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Alcaraz retains Wimbledon in style

AFP, London

Carlos Alcaraz overpowered seven-time champion Novak Djokovic in straight sets to retain his Wimbledon title on Sunday in a brutal statement that the new era of men's tennis has arrived.

The Spanish third seed produced a performance combining awesome power with delicate touch to win 6-2, 6-2, 7-6 (7/4), collecting the fourth Grand Slam of his young career.

Alcaraz equals the Open Era record for most Grand Slams won at the age 21 or under, joining Boris Becker, Bjorn Borg and Mats Wilander.

And he is just the sixth man to win the French Open and Wimbledon back to back.

Djokovic, 37, who had knee surgery just weeks ago, was aiming to win a 25th Grand Slam -- which would have been a record in

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Students of Dhaka University dormitories came out in droves around 11:00pm yesterday to protest against a comment Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina made on quotas at a press conference last afternoon. The photo was taken around 1:00am.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

30pc quota a right of FFs' descendants

Says HC in full text of its judgment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court, in the full text of its judgment, has justified the provision for keeping 30 percent quota for freedom fighters' children in government jobs in the light of two previous verdicts -- one delivered by this court in 2012 and another by the apex court in 2015.

The court also observed that this privilege has become legal and a vested right of freedom fighters, their children, and grandchildren as sufferings over 21 years (August 15, 1975, to 1996) made them "most backward section of citizens".

The HC also directed the government to restore and maintain the quotas for "districts, women, physically challenged people, tribes, minor races, and ethnic groups and others, if any," and to publish a notification in this regard as soon as possible preferably within

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Frauds, criminals get govt jobs due to question leaks

HC expresses concerns at hearing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday expressed concerns over the incidents of question paper leaks, saying frauds and criminals have managed government jobs, like in the Bangladesh Civil Service, thanks to this.

"Many have taken advantage of the question paper leaks, which cannot be accepted," the HC bench of Justice KM Kamrul Quader and Justice Khizir Hayat Lizu said during the hearing on a writ petition.

"It is very painful for us as it deprives meritorious candidates of jobs."

Murad Bhuiyan, executive director of Sarda Society, a human rights organisation, recently filed the petition with the HC, seeking its order to conduct a judicial probe into question leaks.

In the petition, he said the maximum

punishment for those involved should be life imprisonment.

"A judicial committee should be formed to find those who became cadres between the 24th and 45th BCS exams with the help of leaked questions by people like Syed Abed Ali [an arrested former driver of a Public Service Commission chairman]. The committee should be asked to publish the list."

Saying it is a matter of concern that BCS exam questions are repeatedly leaked, the HC bench asked why those who are in the Public Service Commission are unable to stop it. "If they can't [stop it], they are

incompetent."

Deputy Attorney General SK Shaifuzzaman told the HC that a case has been filed over the BCS question leak incidents, and police are investigating it.

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PENSION SCHEME ROW Univ teachers to press on with work abstention

Says meeting with govt representatives ended in 'stalemate'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Public university teachers continued their work abstention yesterday demanding the reinstatement of their previous pension scheme.

The decision was taken at a virtual meeting of the Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association (FBUTA).

This meeting was called to discuss Saturday's conversations between teachers and government representatives, which they termed as "fruitless".

"As our demands have not been met, we've decided to continue with our movement," Professor Akhtarul Islam, the president of the association, told The Daily Star.

This means the suspension of classes, exams, and other academic activities, which have been in effect for around two weeks, will continue.

Yesterday, the teachers at most of the 35 public universities staged sit-in demonstrations on their campuses, demanding the cancellation of the new "Prottoy" pension scheme and the reinstatement of their previous scheme.

They have also been demanding a super grade for

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ATTACK ON MILITARY CHIEF

Hamas 'pulling out' of Gaza truce talks

AFP, Palestinian Territories

A Hamas official yesterday said the group is pulling out of Gaza truce talks, following an Israeli strike that targeted the Hamas's commander Mohammed Deif.

"Commander Mohammed Deif is well and directly overseeing" the operations of the Hamas military wing, the official told AFP. Israel staged a huge bombing raid on a camp for displaced people in southern Gaza on Saturday that it said was an attempt to kill Deif.

Another senior official from the Iran-backed Islamist group, which has been fighting a nine-month-long war with Israel in the Gaza Strip, said Hamas was withdrawing from ceasefire talks because of Israeli "massacres" and the country's attitude in negotiations.

The health ministry in the Hamas-run Gaza Strip said at least 92 people had been killed, more than half of them women and children, and 300 wounded in a strike on the Al-Mawasi camp.

Ismail Haniyeh, Hamas's Qatar-based political chief, told international mediators of the "decision to halt negotiations due to the occupation's (Israel) lack of seriousness, continued policy of procrastination and

obstruction, and the ongoing massacres against unarmed civilians", the official said.

Talks mediated by Qatar and Egypt, with US support, have for months tried but failed to bring a halt to the war in the Gaza Strip.

➤ Top Hamas official says military chief Deif 'fine' after Israeli strike

➤ At least 92 were killed in Saturday's strike in an Israeli-designated 'safe zone'

➤ Death toll in Gaza reaches 38,584

Al-Mawasi, where the health ministry said dozens had been killed, had in May been declared a safe humanitarian zone by the Israeli military and civilians ordered to evacuate to it. However, there have been multiple deadly incidents there blamed on Israeli strikes.

Philippe Lazzarini, head of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA,

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RUPALI BANK

Three ex-bank officials jailed over Tk 2.59cr embezzlement

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

Three former Rupali Bank officials, along with three of its clients, were sent to jail yesterday over the embezzlement of Tk 2.59 crore from the bank's Mahasthangarh Branch in Bogura seven years ago.

They are former branch manager Jobaynur Rahman, former senior officers Ishrat Jahan and Mahatab Uddin, and bank clients Azmal Hossain, Jahidul Islam, and Mosharof Hossain.

The accused were present in court when they were given different jail terms in the verdict pronounced by Judge Md Shahidullah of the Special Judge Court of Bogura in the afternoon.

Jobaynur was sentenced to 27 years; Ishrat and Mahatab were

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PHOTO: REUTERS

Spain substitute Mikel Oyarzabal celebrates after sliding in for an 86th-minute winner to earn his team a 2-1 Euro 2024 final victory over England on Sunday and a record fourth European crown. England had levelled through a Cole Palmer strike after Nico Williams put Spain ahead in the second half but Luis de La Fuente's side made a stunning late comeback to win all seven games they played in the tournament.

The poor priced out of fresh veggies

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and MD ABBAS

The prices of almost all vegetables have crossed the Tk 100-mark, piling pressure on the poor and the low-income segment already battling with a cost of living crisis for the past two years.

VEGETABLE PRICE (per kg)		Yesterday	Last week
	Bitter gourd	Tk 120-140	Tk 80-100
	Brinjal	Tk 100-140	Tk 80-100
	Long beans	100-120	Tk 80-100
	Spiny bitter gourd	Tk 100-120	Tk 80-90
	Bottle gourd	Tk 100-120	Tk 60-80

From brinjal to bitter guard, long beans to spiny bitter gourd, from sponge gourd to bottle gourd, all now cost upwards of Tk 100 a kg after prices shot up by Tk 20-30 in a week because of the monsoon.

Nasir Uddin, a fresh vegetable trader at Ibrahimpur kitchen market, said his sales have decreased by one-third due to the price hike.

"I am known for selling fresh vegetables. For the last few days, due to the price hike, many of my customers have been unable to buy fresh vegetables," he said.

Many other vegetable traders in the capital's

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