



**WITH BSRM FASTBUILD
YOUR HOME WILL BE BUILT ON TIME
WITH THE BEST QUALITY RODS**



**COMPLETE
GUIDANCE APP FOR
HOME BUILDING**



Available on the
Google Play | App Store

Tigers on brink of elimination

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh batters were not up to the task of chasing down a 197-run target set by India as the Tigers stumbled to a 50-run defeat in their crucial Super Eight fixture on Saturday, seeing themselves all but out of the ongoing T20 World Cup.

Skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto scored a team-high 40 off 32 deliveries and Rishad Hossain dealt a few lusty blows at the death but those were not nearly enough as Bangladesh were restricted to 146 for eight after an unbeaten Hardik Pandya fifty and a number of quickfire knocks from India batters saw them amass 196 for five.



In order to progress to their maiden semifinal, Bangladesh will now have to hope for a series of unlikely events, starting with banking on Afghanistan to cause an upset against the mighty Aussies in Kingstown today. The Tigers would then have to beat Afghanistan in their final Super Eight game on June 25 by a big enough margin to boost their current net run-rate of -2.489

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5



India players celebrate after wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav dismissed Bangladesh batter Towhid Hridoy in their T20 World Cup Super 8 fixture in Antigua on Saturday. India cruised to a crushing 50-run victory, forcing Bangladesh to the brink of exit in the tournament.

PHOTO: AFP

FLOODS IN SYLHET Farmers count the losses

DWOHA CHOWDHURY and MINTU DESHWARA

As soon as the second wave of flash floods hit Sylhet in the early hours of June 17, Moklisur Rahman, a fish farmer in Gowainghat upazila, knew he was going to lose all his fish, which he had worked very hard to raise in his three ponds.

"I immediately rushed to the ponds, but it was too late for anything to be done. Within hours, I lost fish worth at least Tk 7 lakh," lamented Moklisur, a resident of the upazila's Nayagram Uttar village.

Like him, thousands of fish farmers in Sylhet, Sunamganj, and Moulvibazar have lost their prized possessions as the flood washed away as many as 13,650 ponds, said the divisional fisheries department.

Abdal Miah of Chanpur village in Sylhet's Fenchuganj upazila said, "Even as my house was flooded to the waist, we stayed back to protect the cattle. But, sadly, we could do nothing about the fish in the pond worth at least Tk 50,000."

Md Arif of Rahimpur village in Moulvibazar's Kamolganj upazila said, "After the dyke of the Dhalai River broke and the flash flood inundated the village, I lost fish worth around Tk 1 lakh. I now have nothing."

Fish farmers in the region have incurred a substantial loss of Tk 133.61 crore, of which Tk 101.18 crore has been lost in the Sylhet district alone, according to the divisional fisheries department.

Md Anwar Hossain, deputy director of the Department of Fisheries in Sylhet, said, "We are now keeping an eye

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

REPORTING ON COPS 'Journos should be more cautious' Says home ministry; BFUJ, DUJ express concern over threat to press freedom

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government wants media outlets to exercise more caution while publishing reports that may potentially tarnish the image of the police force.

The home ministry sent a letter to the information and broadcasting ministry on June 13 regarding this matter, which came to light recently.

The letter, signed by home ministry Deputy Secretary Israt Zahan, requested the information and broadcasting ministry to take necessary measures so that print and electronic media outlets exercise greater caution during the publication of news that could harm the reputation of the police force.

Earlier on Friday, a statement expressing similar concern was sent to the media on behalf of the Bangladesh Police Service Association.

JOURNOS EXPRESS CONCERN

Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) issued a counter-statement yesterday.

In the joint statement, journalist leaders said the language used by some leaders and organisations in their reactions to certain news reports poses a threat to the freedom of the press.

"These reports are not published with any particular agenda; rather, responsible journalists believe that they are publishing verified information after thoroughly checking the facts and documents available to them."

GOVT SEEKS NEWS SOURCES

The home ministry's letter to the information ministry also sought information about the sources of the two news reports run by Bangla daily Kaler Kantho on June 9 under

SEE PAGE 6 COL 2

Israel kills dozens in safe zone bombing

25 killed in shelling near Red Cross office; Lebanon border conflict escalates

AGENCIES

Israeli forces yesterday bombed several areas from air and the ground, killing dozens and forcing many families living in areas described as humanitarian-designated zones to leave northwards.

An Israeli attack on Friday near the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) base at the al-Mawasi camp, designated by Israel as a safe zone, that Palestinian officials say killed at least 25 people and wounded 50 others, involved two strikes, The Associated Press news agency reported.

An Israeli military spokesman did not acknowledge any role in the incident but said it was "under review".

"Firing so dangerously close to humanitarian structures puts the lives of civilians and humanitarians at risk," the ICRC said on X.

Meanwhile, one Israeli strike on houses in Al-Shati, one of the Gaza Strip's eight historic refugee camps, killed 24 people, Ismail Al-Thawabta told Reuters. Another 18 Palestinians were killed in a strike on houses in the Al-Tuffah neighbourhood.

Footage obtained by Reuters showed dozens of Palestinians rushing out to search for victims amid the destroyed houses. The footage showed wrecked homes, blasted walls, and debris and dust filling the street in Shati refugee camp.

At least 42 people were killed in Israeli attacks on districts of Gaza City in the north of the Palestinian enclave yesterday,

the director of the Hamas-run government media office said.

Civil defence agency spokesman Mahmud Basal said five municipal workers died when a garage in the city was bombed.

Fighting continued yesterday morning, with witnesses reporting gun battles between Palestinian and Israeli forces in Gaza City.

- 37,551 people killed in Gaza since Oct 7
- At least 120 killed in Gaza over the past 48 hours
- Israeli strike kills Ayman Ghotmeh, leader of Lebanese Islamist group
- Hezbollah claims attacks on Israeli troops near Lebanon border

And in the city's Zeitun neighbourhood, Israeli helicopters fired at Palestinian fighters, witnesses said.

The health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said yesterday that at least 37,551 people have been killed in the territory during more than eight months of Israel's

offensive in Gaza.

Elsewhere, Lebanon-based Hamas ally Hezbollah claimed a number of attacks on Israeli troops and positions near the border on Friday, including two using drones.

The Israeli army said it had carried out multiple retaliatory strikes on both days.

Israeli jets on Friday struck a "Hezbollah military structure in the area of Khiam, a Hezbollah military post in the area of Mais al-Jabal," and Hezbollah infrastructure "in the areas of Taybeh and Tallouseh in southern Lebanon", the army said in a statement.

A security source said a leader of the Lebanese Islamist group Jamaa Islamiya, an ally of Hamas, was killed yesterday in an Israeli strike on a vehicle in eastern Lebanon.

"A leader of the al-Fajr Forces of the Jamaa Islamiya, Ayman Ghotmeh, was killed in an Israeli strike in Khiara in the western Bekaa," 10 kilometres from the border with Syria, the source told AFP on condition of anonymity.

The Fajr Forces, Jamaa Islamiya's armed wing, was established in 1982 to fight the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Lebanon's state-run ANI news agency reported one person killed when a car was targeted in Khiara, and that the victim was from the nearby village of Lala, without giving further details.

Israel's military said an aircraft carried out a "precise strike in the Beqaa area in Lebanon in order to eliminate" Ayman Ghotmeh, who they said supplied weapons to Hamas and Jamaa Islamiya in Lebanon.

Khaleda in Evercare CCU

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said yesterday that the party Chairperson Khaleda Zia's health condition was very critical.



Speaking to reporters at Evercare Hospital, he called on the country's people to pray for her speedy recovery.

Fakhrul went to the hospital around 1:30pm and talked to the medical board members about Khaleda's condition.

The BNP chairperson has been receiving treatment at the Critical Care Unit (CCU) since she was admitted to the hospital early yesterday. Entry to the CCU has been restricted, except for medical board doctors and nurses, considering Khaleda's alarming condition.

"I visited Evercare Hospital around 1:30pm to see madam [Khaleda]. She is in the CCU. Her condition is extremely alarming, and doctors are restricting access to her room," Fakhrul said.

The BNP leader said he talked to doctors engaged in Khaleda's treatment to know her physical condition. "What I came to know from physicians is that her condition is very critical."

He said the medical board members will hold another meeting in the evening to determine the next course of her treatment.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Chimps help scientists find medicinal plants



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Oxford scientists have identified 13 plants that have potent wound-healing and infection-fighting properties in a "thrilling" discovery - with help from some wild chimpanzees.

Researchers observed the great apes in an African forest feeding on bark, dead wood and leaves from plants that were not part of their normal diet after becoming ill or injured.

Watching how chimpanzees - the closest living human relative - seek help from nature when unwell could fast-track the discovery of new drugs to treat chronic diseases and infections, the researchers said.

Dr Elodie Freymann, from the University of Oxford's School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, said: "Our study highlights the medicinal knowledge that can be gained from observing other species in the wild and underscores the urgent need to preserve these forest pharmacies for future generations."



Mokbul Sheikh takes his buffaloes to a pasture in Bilpabla area of Khulna's Dumuria upazila yesterday. He makes between Tk 1,200 and Tk 1,400 a day using the animals to plough fields in nearby villages.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

ACC to sue Benazir after probe ends

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti Corruption Commission is making preparations to file a case against former inspector general of police Benazir Ahmed, his wife Jisaan Mirza, and daughters Farheen Rishta and Tahsin Raisa.

An investigation into their wealth is almost complete, and the case will be filed after it is done, officials said.

The ACC asked him to appear at its office in the capital today.

Benazir and his family members reportedly left the country in early May and it is unlikely that he would appear at the ACC office today and meet the investigators.

ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan said if Benazir remains absent, legal steps will be taken.

Benazir and his family members missed ACC appointments on June 6 and 9. The ACC then rescheduled the dates to June 23 and June 24.

The ACC on April 18 launched an inquiry into allegations that Benazir amassed huge wealth when he was the police chief.