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'Anything is possible in a one-off game'

BISHWAJIT ROY from Melbourne

It's not everyday that Shakib Al Hasan ends up speaking for 20 minutes in a press conference. But then again it's not everyday that the Tigers reach the knock-out stages of a world event. With one more day to go for the big game against India, the excitement was clearly visible in the allrounder's eyes as he cautiously tackled a series of questions yesterday at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG). The following is the gist of his session with the media.



Q: How different is this World Cup team compared to 2007 and 2011?

Shakib: I think this year we have prepared well enough. I am not saying that we didn't prepare well in 2011. But I think the important thing was to win the first game and that

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Bangladesh cricketers jog prior to a training session at the Melbourne Cricket Ground yesterday. The Tigers lock horns with India in the second quarterfinal of the World Cup here tomorrow.

PHOTO: AFP

SALAHUDDIN MISSING FOR 8 DAYS

At least assure he's safe

Sons, daughters urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With still no trace of BNP leader Salahuddin Ahmed, his sons and daughters want assurance from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina that their father is at least safe, wherever he might be.

"With every minute passing, the pain is getting more and more unbearable. We are yet to know any information about his whereabouts. My four sons and daughters are begging to the prime minister - they just want to be assured that their father is

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THE MOMENT AVIJIT WAS KILLED

Lensman risked life to save Bonya

EMRAN HOSSAIN

Photographer Jibon Ahmed recoiled in horror when Rafida Ahmed Bonya, who could barely stand on her feet due to excessive bleeding, stared at him as he stepped forward to help her.

"Seeing her eyes radiating distrust and fear," recalled Jibon, "I thought as if I were a murderer."

With a thumb cut off, hands slashed, and head crisscrossed with machete cuts, Bonya stood dazed as only moments ago some criminals, believed to be religious extremists, had attacked her and her secular writer husband Avijit Roy at Dhaka University's TSC around 8:45pm on February 26.

"What's just happened here?" Bonya kept asking Jibon between breaths. Jibon, his head bent, was in a dilemma of getting involved in the matter or leaving the scene after taking a few snaps. Three to four of his colleagues, all of them happened to be near the scene, had already left as soon as their professional duty was done.

The news Bonya was inquiring about then flashed in the air: "He has been hacked".



Jibon Ahmed

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BNP-Jamaat backed panel wins SC Bar polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-Jamaat-backed Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Oikkyia Panel (JAOP) bagged nine out of 14 executive posts, including those of president and secretary, in the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) election that ended on Monday.

BNP chairperson's adviser and incumbent SCBA President Khandker Mahub Hossain of the JAOP has been re-elected president while the party joint secretary general and incumbent SCBA Secretary AM Mahub Uddin Khokon has retained his post.

The ruling Awami League-backed Sammilita Ainjibi Samannay Parishad (SASP) has secured five executive posts.

Khandker Mahub got 1,750 votes out of total 4,355 votes, while his rival Yusuf Hossain

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Scientists control flight of beetles

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Scientists have controlled the mid-air movements of free-flying insects using a radio transmitter and a miniature backpack of electronics worn by "cyborg beetles".

The beetles were made to take off and land, fly to the right or left, and even to hover in mid-flight depending on the radio commands, the scientists said.

If the technology can be further refined, it would be possible in the future to use flying insects as miniature drones loaded with tiny electronic sensors for flying over and searching difficult terrain, they said.

Although electronics have been used before to control the movements of insects, it is believed to

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DCC ELECTIONS Schedule likely today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission is likely to announce today the schedules for elections to Dhaka and Chittagong city corporations.

The chief election commissioner (CEC) will hold a meeting with the four commissioners and top officials of the commission at the EC Secretariat at 2:30pm to finalise the schedules. EC Secretary Sirazul Islam told The Daily Star last night.

Elections to Dhaka and Chittagong cities are likely

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Reckless truck kills policeman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A policeman was killed and another injured as a speeding truck hit them in the capital's Khilkhet area early yesterday.

The dead, Al Amin, 28, was an assistant sub-inspector of Khilkhet Police Station. Injured constable Shahjahan is being treated at Kurmitola General Hospital.

Both the policemen were on night duty on a street near Khilkhet level crossing. A Khilkhet Bazar-bound sand-laden truck

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DOWN TO EARTH ... Danish Minister Mogens Jensen joins a road construction work at Sayeshtabad under Babuganj upazila in Barisal. Much to the surprise of locals and workers, he even carries a basket of earth on the head. People had a lot of fun after getting such a friendly foreigner among them. The Danish minister was leading a delegation to visit the site of the road construction being done under Danida-funded Climate Change Adaptation Project.



PHOTO: COLLECTED FROM FACEBOOK

BANGLADESH INTERNATIONAL TUTORIAL (B.I.T.) WINS NASA SPACE AWARD



BIT proudly applauds our students who, for the first time, exclusively represented the Bangladesh team at NASA University Space Camp. BIT students distinguished themselves as semi-finalists, outperforming 11 other nations such as China and India. BIT students also excelled by winning all five individual awards.