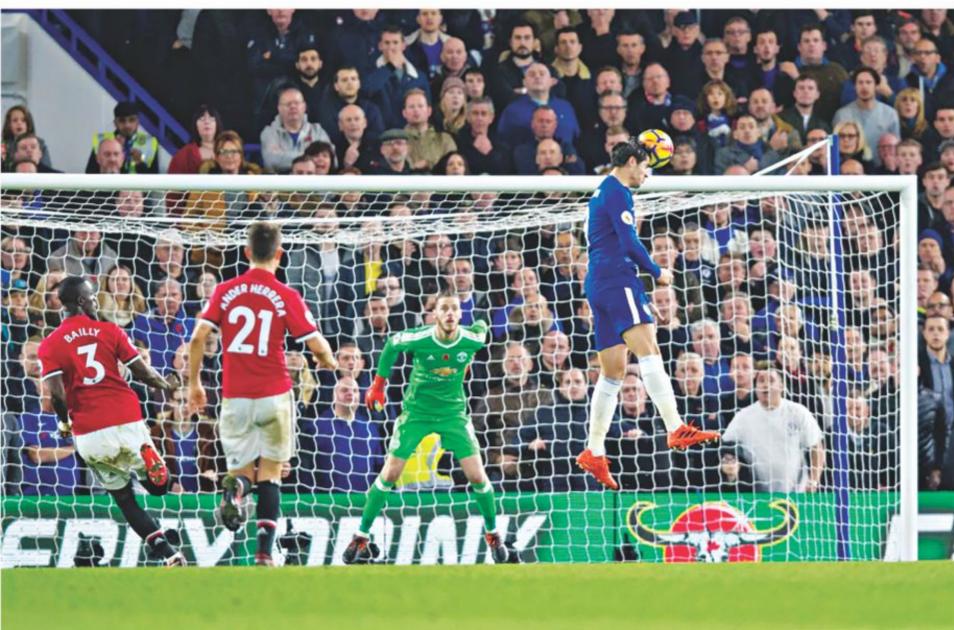


ALLI OUT OF BRAZIL AND GERMANY CLASHES

Tottenham Hotspur's in-form midfielder Dele Alli has had to pull out of the England squad for the upcoming friendlies against Germany and Brazil. Alli's two goals fired Spurs to a famous 3-1 Champions League success over titleholders Real Madrid at Wembley last Wednesday. But the 21-year-old was ruled out of his club's Premier League encounter against Crystal Palace on Sunday with a hamstring injury, and the English Football Association confirmed the setback would also keep him out of this month's World Cup warm-ups. The FA announced on Twitter: "Squad update: the #ThreeLions will be without @dele_official for this month's games. Get well soon, Dele!". Alli's absence means manager Gareth Southgate now has 24 players for the Wembley double-header. Tammy Abraham, Ruben Loftus-Cheek and Joe Gomez have been called up by England for the first time, but Daniel Sturridge, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and Chris Smalling are among those to have missed out. England host Germany next Friday and Brazil four days later.



Chelsea striker Alvaro Morata floats in an inch-perfect header past Manchester United goalkeeper David de Gea in the Blues' 1-0 Premier League victory at Stamford Bridge yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Morata sinks Man Utd

City go 8 points clear after defeating Arsenal

AFP, London

Manchester City were left with a healthy eight-point lead at the top of the Premier League after second-placed Manchester United suffered a 1-0 loss away to champions Chelsea hours after the leaders saw off Arsenal 3-1 on Sunday. United manager Jose Mourinho, a former title-winning boss with Chelsea, saw his latest visit to Stamford Bridge end in defeat courtesy of Alvaro Morata's 55th-minute header that ended a run of six games without a goal for the Spain striker.

RESULTS			
Chelsea	1 - 0	Man United	Morata 55
Man City	3 - 1	Arsenal	De Bruyne 19, Aguero 50-pen, Lacazette 65, Jesus 74
Tottenham	1 - 0	Crystal Palace	Son 64

Alexandre Lacazette pulled a goal back for the Gunners but Gabriel Jesus put City 3-1 up in the 74th minute despite a suspicion of offside, with Arsene Wenger's Arsenal now 12 points behind City.

"The physical level is very good but the decisions," veteran manager Wenger told Sky Sports.

"The third goal, at 2-1 we are in the game and he (referee Michael Oliver) gives a clear offside goal. And, of course, that kills the game for us. They are a top team but that [bad decisions] makes it even more difficult for you."

However, City counterpart Guardiola had no truck with suggestions his side had been fortunate to win.

Victory left Chelsea fourth, nine points off the summit.

Earlier, City were impressive against the Gunners, with Kevin De Bruyne firing Pep Guardiola's men into an early lead at the Etihad before Sergio Aguero made it 2-0 from the penalty spot early in the second half.

Uzbek test for U-19s

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh under-19 football team will brace for the real test in the AFC U-19 Championship Qualifiers as they face two-time semifinalists Uzbekistan today at the Hisor Central Stadium in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

Bangladesh went into the qualifiers with the mission of qualifying for the final round for the first time in 15 years and Uzbekistan are set to be their biggest hurdle in the group stages. The Uzbeks had beaten Bangladesh 4-0 in the same competition in Dhaka two years ago.

The Central Asian nation are on top of the five-team table with maximum six points, thanks to two massive victories over Sri Lanka (10-0) and Maldives (6-0), and they look likely to make it to the final round for the fifth consecutive time.

Bangladesh, on the other hand, are in third position despite having four points alongside hosts Tajikistan. Bangladesh will be desperate to secure at least a point against Uzbekistan to keep their hopes of qualifying alive. The top teams from each of the 10 groups will qualify alongside five best runners-up teams.

Securing a point in today's match will be an uphill task for Bangladesh, who started their campaign with a spirited 0-0 draw against Tajikistan before labouring to a 1-0 win over Maldives.

Despite the obvious gulf of quality between the two sides, the

Bangladesh team is upbeat about giving it their all against Uzbekistan.

"The match against Uzbekistan is the very important for qualification for the final round because this result will determine our fate. It is important not to drop all three points against them," head coach Mahbub Hossain Roxy said over phone.

"The boys also understand the importance of the match and they are being prepared that way. They have been told that they would get opportunities which they have to grab with both hands while the defenders must not make any mistakes," said Roxy.

Roxy and with national team's head coach Andrew Ord watched Uzbekistan's two matches and tried to identify their strong and weak points.

Roxy, however, warned his charges that if they try to show individual performance instead of giving it a collective effort, things will be tough in this fixture.

"They [Uzbekistan] are undoubtedly a strong side. But it helps when the team displays performance as a unit instead of giving individual performances which they did against Maldives. If the boys can carry out the game plan, then it is possible to do something. It may be a draw or a win but everything depends on how the players react on the pitch," said the former national midfielder.

The Bangladesh team is likely to bring changes in the starting eleven and take a counter-attacking approach in today's match.

NoFeL SC ensure promotion

SPORTS REPORTER

NoFeL Sporting Club became the second team to qualify for the Bangladesh Premier League when they handed a single-goal defeat to Uttar Baridhara Club in their penultimate round of Bangladesh Championship at the Birshrestha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Newcomers NoFeL, who needed a single point from the last two matches to ensure their top-tier berth, not only secured all three points but also confirmed the runners-up trophy in their debut appearance after Bashundhara Kings on Saturday confirmed the title.

Sazzad Jaman struck the all-important goal six minutes from time as NoFeL sporting moved to 31 from 17 matches, eight clear of third-placed T&T Club.

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:

Nasir warned over code of conduct breach

Sylhet Sixers captain Nasir Hossain and manager Hasibul Hossain were in breach of BCB's level 1 conduct during the BPL (Bangladesh Premier League) match against Dhaka Dynamites at Sylhet International Cricket stadium.



Record-breaking Barca march on

Barcelona continued their record-breaking start to a La Liga season by beating Sevilla 2-1 thanks to Paco Alcacer's double in an atmosphere at the Camp Nou marked by the political upheaval in Catalonia.



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33RD NATIONAL JUNIOR ATHLETICS

Rakibul, Disha win 200m

SPORTS REPORTER



Rakibul Hasan offered challenge to the country's fastest man Mezbah Ahmed after winning the 200m sprint in tender-age (U-19) boys' group of the

33rd National Junior Athletics Championships at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Rakibul from Sherpur, competing in his first junior meet, grabbed the 200m gold by clocking 21.60 seconds, 0.80 less than silver-medallist Mizanur Rahman of Lalmonirhat while Sohel Rana became third with a timing of 22.90 seconds.

"I want to be the fastest man within the next two years and it doesn't matter who are competing against me, even if it is Mezbah bhai" said Rakibul when he was asked about his target.

"I competed against Mezbah bhai in the national athletics championships and finished fourth in the 100m sprint

and I also trained with him for three months at Bangladesh Navy," said Rakibul, who has qualified for the 100m sprint final to be held today.

It is believed that the absence of Jahir Raihan of BKSP, who recently qualified for the 400m semifinals in the World U-18 Championships, helped Rakibul win the gold medal. The 12th-grader, however, brushed the notion aside.

"I don't fear anyone on the track; I am confident about winning gold," said Rakibul, who however admitted that Jahir, who is from the same district, inspired him to come to athletics as he used to play cricket and football earlier.

In the tender aged girls' 100m sprint, Disha Sultana of BKSP won the gold medal clocking 25.9sec while her teammate Ivy Akter and Shampa Akter of Chittagong finished second and third by timing 26.9sec and 27.9sec respectively.

It is the third meet for Disha, who

had earlier won both 100m and 200m sprint gold medals. The class-12 student had also won gold medals in long jump and relay.

The first day's competition also saw three records set in high jump.

Jihan of BKSP cleared 1.81 metres to eclipse the previous record of 1.74 metres held jointly by Yeakub Ali of Pabna (2000) and Al Amin of Dhaka (2007) to win the gold medal in boys' (U-17) group. His nearest rival Emdadul Islam of Khulna also broke the previous record but had to be content with a silver medal after clearing 1.75 metres.

In girls' high jump (U-17), Jannatul of BKSP set a new record by clearing 1.51 metres. The previous record was 1.5 metres, held jointly by Rabeya Sultana of BJMC (2002) and Taslima Akter Moni of BKSP (2008).

In the U-19 boys' group, Masud Rana of BKSP set a new record by clearing 1.95 metres, beating Ashikur Rahman of Narail who cleared 1.78 metres.



Rakibul Hasan and Disha Sultana, winners of the 200m sprint in their respective events, pose for photographs at the Bangabandhu National Stadium athletics track yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Jamal finishes in 32nd place

SPORTS REPORTER

Jamal Hossain Mollah ended his Panasonic Open India campaign in 32nd position after settling for a one-under-par (71) in the final round yesterday.

The 32-year-old exchanged four birdies for three bogeys at the Delhi Golf Club to sign off with an overall score of two-under-par (286).

It was a frustrating finish for the two-time PGI champion as he had played good golf initially and was in 11th position after the second round.

Meanwhile, Shiv Kapur of India took the title with a 17-under-par (271).

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