

# Riffat maintains clean slate

Sports Reporter



Riffat bin-Sattar of Bangladesh Biman further consolidated his position at the top of the 17th national chess championship following his fourth successive victory at the NSC chess room yesterday.

Starting his fourth round match against former national champion Younus Hassan yesterday with three points after three games, the reigning national junior champion maintained a clean slate to be poised pretty with four points at the top of the 16-player table.

Riffat, playing white, made some brilliant moves and had Younus under constant pressure throughout. Sacrificing a knight the young Riffat gained a whip hand against his more experienced opponent. Realising he had very little room for maneuvering, Younus

resigned in the 43rd move.

Defending national champion Syeed Tahmidur Rahman who made a cautious start in this year's meet, having settled for two draws in his first two games against lesser opponents, shot to the second position, along with former national women's champion Rani Hamid, his Biman teammate, following an easy victory over Shahabuddin Ahmed Qureshi of Sylhet.

International Woman Master Rani Hamid, who at one stage shared the lead along with Riffat after Round Two, suffered another setback after being held to a draw in her fourth round game by Shabana Parveen Nipa of Faridpur, the only other woman in the meet. On Monday Rani had dropped half a point after a draw with Ziaul Kader Tuhin of Dhaka Metropolis. Yesterday's result means that Nipa now has one

full point after her four games in this 15-round league competition.

Three players share the third spot with two and a half points each. They are Anisur Rahman, Shahinor Hossain and Mainuddin Mamoon, all Dhaka Metropolis teammates.

Among these three, only Shahinor managed a win yesterday while both Anis and Mainuddin Mamoon were forced to split the points.

A gross mistake by former national champion Jamilur Rahman from a position of relative strength gave Shahinor the opening he needed to eke out a vital victory.

Anisur Rahman wasn't quite so lucky against another Ansar man Khandaker Kayes Hassan and the two agreed to a tame draw.

Mainuddin Mamoon, too, couldn't manage more than half a point from his clash

against Rezaul Haq of Biman.

Two matches were still in progress at the time of filing this report. Dhaka DSA's Sheikh Anwar Hossain was playing Shamsul Kabir Chowdhury of Dhaka Metropolis while Ziaul Kader Tuhin of Dhaka Metropolis was battling it out against Syed Shahadat Hassan Ratna of Bogra.

### TODAY'S MATCHES

- 1 Younus Hasan vs Sheikh Shahadat Hossain Ratna
- 2 Rezaul Haq vs Riffat bin-Sattar
- 3 Shahinor Hossain vs Moinuddin Mamoon
- 4 Khondakar Kayes Hassan vs Jamilur Rahman
- 5 Shamsul Kabir Chowdhury vs Anisur Rahman
- 6 Shahabuddin Ahmed Qureshi vs Sheikh Anwar Hossain
- 7 Rani Hamid vs Syed Tahmidur Rahman
- 8 Ziaul Kader Tuhin vs Shabana Parveen Nipa

### Indonesian Suhendra tops Asian jr chess

DUBAI, Oct 1: The 14th Asian junior chess championship concluded in a dramatic fashion with Suparadi Suhendra of Indonesia emerging victorious with a tally of 9 points, reports PTI.

Vietnam's Tu Hoang Thong was the runner-up with 8 points while Lee Wang Shang (Singapore) took the bronze collecting 7-1/2 points.

Mohd Modekhi (Qatar), V Saravanan (India) and Ziaur Rahman for the fourth spot with 7 points each, while India's Brajesh Agarwal finished seventh with 6-1/2 points.

The eleventh round started on a brisk note with fierce encounters on all the top boards. Suhendra scored an impressive 29-move victory over Toh Terry Chung (Singapore) in a Sicilian defence.

Toh gave up a Bishop on 16th move to win three pawns and disrupt castling. Suhendra was in a delicate position yet he found a resourceful counter attack in the queen side. He gave back the piece to start a king hunt. The white king was drawn out and Toh resigned when faced with multiple mating threats.



International Woman Master Rani Hamid (L) makes a move during her fourth round match of the 17th national meet against Shabana Parveen Nipa of Faridpur at the NSC chess room yesterday. The match was drawn. —Star photo

# Xie blitz shatters Maya

MANILA, Oct. 1: Chinese challenger Xie Jun blitzed Soviet title holder Maya Chiburdanidze on Monday in 28 moves to seize a 2-1 lead in the women's world chess championship in the Philippines, reports Reuter.

"She won because of better preparation," said Ye Jingchuan, one of Xie's seconds.

Chiburdanidze buried her face in her hands when the match was over.

Xie returned immediately to her room in the Manila Hotel where the championships are being held.

Playing white, Xie played the Ruy Lopez attack and stormed Chiburdanidze's castled king with her queen, two bishops, a knight, and an advanced pawn to notch the first win in the 16-game series.

Xie was so confident of victory she paced restlessly around the playing arena during her last four moves.

Ye said they managed to find a new move on the 15th which freed Xie's pieces for the attack.

The 20-year-old Beijing

woman is seeking to break 64 years of Soviet domination in women's chess.

The first two games ended in draws. The fourth game will be played on Wednesday.

The first player to score 8.5 points wins the championships a win counts for a point and a draw for half a point. Chiburdanidze retains the title in case of an 8-8 tie.

Here are the moves in the third game:

- |                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Xie (white)      | Chiburdanidze (black) |
| 1. E4 (P-K4)     | E5 (P-5)              |
| 2. N3 (N-KB3)    | Nc6 (N-QB3)           |
| 3. Bb5 (B-N5)    | A6 (P-QR3)            |
| 4. Ba4 (B-R4)    | Nf6 (N-B3)            |
| 5. 0-0           | Be7 (B-K2)            |
| 6. Re1 (R-K1)    | B5 (P-QN4)            |
| 7. Bb3 (B-N3)    | D6 (P-Q3)             |
| 8. C3 (P-B3)     | 0-0                   |
| 9. H3 (P-KR3)    | NA5 (N-QR4)           |
| 10. Bc2 (B-B2)   | C5 (P-B4)             |
| 11. D4 (P-Q)     | 4) Bb7 (B-N2)         |
| 12. Nbd2 (QN-Q2) | CXD4 (BXP2)           |
| 13. CXD4 (PXP)   | EXD4 (PXP)            |
| 14. NXD4 (NXD)   | RE8 (R-K1)            |
| 15. B4 (P-QN4)   | NC6 (N-B5)            |
| 16. NXC6 (NXN)   | BXC6 (BXN)            |
| 17. BB2 (B-N2)   | Bf8 (B-B1)            |
| 18. Qf3 (Q-B3)   | rc8 (R-B3)            |
| 19. Bb1 (Q-R1)   | bb7 (B-N2)            |
| 21. Qf5 (Q-B5)   | d5 (P-Q4)             |
| 22. E5 (P-L5)    | nd7 (N-Q2)            |
| 23. NE4 (N-K4)   | g6 (P-N3)             |
| 24. QXD7 (QXN)   | DXE4 (PXXN)           |
| 25. E6 (P-K6)    | FXE6 (PXP)            |
| 26. QD4 (Q-Q4)   | DF7 (K-B2)            |
| 27. QH8 (Q-R8)   | QH4 (Q-R5)            |
| 28. G3 (P-N3)    | Resigns               |

# San Diego boss will visit Argentina to talk possible signing of Maradona



SAN DIEGO, Oct 1: Backing up his desire to sign Diego Maradona, San Diego Sockers managing general partner Oscar Ancira Jr says he'll fly to Argentina to meet with representatives of the suspended soccer star, reports AP.

Ancira said he has fact-finding meeting Wednesday in Buenos Aires with Maradona's personal agents, Marcos Franchi and Enrique Torres.

Two weeks ago, Ancira announced that the Sockers would like to sign Maradona to play in the Major Soccer League. Ancira said Monday that Wednesday's meeting "is to discuss the present and future availability of Maradona's

services to the United States soccer community."

"There is not much negotiating at this point, there is nothing cast in concrete," Ancira said. "There are a lot of things we need to discuss, to see what can we do, given that nobody seems to know what the FIFA regulations are."

Maradona was banned by Italian League in April for 15 months after he tested positive for cocaine use. The ban until

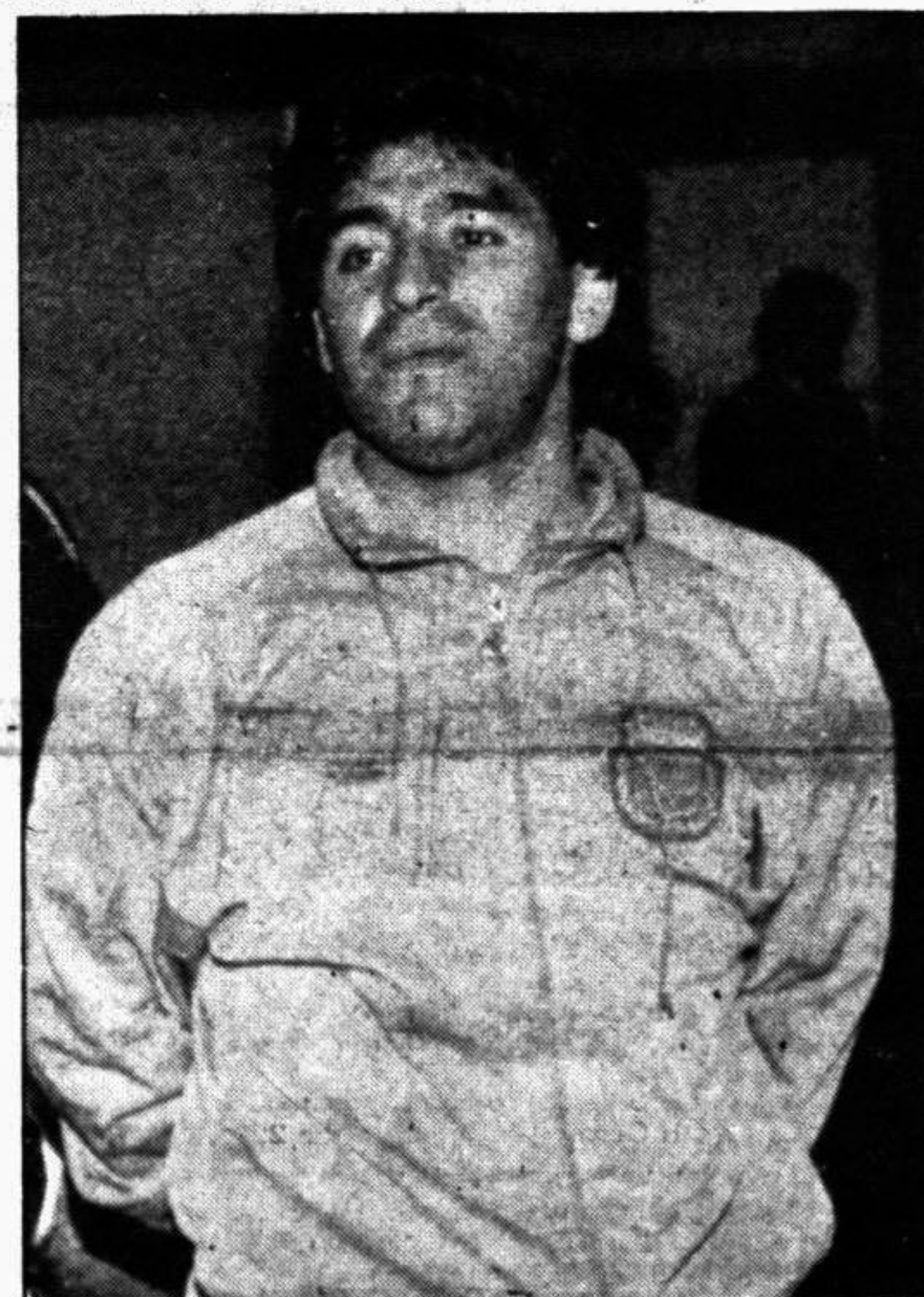
was arrested in Buenos Aires on April 26 and two days later was charged with possession and distribution of drugs.

"Under the proper circumstances, Maradona could make a significant contribution to the American soccer community," Ancira said. "We've been made aware of the ban that doesn't permit him to play until the summer of 1992 and we most assuredly would not look to circumstance or violate such

Maradona to a contract and public relations until he would be eligible to play.

Another factor is Maradona's desire to play indoor soccer. Maradona, who will be 31 this month, announced August 1 in Buenos Aires that he was retiring from professional soccer. He had been with Napoli of the Italian first division since 1984, when he transferred from Barcelona in Spain. His contract, which the Sockers would have to purchase, runs through 1995.

The Sockers, who nearly folded before Ancira and his partners purchased the team July 1, have won nine indoor championships in the last 109 years, including the last four MLS titles.



DIEGO MARADONA

# Hafiz Jute win CJKP match

CHITTAGONG, Oct 1: Hafiz Jute Mills defeated BCIC 1-0 in their CJKP Elite Paint First Division football league match at the Chittagong Stadium here this afternoon, reports BSS.

Fashful scored the goal in a penalty in the last minute of the match.

Hafiz Jute's right winger Jashim entered into the BCIC box spectacularly but BCIC's defender Biplob brought him down. Referee Bimol Kar pointed at the dreaded spot without any hesitation, Fashful made no mistake to send the ball home (1-0).

Hafiz Jute collected three points from four matches, while BCIC bagged four points from five outings.

In the other match of the day, Bakolia and Port Authority Club shared points in a one-all draw.

In the 20th minute, Sumon netted Port Authority's goal by a fine grounder dodging two defenders (1-0). Bakolia's defender Abdullah equalised by a powerful long-range shot (1-1).

Bakolia collected seven points from five encounters, while Port earned four points from the same number of matches.

# Porto lead in Portugal

LISBON, Oct 1: Porto captured the lead of the Portuguese soccer championship on Sunday with a 1-0 away victory over Chaves.

Rui Filipe scored the winning goal with a 19th-minute header following a free kick by Romanian import Ion Timofte.

Porto are level with Boavista on nine points from six games but are ahead on goal difference.

Boavista, warming up for next Wednesday's UEFA Cup match against International Milan, comfortably beat Farense 2-0 at home.

Joao Pinto scored in the 25th minute and Nigerian striker Richard Owubokiri followed 55 minutes later with his seventh goal of the season.

Champions Benfica beat newly-promoted Torrense 3-1 away and share third place with Guimaraes, one point behind the leaders.

Benfica's Swedish striker Mats Magnusson scored his first two goals of the season, in the 34th minute and just before halftime, and Brazilian substitute Isaias Soares consolidated victory in the 81st.

Sporting, who beat Uniao Da Madeira 3-0, share fifth place with Chaves.

# Connell crushes Krickstein

SYDNEY, Oct 1: Canadian Grant Connell, who was beginning to wonder if he would ever get past the early rounds again, defeated 12th seed Aaron Krickstein in the Australian indoor tennis championships today to reach the last 16, reports Reuter.

Connell, who had lost in first-round matches in his previous four tournaments caused the first upset of the one-million-dollar competition with a 6-4, 7-6 win over Krickstein in the second round.

The Vancouver left-hander, who on Monday overcame his first-round jinx with a three-set victory over Britain's Chris Wilkinson, put the pressure on American Krickstein with a fierce serve-and-volley game.

"I served well and showed a

lot of consistency," said the unseeded Connell, ranked 75th in the world.

The 48th-ranked Krickstein, beaten by Connell in the same tournament last year, said it was a frustrating match which he had let slip away.

"I never got back into the first set after broken in the first game," he said.

After racing to lead 4-1 in the second set, Krickstein relaxed and let Connell back into the game. "At 5-3 I was serving for the set — you've got to take advantage of that," the American said.

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Australia's Sardon Stolle. It took a third set tiebreak to beat the 21-year-old son of the great doubles specialist Fred Stolle.

Stolle was up a set and had a break in the second to lead 5-3 before Reneberg came back to win 4-6, 7-5, 7-6.

Another Australian, John Fitzgerald, one of the world's top doubles players, grabbed his first singles win since June with a first-round victory over compatriot Johan Anderson.

The 6-2, 6-3 victory put the 30-year-old Fitzgerald, who received a wildcard into the event, into a second-round clash against ninth seeded American Brad Gilbert.

Flamboyant American Andre Agassi, the world number eight, was due to make his eagerly-awaited Australian debut later today, against Australia's Jason Stoltenberg, after a first-round bye.

# Bubka to move to Berlin

BERLIN, Oct 1: World pole vault record holder Sergei Bubka is to join the exodus of Soviet sports stars by moving to Berlin's Olympic Athletics Club (OSC) at the end of the year, reports Reuter.

"Berlin offers me the best training facilities in summer and winter," said the 27-year old Olympic champion, finally confirming a deal that had been rumoured for months.

OSC said on Monday that the details of the move had not been finalised. But Bubka, who has also had lucrative offers from France, will move into a flat in Berlin in December.

"Money did not play a major role in the decision," said Bubka, who is also expected to help to publicise Berlin's bid to host the 2000 Olympic Games.

# Games rekindle Egypt's African roots

CAIRO, Egypt, Oct 1: The Fifth All-Africa Games just held here have been far more than the biggest sporting event in Egypt's history. The continental Games' opening was a pageant reflecting Egypt's past greatness as a major African power and a thinly veiled reminder of its influential role on the continent today, reports AP.

"Egypt has very important ties to the African continent," said Sahwa Sharawi Gomaa, assistant professor of political science at Cairo's American University. "We Egyptians don't often think of the African roots. They're a part of us, along with many others."

"We think about them only when we ask 'Who am I?' when we seek a cultural identity. What the Africa — put Egypt's links with Africa up front."

Egypt boasts a 7,000-year-old civilization. Its roots are a patchwork — part Semite, part Hamite, part Asian and part Roman and, of course, part African.

Gomaa said that when dealing with its cultural identity modern-day Egypt is pulled in three directions — African, Arab and Islamic.

"You see differences of opinion on who's a true Muslim, which religious teachings are correct, whether Egypt is Arab at all."

"The one point on which there is no controversy is that Egypt is African. Look at the map. Africa is vital for Egypt. Here is the origin of the river



Games emblem: A gigantic replica of the Pan Africa Games emblem is carried into the National Stadium in Cairo during opening ceremonies on September 20.

Nile, our lifeline. Without it, we die."

More than 40 African countries are competing in the Games. Through Monday, Egypt was the leading medal winner with 60, including 36 golds.

The Sept 20 opening ceremony of the 10-day sports competition featured a two-hour tribute to Egypt's ancient greatness.

The pageantry included pharaohs in war regalia, bejewelled queens hoisted aloft by slave attendants, armies on the march and dancers.

Athletes can't escape reminders of Egypt's ancient heritage. A Civilization and Art, decorates their housing compound. The Egyptians have tried to ignore the country's African heritage, preparing to look toward Mediterranean breezes for their birthright, rather than sandstorms and caravans heading south.

Egyptologist Zahi Hawass, director general of antiquities for the pyramids and Sphinx, said, "Egypt has always considered itself in Africa and other countries did, too."

"From records we can tell Egypt looked down on the rest of Africa. It considered Africans, even Nubians, foreigners. Egypt was Egypt. It was number one on the African continent. It wants to be the same today."

In ancient times the rest of Africa was linked to Egypt via trade routes through Sudan and Libya. Egyptian vessels used the coastline in search of

goods for the pharaoh and his court.

Africa provided ancient Egypt with wood, exotic wild animals, incense for the temples, ostrich feathers for fans, gold, ivory and pygmies, who performed special ritual dances for the pharaohs.

Modern Africa provides new opportunities for trade and commerce, said Gomaa.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has served as chairman of the 51-nation Organization of African Unity.

Egypt has been in the forefront of efforts to combat such problems as ecology, health, education, famine and drought on the continent.

Cairo has also served as a mediator in a number of African disputes, including working to gain the release of South African leader Nelson Mandela.

# Delhi debates bid to host Afro-Asiad

NEW DELHI, Oct 1: An exercise on whether India should host the Afro-Asian Games early next year or not will begin here later this week, reports PTI.

While the Finance Ministry objects to the proposal saying India cannot, at the present juncture, afford the high cost involved, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) says it's not so.

# Cypriots go on strike

NICOSIA, Oct 1: Cypriot soccer players began an indefinite strike on Saturday, wrecking the first day of the season, reports Reuter.

The Football Federation responded to the walkout of 600 players demanding improved transfer terms by scrapping all 63 scheduled weekend matches in four divisions and the youth championships.

The match ban affected 2,500 players on the soccer-mad Mediterranean island.

The strike was called only hours before play was due to start. Police had said they were ready to enforce new measures to prevent a repetition of last

year's fighting on pitches and in the stands.

Yiannis Yiannoudakis, president of the Cyprus Football Players Association, accused the Federation of dragging its feet over the transfer issue and told a press conference: "We have no option but to go on strike."

Players say signing up for one team usually means a career-long commitment. They want the federation to sanction transfers after eight years or arrange payment of a loyalty bonus.

With the exception of a handful of foreign players — teams are allowed to sign up two each — there are no full-time professional footballers in Cyprus.



The Bangladesh under-20 badminton team which took part in the Asian youth championships held in the Iranian town of Zanjan last month. Bangladesh finished third in the 5-team meet. From left are: Russell Kabir Shuman, Sattayjit Sengupta, Md Nurul Ahsan, Nazimuddin Ahmed (manager), and Md Khurshed Alam.