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SL close to final, India near exit

AFP, Dubai

Sri Lanka produced an impressive run chase to down India by six wickets on Tuesday and leave their opponents staring at an early exit from the Asia Cup.

If Pakistan beat Afghanistan on Wednesday, they will face Sri Lanka in Sunday's final and knock out arch rivals India in the process.

Half-centuries from openers Pathum Nissanka (52) and Kusal Mendis (57) gave Sri Lanka the perfect start to their chase of 174 in the Super Four game.

India hit back with a flurry of wickets, but Bhanuka Rajapaksa and captain Dasun Shanaka helped Sri Lanka get over the line, with two scrambled byes off the penultimate ball completing the job.

Rajapaksa, who hit 25 not out, and Shanaka, who made 33 not out, put on an unbeaten stand of 64 to leave the hopes of tournament favourites India hanging by a thread, after also losing their Super Four opener to Pakistan.

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Sri Lanka captain Dasun Shanaka spreads his arms after completing the winning runs against India in their Asia Cup Super Four fixture at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Tuesday. Shanaka remained unbeaten on 33 off 18 balls as the Lankans chased down 174-run target with six wickets in hand.

PHOTO: AFP

No power for 40 mins in one-third of country

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One-third of the country was without power yesterday for about 40 minutes to an hour because of a "power trip".

A power trip is when an electrical circuit becomes overloaded beyond the prescribed limit.

A power grid is a very delicate system in the sense that there must always be a perfect balance between the generation and the load or demand to maintain a constant system frequency.

The transmission line tripped at 9:04 am, leaving Rajshahi, Khulna and Barisal divisions without electricity, said ABM Badruddoza Sumon, spokesman of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh.

Power supply to the national grid resumed after repair work was conducted. Rajshahi got its power back at around 9:40 am, Khulna at 10:07 am and Barishal at 10:30 am, Sumon said.

Although the power supply has been restored, some of the neighbourhoods don't have their power back yet, said Azharul Islam, managing director of West Zone Power Distribution Company, which supplies power to Khulna, Barishal and Faridpur.

"We can't take the full load right

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

BCL COMMITTEES AT 3 PUBLIC UNIVS Rogues rewarded

ARAFAT RAHAMAN

Some were accused in murder cases while others were expelled from the organisation for criminal activities. But that didn't stop the BCL central committee from awarding them top positions of its units at three public universities.

Some are not even students, The Daily Star found upon talking to the authorities of one of the universities.

In the last week of July, Bangladesh Chhatra League central committee picked controversial leaders for the top posts when it announced partial committees for Jessore University of Science and Technology (JUST) and Islamic University in Kushtia, and a full committee for Chittagong University.

Take, for instance, the case of Tanvir Faisal, the new general secretary of JUST Chhatra League.

He was accused in the case for the murder of fourth-year student Naimul Islam Riyad, a fellow activist. Riyad was brutally hacked to death on campus on July 14, 2014, according to media reports.

Chhatra League President Al Nahian Khan Joy and General Secretary Lekhak Bhattacharya announced the 11-member committee for JUST on July 31.

Tanvir was named accused in the charge sheet submitted to a Jashore court in September

2015. The university authorities then suspended him, according to media reports.

Tanvir was also accused in a robbery case filed with Jashore Kotwali Police Station on October 8, 2017. He was among 25 Chhatra League men accused of taking some 300 mobile phone sets, 100 laptops, and other valuables from the university's Shaheed Mashiur Rahman Hall, said BCL insiders.

He refused to comment on the cases filed against him, saying those were under investigation.

"I am on bail,"

"Usually, the pro-ruling party student bodies try to control campuses and pick these types of leaders thinking they could help in achieving that."

Al Masud Hasanuzzaman, professor of government and politics department at JU

he said before hanging up without taking any further questions.

Al Mamun Simon, who was made vice-president in the new BCL committee, was also accused in that robbery case.

Meanwhile, allegations are also rife against SM Ekramul Kabir, now the joint secretary.

Kabir was involved in selling drugs on campus and was suspended from the university for violating discipline on February 19, 2019.

Arif Hossain Rifat, a vice president of central Chhatra League tasked with JUST BCL, said, "Though I was in charge, I was not informed about recommending or appointing Tanvir Faisal as a top leader of that unit. We knew of the allegations against him, but our two top leaders make the final decision about appointing

SEE PAGE 6 COL 2

Twelve BNP men hurt in Natore clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

At least 12 BNP activists were injured in a clash with police in Palidaha area in Natore's Lalpur upazila yesterday.

The upazila unit BNP organised a rally in the afternoon as part of the party's countrywide protest.

Police intercepted the rally and kept some men hostage there.

As other activists went to the spot to rescue their allies, police fired tear gas and rubber bullets, said local leaders.

The law enforcers, however, said the BNP activists pelted brickbats first and forced them to open fire.

Saifur Rahman, superintendent of Natore police, said they had to fire two rounds of tear gas shells and three rounds of rubber bullets.

The BNP activists planned to create anarchy to hit headlines, he added.

BNP's Central Committee Member Farzana Sarmin Putul claimed the Awami League men also joined police in this attack.

AL-QAEDA IN YEMEN

Video of kidnapped 'Bangladeshi UN official' released

AGENCIES

Al-Qaeda's Yemen branch released a video on Saturday showing a "Bangladeshi UN official" who was abducted in the war-torn country more than six months ago, the SITE Intelligence Group reported.

Akam Sofyol Anam

Five UN staff members were kidnapped in Abyan in February while returning to the port city of Aden after a field mission, UN spokesperson Eri Kaneko told AFP at the time.

In Saturday's video message apparently recorded on August 9, Akam Sofyol Anam, identified by SITE as a Bangladeshi, urges "the UN, the international community, the humanitarian organisations, to please come forward... and meet the demands of my captors", without outlining the demands.

He said he was facing "serious health trouble," including heart problems, and needed "immediate medical support and hospitalisation," according to SITE.

Anam, who SITE identified as the "director of

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Toyota recalls cars to replace faulty airbags

SOHEL PARVEZ

Toyota Bangladesh has recalled some models of cars for replacing the inflator for the passenger airbags free of charge, according to a notice issued yesterday.

The Japanese firm recalled models including Toyota Corolla, Yaris, Vios, Hilux, Alphard, Avenis, Rav4, Fielder, Probox, Vitz, Noah, Voxy, Camry, Sienna, Auris, Fortuner, Dyna, Lexus, Alex, Rumion, Succed, Verossa, Etios, 4Runner, Tundra, Bravis, Runx, Mark II, and Belta etc, manufactured between 2002 and 2017.

The world's top car maker's local office said it recalled vehicles equipped with faulty airbags from Japanese Takata Corporation on safety grounds.

Toyota Bangladesh also said it has listed 1,269 new Toyota cars "containing these faulty airbags that can cause severe and even deadly accidents if your car hits anything".

It asked owners of cars that meet the criteria to visit www.toyota.com.bd/takata, submit their vehicle identification number (VIN), email, and phone number.

This is the first time Toyota Bangladesh recalled cars for faulty airbags, said a top official at Navana Ltd, the sole distributor of new Toyota vehicles here.

Globally, Toyota has recalled several millions of cars for the faulty airbags over the past decade.

"It is important that all affected airbags are replaced as soon as possible and we urge you to

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Students of Police Line Secondary School, Khulna receiving jabs of coronavirus vaccines as the government's campaign to inoculate schoolchildren is ongoing in the city. The authorities started a countrywide campaign to vaccinate children, aged between 5 and 11, in the city corporation areas on August 25. The photo was taken yesterday morning.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

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in a road accident of
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