 6-25
Esha	7-45 8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

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PLEASE SEND THE NOMINATION TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS

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