

Ashraf loses portfolio

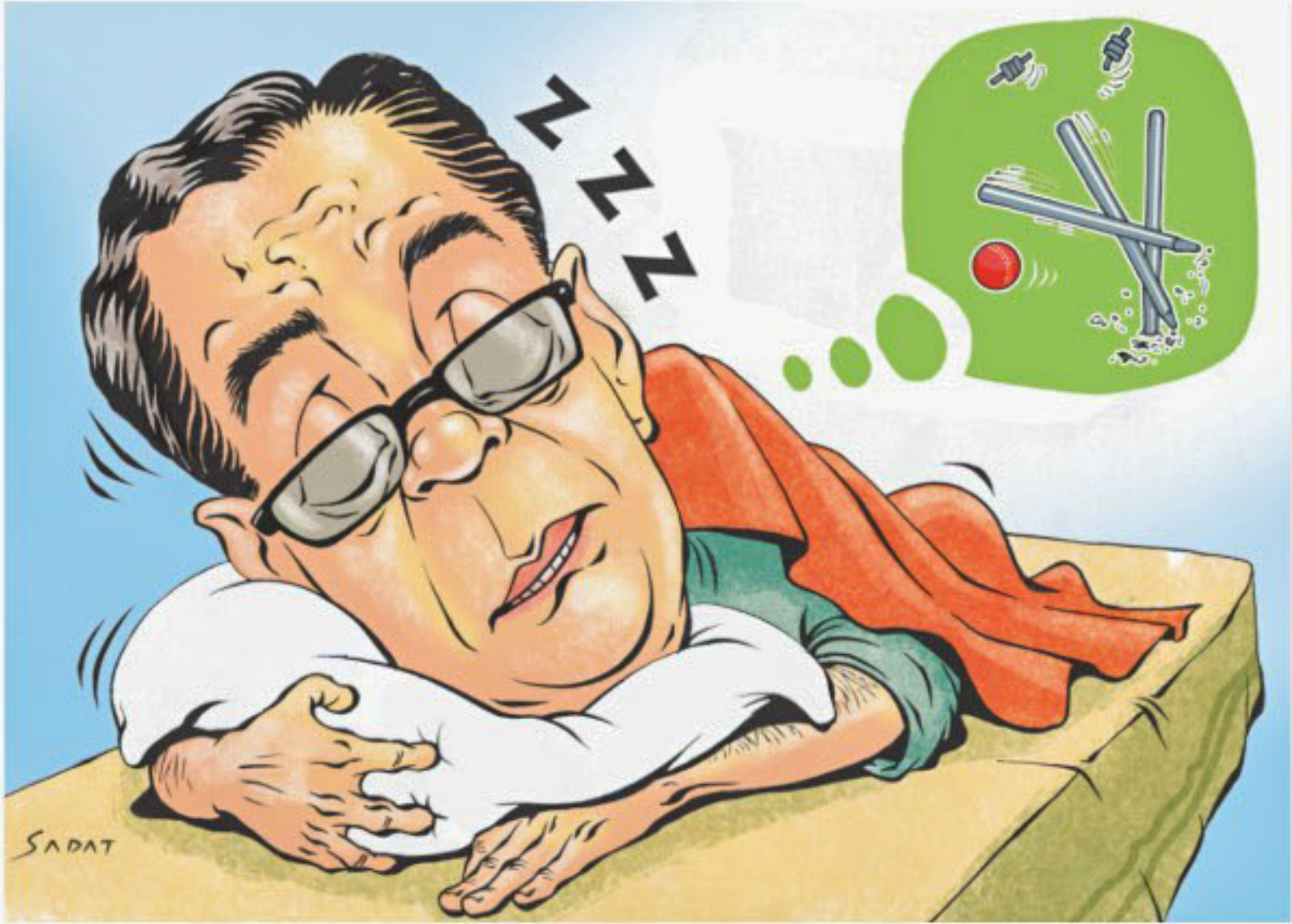
Mosharraf replaces him as LGRD minister; the AL general secretary now 'to concentrate on party activities'

SHAKHAWAT LITON and PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

Awami League General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam was made minister without portfolio after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina removed him from the LGRD ministry yesterday.

Khandker Mosharraf Hossain has been given the charge of the ministry. As an additional duty, he will continue to serve as the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment minister, Cabinet Secretary Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan told The Daily Star.

In the afternoon, the cabinet division issued a gazette notification to this end with immediate effect. The notification did not cite any reason for the change. The PM has brought this major



Sunny day likely

First BD-SA ODI today

BISHWAJIT ROY

Almost the entire ground was under covers yesterday. The outfield was water-logged. The Tigers were confined to indoor practice at Mirpur while their opponents, South Africa, did not even move to the ground, preferring to stay in their hotel as it rained heavily throughout the day. A day before the start of the three-match ODI series, the atmosphere was far from ideal to talk about cricket.

Cricket seemed to take a backseat yesterday until Proteas captain Hashim Amla and Bangladesh skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza appeared for the pre-match press conference at Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.



Rain deprives Bangladesh skipper Mashrafe Mortaza of an outdoor practice session in Mirpur yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

Cheap vaccine to prevent cholera

Successful trial by icddr, b researchers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A low-cost oral cholera vaccine can substantially reduce cases of the deadly disease, according to a recent study conducted in Bangladesh.

The vaccine, called Shanchol, can greatly contribute to cholera control efforts in the countries where the disease is endemic, says the icddr, b that conducted the study in the vast slums of Dhaka.

The vaccine costs only Tk 144 or \$1.85 per dose and has been prequalified for vaccination programmes by the World Health Organisation as it was proven to be safe and effective in field trials.

The incidence of cholera decreased by more than 50 percent among those who were vaccinated with Shanchol, according to the findings published in The Lancet, a UK medical journal.

The study -- funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and conducted in collaboration with the health and family welfare ministry of Bangladesh -- was the first effort to give Shanchol through a routine government healthcare to an urban population in constant danger of contracting the disease.

Cholera takes a tremendous toll on public health globally with 91,000 people dying every year, most of them



People holding umbrellas wade through over knee-deep water with a pickup truck stuck in the middle of the street at Sholoshahar in Chittagong city following an early morning downpour yesterday. PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

Rain paralyses Ctg

Parts of the port city inundated; capital suffers for daylong drizzle

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Torrential rain across the country yesterday crippled city life, submerging streets and causing daylong gridlocks in Chittagong and Dhaka.

Port city dwellers had to endure the worst of yesterday's downpour.

Public roads in many areas in the port city went under knee-deep and waist-deep water since early morning.

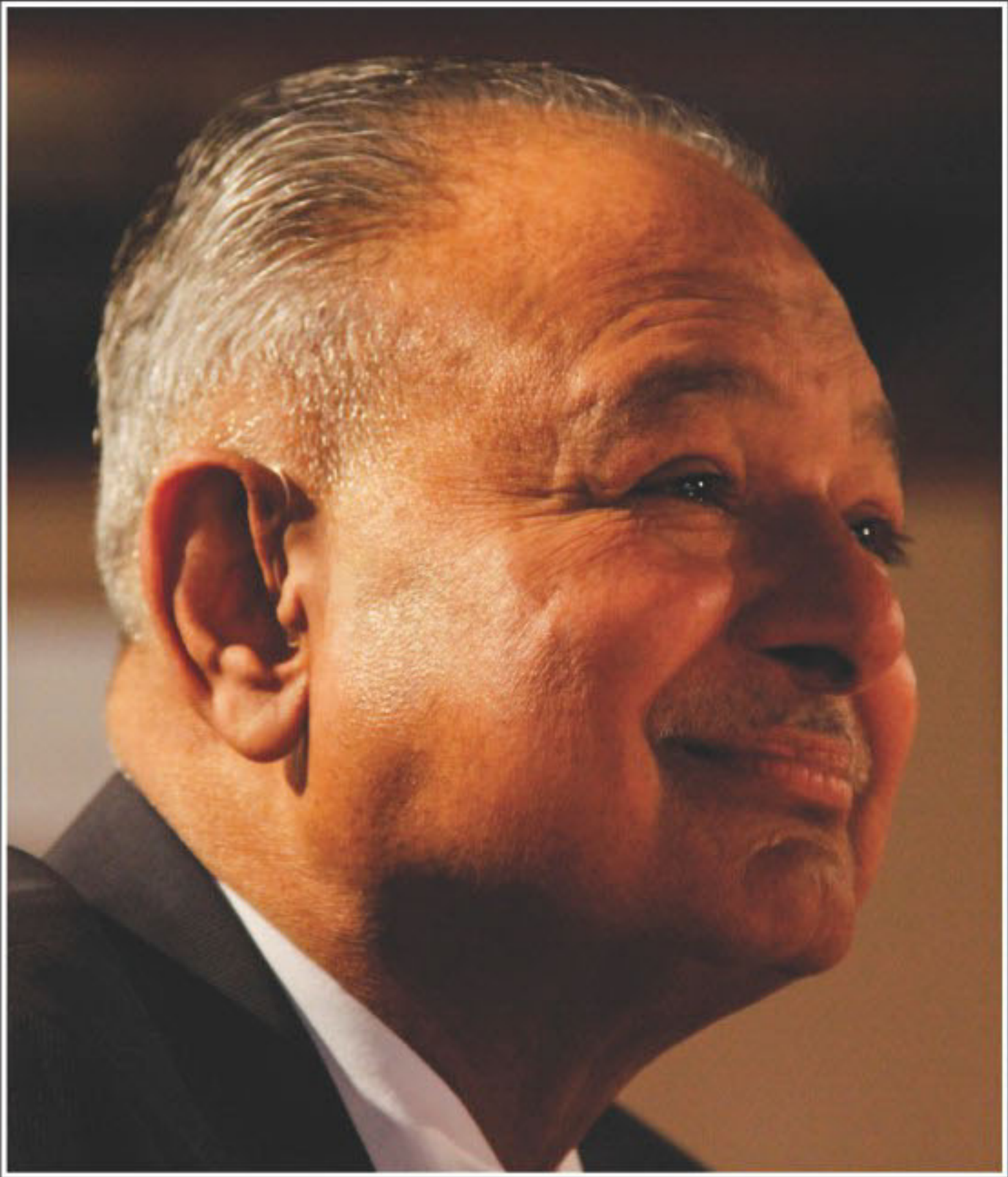
People of the capital were not much better off as incessant rain throughout the day threw the traffic system into chaos on the last working

day of the week, when the situation is worse than that of other days.

Heavy showers started around 5:00am and continued for the next three hours in Chittagong. Roadside drains spilled over with rainwater and abominable filth making the journey to work miserable for many.

Students off to schools and people going to work had to wade through the horrible water on the streets. Many vehicles broke down causing traffic jams. There was a dearth of transport as well.

The downpour caused



YOU ARE THE ETERNAL INSPIRATION TO US

Major General Amjad Khan Chowdhury (Retd)
Chief Executive
(10th November 1939 - 8th July 2015)

PRAN-RFL group has lost a visionary and a mastermind who had the capacity to translate vision into reality. Those of us who have been privileged enough to know and work with him have lost a beloved friend and an inspiring mentor. He leaves behind a group that only he could have built, and his spirit will forever be the foundation of PRAN-RFL. His contribution to the country and the people will be ever remembered and the legacy of enlightenment remains continuous throughout generations. May the Almighty grant him peace and the well deserved rest.

CONDOLENCE

Partex Family deeply mourns the sad demise of **Major General Amjad Khan Chowdhury (Retd)**, CEO, PRAN-RFL Group.

May Allah rest his soul in eternal peace and grant courage to the bereaved family to bear this loss.

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