



Siam Ahmed



Ashfaque Nipun



Sariful Razz



Khairul Basar

Stars excited ahead of Bangladesh vs India T20 match

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SHARMIN JOYA

Today, the Bangladesh national cricket team will be facing India at the 2022 ICC Men's T20 World Cup, which began on October 16. Bangladeshis from all walks of life are passionately following the Tiger's journey in the tournament. Celebrities are no different, and they are eagerly waiting for the match, despite many of their hectic schedules. Bangladesh beat Netherlands by nine runs on October 24. However, the team then lost the game against South Africa on October 27, by 104 runs. Fans were disappointed by the latter result. However, in their match against Zimbabwe, the team scored 150 runs, winning by a margin of three runs, which brought joy

love cricket, to see what they have to say about today's match.

I have no expectations at all: Siam Ahmed
I have a tendency to get involved in the game too much, which results in disappointments when the team doesn't perform well. This is why, I have decided not to keep any expectation this time around. One thing that I strongly feel, is that our Tigers are trying to form a new team, and we should cut them some slack and support them. I just hope they give their best effort.

It will be a thrilling match: Sariful Razz
Every time Bangladesh plays, my expectation begins to rise, and I hope that they will be able to make it, yet, we have been disappointed on multiple occasions. I am really excited about today's match, as I feel it will be a thrilling match. The new team deserves to be praised, and I feel that they need some time to get adjusted. Once they do, they will surely create some real 'Damal'. Throughout the tournament, I have been impressed by Asif and Taskin's performances.

A win against India is tough, but not impossible: Neel Hurerzahan
For a long time, we have been disappointed by the overall performances of the Tigers. The beginning of this tournament was also disappointing. However, the match with Zimbabwe gave us some rays of hope. Personally, I am sad that Shakib is not getting runs. Seeing him not being able to perform breaks my heart. I hope that Shakib will make a comeback today. A win against India is tough, but not impossible.

I think Bangladesh's opponent is their own fear: Mousumi Mou

I believe Shakib's team will perform well today. Shakib Al Hasan recently posted a video, where he said If we can beat India and Pakistan, it'll be considered 'an upset'. So, I am sure he wants to make this a reality. I think Bangladesh's greatest opponent is their own fear. If they are able to overcome this fear and play against India without pressure, then Shakib and his team will be able to win. India has been beaten by Bangladesh in the past, so I am sure they can do it again.

I want to enjoy the game, that's all: Khairul Basar
Although I will be busy with shooting, I will still try and catch the game in between. My only expectation, is that I want to enjoy the game. I have faith in the national team, and I believe they can make it to the main stage. Our Tigers have proved themselves before, and if we can keep this confidence and fight, then we can do it again.

When you're a professional, you should have that attitude in you: Ashfaque Nipun
Bangladesh won their last two games by a small margin. If this was 10 years back, we could have accepted it. However, right now, this performance is disappointing. Its high time the Bangladesh national cricket team should be improving. If we look at Afghanistan, they have formed a team which rarely encounters a loss that is an 'upset'. Taking into account the privilege that our men's cricket team has received, they should be better. When you're a professional, you should have that attitude in you.

'Syed Mohidul Islam Sharan Utsab 2022' to commence on November 4

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Commemorating the legacy of playwright, actor, and director Syed Mohidul Islam, the "Syed Mohidul Islam Sharan Utsab 2022" will commence on November 4 and run till November 8, at the National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). The event has been organised by Batikrom Nattyagosty.

On the occasion of his 20th death anniversary, discussions and various cultural activities—including musical performances, dance recitals, and theatrical plays—will be organised at the festival.

"Obhinoy Guru", a documentary on the legendary Syed Mohidul Islam, will also be premiered at the event.

Batikrom Nattyagosty will honour renowned theatre personality and professor of Theatre and Performance Studies Department of the University of Dhaka, Dr Israfeel Shaheen with the 'Syed Mohidul Islam Padak'.



Taylor Swift first artist to claim entire top 10 on Billboard 100 song chart

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

On Monday, Taylor Swift made a place for herself in music history books, becoming the first artist ever to have all 10 spots in the top US song charts, following the release of her latest album, "Midnights".

This is the first time in the 64-year history of Billboard Top 100, that one artist has claimed the entire top 10, as reported by Billboard. The only other artist to even come close was Drake, who took nine of the coveted spots in September 2021.

Swift released her highly anticipated album, "Midnights", on October 21, debuting at the top of Billboard's top albums' chart. The release also caused Spotify to crash for hours, but still managed to set a record as the most-streamed album in a day.

NEWS

Student yet to get justice as probe drags on

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policy adopted for educational institutions upon an HC directive, the committee concerned must submit a probe report within a maximum of 60 working days and must notify the authorities in seven working days if it fails to probe or the issue is not worth investigating.

The DU anti-sexual harassment cell seems to have breached that policy.

The victim further claimed she was mistreated whenever she went to speak to the head of the cell.

She said Zeenat Huda, the head of the cell, every time asked her questions such as: "Why did you submit the complaint directly to the vice-chancellor instead of the chairperson of the department? Which teacher made you do this? There was no CCTV at the place of the incident, how are we going to prove [the allegation]?"

The student added, "During one of these times, the teacher [Muhammad Sazzad Hossain Siddiqui] even sat near me, although I requested him to keep his distance. Even he questioned me along with the other members [of the cell]. When I tried to respond, they would stop me and call me 'rude'."

The student's father said, "We don't know what this probe committee wants. They are intentionally delaying the investigation. All we know is that 'justice delayed is justice denied'."

However, Muhammad Sazzad Hossain Siddiqui claimed he never told anyone that the student would not get justice after her studentship expires.

"The delay is bothering me as well. How long will I bear the burden of this false allegation? But I have nothing to do. As per the law, I have to comply with the authorities, or

there will be another issue."

Contacted, Prof Zeenat told the Daily Star, "I already know about the time limit ... The allegation is under investigation. I don't want to make any further comments as it is a very confidential issue."

Meanwhile, Dr Kaberi Gayen, professor and former chairperson of the mass communication and journalism department, said, "The victim has the right to justice ... The investigation should have been completed within the stipulated time in order to prevent further instances of sexual harassment."

DU VC Prof Md Akhtaruzzaman told The Daily Star, "It is expected that the probe committee will work independently according to ethics and the law. I will follow its activities and remind them [about the probe]. Further delay may arise complications."

Tarique, Zubaida

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government in 2007 and directed the lower court concerned to complete the trial proceedings as early as possible.

The chief metropolitan magistrate of Dhaka was asked to send the case record to the Dhaka Senior Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court within 10 days of receiving the order. Trial proceedings against Tarique's mother-in-law Syeda Iqbal Mand Banu were quashed.

On September 26, 2007, the anti-graft body filed the case with Kafrul Police Station against Tarique, his wife Zubaida and her mother Syeda Iqbal Mand Banu for amassing assets worth Tk 4.82 crore through illegal means and concealing the information of Tk 2.16 crore in their wealth statements.

The investigation officer of the case pressed charges against the three with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka, on March 31, 2009.

Earlier, Tarique was sentenced to life in jail in the August 21 grenade attack cases. He was also sentenced on different terms of punishment in two other cases, including the Zia Orphanage Trust graft case.

Qatar pays for fans'

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sign a 'code of conduct', urging them to post favourable comments about the tournament on social media and to report "any offensive, degrading or abusive comments" by others to the SC, preferably with screenshots.

The broadcaster cited two Dutch fans who said they had been selected by the tournament's organisers as "Fan Leaders", and who added that they had been asked to pick a group of 50 loyal supporters for the free trip to Qatar.

"As the tournament nears, we have invited our most active fan leaders to personally nominate a small selection of fans to join us as our guests, as a manner of thanking them for their collaboration," a spokesperson for the SC told Reuters.

On its website, the Qatar World Cup describes its Fan Leaders program as a network of around 400 fans and influencers from 60 countries who have offered "insights, research, content creation and message amplification," for the tournament.

The organisers did not say how many fans they had invited, or provide any financial details.

Source taxes add to plight

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have been deducted from their income."

CAB said the hiked tariffs include a two-step imposition of VAT and that goes against the interest of consumers, as defined by the law.

According to BERC's tariff order, there is a 15 percent VAT on LNG imports and another 15 percent VAT added at the consumer end.

The VAT at the import stage adds Tk 5.50 for every cubic metre of gas, while the VAT at the consumer end is 15 percent of the total cost of the gas consumed.

CAB said the VAT during import is factored into the total supply cost and passed on to the consumers, who then have to pay VAT on the first value added tax.

"This illegal imposition of VAT on the cost of gas supply has created an unreasonable increase in gas tariff at the consumer level which is also a clear violation of the provisions of [the law]," said the petition.

Energy Adviser to CAB Prof Shamsul Alam said the Tk 11,000 crore subsidy given to Petrobangla was being included in the total cost of supply and the consumers are paying tax on that.

The tariff order documents show that Shamsul had recommended the commission not to allow Petrobangla to do this and had that been done, gas would cost 16 paisa less every cubic metre.

Furthermore, CAB's petition stated, "The Gas Development Fund should have been used for exploration and development of local gas but Petrobangla has been using

the aforesaid fund for other purposes beyond the scope determined by the BERC."

CAB also petitioned that during 2019-20 and 2020-21, LNG was imported less than the quantity estimated by the BERC, and as a result Tk 14,933.1 crore was left in surplus.

It said the BERC increased the gas prices without adjusting for that surplus.

"Their misuse of the fund from the Gas Development Fund has largely contributed to an increase in the gas tariff, creating an additional financial burden on the consumers," said the petition.

Earlier, during a hearing organised on March 21, 2022, Petrobangla had countered some of these allegations made by CAB.

Meeting minutes of the hearing, included within the tariff order, show that Petrobangla's director of finance had said that the surplus from the years 2019-2021 were used up during the last fiscal year when it cost more to import LNG, and that there was no surplus because the government gave only partial subsidies.

He also said that consumers have to bear the brunt of source taxes because Petrobangla does not import with profit. He also said that VAT cannot be adjusted at the consumer level because the cost of importing LNG is more than the price at which the gas is provided to consumers.

The HC on Monday also stayed a committee formed by the BERC to decide on gas prices for consumer, after the CAB said that the committee contains members who have conflicts of interest.

AL shows strength

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attacked the partymen," Litu told The Daily Star yesterday.

The BNP has been holding rallies in the divisional cities to protest the price hike of essentials. Transport strikes were called ahead of its recent rallies in Mymensingh, Khulna, and Rangpur.

Now, bus owners and three-wheeler workers in Barishal have called for a two-day strike till November 5.

The BNP alleged that these strikes are a part of the AL's attempt to bar

BNP supporters from joining the rallies.

About the allegations, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan and Information Minister Hasan Mahmud, in separate programmes on October 27, said the ruling party had nothing to do with the strikes as the transport associations were "independent".

However, according to reports, almost all the top leaders of the transport associations that called the strikes are either of the ruling party or its allies.

India had role in Bangladesh's progress

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the plight of religious minorities in Bangladesh, Hasan said the PM repeatedly mentioned that Bangladesh doesn't consider anyone as minority community member as everyone is equal.

He said this year's Durga Puja was absolutely peaceful and the number of pujas went up considerably.

The minister said last year's Durga Puja was hit by some incidents due to "rumours and fake reports" deliberately spread through social

media and the effects of that could be seen before the conventional media could counter the social media posts.

He said there are radical elements in both Bangladesh and India, who would like to disturb peace and communal harmony.