

**STAR SPORTS 2**  
**Hero Asia Cup Hockey**  
 Malaysia v Oman  
 Live from 3:00pm  
 China v Korea  
 Live from 5:30pm

**SONY SIX**  
 Pakistan v Sri Lanka  
 Second ODI  
 Live from 5:00pm

**STAR SPORTS SELECT 1**  
 English Premier League  
 Leicester v West Brom  
 Live from 1:00am (Tuesday)

**TEN 1**  
 Serie A  
 Hellas Verona v Benevento  
 Live from 12:45am (Tuesday)

**TEN 2**  
 La Liga  
 Las Palmas v Celta Vigo  
 Live from 1:00am (Tuesday)

**DAY'S EVENT**

**Hero Asia Cup Hockey**  
 Malaysia v Oman  
 Time: 3:00pm  
 China v Korea

Time: 5:30pm  
 Venue: Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium

**National Cricket League**  
 5th Round, Four-day Match, Day-4  
 Time: 9:30am  
 Khulna v Barisal

Venue: SKS, Rajshahi  
 Dhaka Div v Rangpur  
 Venue: SANS, Khulna  
 Dhaka Metro v Sylhet

Venue: ZACS, Chittagong  
 Rajshahi v Chittagong  
 Venue: SCS, Bogra



Bangladesh players express their disappointment after losing 3-1 against Japan in their last pool match of the Hero Asia Cup at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

## Hosts finish bottom of group

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh finished bottom of Pool A after conceding a 1-3 defeat against Japan in their last group-phase match of the Hero Asia Cup at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Mahbub Harun's charges fought back from a goal down and raised hopes of earning their first points of the competition, but conceded two goals in the last two minutes to finish the group stages with no points. To their credit though, the hosts managed to score their only goal of the campaign in this game while conceding a grand total of 17 in three matches.

Having drawn a couple of times against Japan in the past, the hosts were expected to come up with a fighting performance, especially following their 2-1 win over the

same side in a practice match, but the Men in Red and Green chose to adopt a counter-attacking strategy. Japan, however, enjoyed the lion's share of possession and came out with their first win of the campaign.

Having held Pakistan to a 2-2 draw in their previous match, Japan were full of confidence and created some good chances, earning nine penalty corners, but they failed to convert any of those, thanks to some fine saves from the Bangladesh defenders as well as goalkeeper Ashim Gope.

Japan twice came close to taking the lead early in the second quarter but a fine save from Ashim, and the woodwork, kept Japan at bay before Kenji Kitazato opened their account in the 22nd minute by beating Ashim with a fierce hit after entering the circle from the right flank.

Despite playing a lot of mis-

passes in both defence and midfield, Bangladesh launched a few attacks and earned their first penalty corner of the tournament in the 28th minute. Mamunur Rahman Chayan, the veteran defender and penalty corner specialist, stepped up and made no mistake to level the margin. Bangladesh came close to taking the lead two minutes later, but Japan goalkeeper Shimmoto Sugure brilliantly blocked attempts from Roman Sarker and Mainul Islam.

Bangladesh could have fallen further behind had Ashim not valiantly blocked Yamada Shota's penalty stroke in the 39th minute before Bangladesh found two good chances. However, Naim's reverse-hit was blocked by the Japan goalkeeper while Koushik failed to muster a reverse-hit on the rebound.

As Bangladesh were hanging by a

thread and defending desperately, Tanaka Kenta, arguably the best player for Japan, restored the lead with a solo effort in the 59th minute and wrapped up the victory in the final minute with a tap-in following a fumble from defender Reazul Karim Babu.

Coach Mahbub Harun said the habit of buckling under pressure cost them the match. "The boys could not get rid of the pressure in the dying moments and lost the match. We have worked a lot on how to overcome these last situations, we failed. The players lost their concentration in the dying moments and paid heavily for this," said the veteran coach, who was dissatisfied with the overall performance of the team in the tournament.

Bangladesh will play against the third place finishers of Pool B - likely to be China - in a 5-8th place deciding match on Thursday.

## India ease past Pakistan

SPORTS REPORTER



India outplayed bitter rivals Pakistan in a 3-1 victory in the Hero Asia Cup at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday, but the quality of the encounter hardly matched the pre-match expectations of the marquee fixture of the tournament's group stage.

Odds were heavily stacked in favour of India as they had come into this competition on the back of five big-margin wins against their arch-rivals, and while the men in blue were less than convincing, they were clinical enough to dispose of Pakistan and clinch the top spot in Pool A.

Sjoerd Marijne's side dominated the first quarter and deservedly took the lead in the second minute of the second quarter, with Kangujam Chinglensana hitting the back of the board after being left unmarked on a pass from Akashdeep Singh.

India doubled their lead in the 43rd minute when Ramandeep Singh flicked home a long push from winger Varun Kumar before Harmanpreet Singh made it 3-0 two minutes later by converting the team's second penalty corner of the game.

Pakistan mounted heavy pressure in the

last two quarters and eventually managed to score one in the 49th minute when Ali Shar found the back of the net with a reverse hit after Arslan Muhammad's initial attempt was blocked by India skipper Manpreet Singh.

This victory means India finished on top of Pool A with a hundred percent win record and will play against Pool B's second-place finishers in their opening Super 4s match on Wednesday.

India skipper Manpreet Singh was happy with the result, but felt the team needs to make improvements in the upcoming matches. "We are not fully satisfied and we need to improve in some areas. There are some technical things we need to work on. However, I am happy with the result as a win is the most important thing."

Pakistan captain Mohammad Irfan felt his team played better than previous matches and the fate of the match could have been different had they taken their chances. "We started the match pretty well and earned a few penalty corners. Had we taken the lead at that stage, the match could have been different. We made a few mistakes in a few areas but overall we played pretty well."



India's Ramandeep Singh (L) celebrates his goal against archrivals Pakistan during their Hero Asia Cup fixture at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

### QUICK SINGLES

The following are a few samples of stories that did not make the print edition. However, if they pique your interest, you can always read them online on The Daily Star website by simply scanning the QR codes listed below:

#### Sri Lanka reconsiders Pakistan tour decision

Sri Lanka's cricket board is reconsidering plans to play a match against Pakistan in Lahore later this month after its players expressed security concerns, officials said.

#### Atletico-Barca 'spectacle' overshadows political backdrop

Players and coaches of both Atletico Madrid and Barcelona hailed the atmosphere at Atletico's Wanda Metropolitan as the thrills of a 1-1 draw drowned out fears the match would be overshadowed by political tension sweeping across Spain.

#### Rooney rescues Everton

Wayne Rooney came to Ronald Koeman's rescue as the Everton striker's last-gasp penalty salvaged a 1-1 draw at Brighton and Hove Albion.

#### Sharapova wins first title after return

Five-time Grand Slam winner Maria Sharapova was made to fight by 102nd-ranked teenager Aryna Sabalenka at the Tianjin Open before winning her first title since her 15-month doping ban.



Roger Federer (L) continued his recent domination of Rafael Nadal at the Shanghai Masters on Sunday, defeating his great rival 6-4, 6-3. Nadal has lost five consecutive games against Federer since his last win in the 2014 Australian Open.

PHOTO: AFP

## Federer bests Nadal again

AFP, Shanghai

Roger Federer got one over his old rival Rafael Nadal to win the Shanghai Masters 6-4, 6-3 on Sunday in a showdown between the two best players on the planet.

It was a 94th title for the Swiss legend, drawing him level with the great Ivan Lendl, and a fifth victory in a row against world number one Nadal.

Nadal, who admitted that he had been beaten by the better man on the night, was ahead in their overall record going into the clash -- 23 wins to Federer's 14.

But this time he was up against it almost right away. Number two Federer put the Spaniard under the cosh in breaking him in the first game -- to roars of approval from the majority inside the arena.

Another break to 36-year-old Federer in the pivotal fifth game of the second set put him in reach of a second Shanghai Masters crown -- and a sixth title in 2017.

"We didn't think maybe we were going to have the year we did, I definitely didn't," Federer said on court afterwards, looking at Nadal, reflecting on their continued success even at this late stage of their careers.

"It's nice to share this court with you today and I hope there are more to come

in the tournaments we've got left.

"It's been a pleasure playing against you here today."

Federer, fondly known as "Cow" in China for his laid-back personality, had started the better in grabbing the break and he then rattled through his own service game for 2-0.

Federer, a 19-time Grand Slam champion, was in full flow under the Qizhong Tennis Center roof, which was closed because of downpours in Shanghai.

Nadal, 31, fresh from winning the US Open and China Open, groaned while lashing many of his shots; Federer was all quiet efficiency.

"I could maybe have done some things better," said Nadal.

"Of course was not the best match of the week for me... but when someone plays better than you in most of the things that really matter in this sport, then it's tough."

He declined to say if he had been hampered by a problem with his right knee, which had a bandage on it during the match.

"I don't want to talk about that now, sorry," Nadal said.

"After losing a final it's not the moment."

### NAT'L SHOOTING

## Ardina dethrones Asha

SPORTS REPORTER

Ardina Ferdous Sathi dethroned Armin Asha to win the gold medal in the women's 10m Air Pistol event in the Priyopranan 29th National Shooting Championship at the National Shooting Complex in Gulshan yesterday.

Sathi of Kushtia Rifle Club scored 225.4 points, 0.4 points more than Navy Shooting Club's Armin, to ensure her gold medal while Sinthia Naznin Tumpa of Army Shooting Association bagged bronze with a score of 204.8 points.

In the Junior women's 10m Air Pistol, Reefat Ara Ananya of Tangail Rifle Club won gold with a score of 217.5 points while Marjan Akter and Saima Khanam Mouli grabbed silver and bronze respectively after scoring 216.4 and 199.9.

South Asian Games gold medallist Sharmin Akter Ratna, who won silver in the 10m Air Rifle on Saturday, returned with a gold in the women's 50m Rifle three position by scoring 556 points, just one point more than Umme Jakia Sultana Tupma of Dhaka Rifle Club. The bronze medal went to Atkia Hasan Disha, who scored 554 points.

Mayeda Mamota Hina won gold medal in junior women's 50m Rifle three position event with a score of 552 points. Nafisa Tabassum and Jui Chakma grabbed the silver and bronze medals with scores of 550 points and 542 points respectively.

## First leg ends

SPORTS REPORTER



Saif Sporting Club consolidated fourth position in the Bangladesh Premier League table with a 1-0 win over Rahmatganj while Sheikh Russel KC moved up to sixth with a 2-1 win over Arambagh as the first leg of matches of the Bangladesh Premier League was wrapped up yesterday.

A first-half strike from Jewel Rana was enough for Saif SC to break their string of draws in a single-goal win over Rahmatganj at Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Since losing to holders Abahani in their opener, notched up five successive victories including a massive 5-0 win over Brothers and breathed on the necks of title contenders.

But they had suddenly lost their way and were subject to four successive draws before returning to winning ways yesterday.

Jewel scored the decisive goal in the 19th minute with a left-footed volley after Colombian striker Hember Valencia teed up the ball for the diminutive winger.

Saif came close to doubling the lead but Hemanta Vincent Biswas failed to connect to a cross from Shakil Ahmed.

With their sixth win in 11 matches, Saif SC raised their tally to 22 points and finished the

### POINTS TABLE

Team	M	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Ctg Abahani	11	8	2	1	+12	26
Sheikh Jamal	11	7	3	1	+12	24
Abahani	11	7	3	1	+8	24
SaifSC	11	6	4	1	+10	22
Mohammedan	11	5	2	4	+5	17
Sheikh Russel	11	4	4	3	+1	16
Team BJMC	11	4	3	4	+0	15
Rahmatganj	11	2	5	4	-2	11
Arambagh	11	2	1	8	-10	7
Muktijoddha Brothers	11	1	3	7	-11	6
Farashganj	11	1	3	7	-14	6

first leg only four points behind leaders Chittagong Abahani and two behind joint second-placed Sheikh Jamal and Dhaka Abahani. Rahmatganj, with four defeats, remained at eighth position with 11 points.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Russel KC leapfrogged Team BJMC into sixth position and ended the leg with 16 points. Fazole Rabbi opened the scoring for Sheikh Russel in the 39th minute while Mohammad Julfiker made it 2-0 in the 67th minute. Jean Jules Ikanga reduced the margin for Arambagh from the spot but Sheikh Russel held on to one-goal lead to notch an important victory.

### Branch Shifting

the newly named of existing IDB Bhaban Branch of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited has been shifted to new premises on October 15, 2017 Sunday at the following address.

**IDB Bhaban Branch**

IDB Bhaban (Ground Floor)  
E/8-A, Begum Rokeya Sarani  
Sher-E-Bangla Nagar  
Agargaon  
Dhaka-1207

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**Agargaon Branch**

Lions Bhaban (2nd Floor)  
Block-E, Plot-23  
Begum Rokeya Sarani  
Ward No. 28  
Sher-E-Bangla Nagar  
Agargaon  
Dhaka-1207

Valued clients and well-wishers are requested to contact at the new address

**Islami Bank**  
 Bangladesh Limited  
 Based on Islamic Shari'ah