

### Indoor stadium to be completed in time, JS told

Country's first indoor stadium at Mirpur is likely to be completed before the next South Asian Federation (SAF) Games beginning from December 20. State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain told the House yesterday, reports UNB.

Replying to a supplementary question, the minister said Tk 34 crore has been allocated for construction of the indoor stadium.

Responding to another question from Mainul Islam, the State Minister said the government has taken up a project to develop the stadiums of 52 districts and Tk 4 crore has been allocated in this regard.

Meanwhile, a BSS report said: The State Minister informed the house that Taka 96.75 lakh was distributed among 43 district sports organisations as grant during 1992-93 fiscal year.

The minister was replying to a question from Awami League member Mostafa Rashid Suja. The question was raised by a Treasury Bench member as opposition political parties, Awami League, CPB, Workers Party, Gonatantrik Party, JSD(Siraj) and Jatya Party abstained from participation in the proceeding of the House during the question hour.

Of the total grant, the district sports organisations of Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna and Mymensingh were given Taka 2.25 lakh each.

Sports organisations of greater district headquarters were given Taka 1.25 lakh each and the sports organisations of newly formed districts were given Taka One lakh each.

Sports Minister also revealed that all the district sports organisations were given Taka fifty thousand each as additional sanction.

### IOC chief wishes Sadek luck

International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch has wished the State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain all success in 'guiding sports' in Bangladesh, reports BSS.

In a message, the IOC chief also thanked the Sports Minister for his "eventful tour" in Bangladesh and the hospitality shown to him and the members of his entourage during the visit last month.

The IOC president arrived here on May 17 on a less than 24-hour visit to Bangladesh. He was accompanied by his daughter Maria Teresa, adviser Fekro Kidane, public relations director Andrew Napier and private secretary Annie Inchauspe.

### DMFA condoles Anwar's death

Sports Reporter

The Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA) yesterday condoled the death of Anwar Hossain, a renowned sports organiser and the founder of Usha Krira Chakra, in a meeting at the association's conference room on Tuesday.

The members and officials observed one minute silence to pay homage to the departed soul and also offered munajat.

Meanwhile, the quikhwani of late Hossain was held yesterday at the Usha Krira Chakra club premises. In the evening State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain talked to the club members and officials and expressed sympathy over the tragic incident.

### Azam Waqar CC banned for life

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) has decided to ban Azam Waqar Cricket Club for life from taking part in any kind of competition in the country and impose five-year suspension for involvement in the assault of players and officials of Trial Shilpi Goshti during a Second Division qualifying tournament match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium on May 29. According to BCCB press release issued yesterday the suspended players are: Hanif Mohammad, Mahub Ali Ripon, Arsal Hossain, Motiur Rahman Bipul, Aminur Rahman Robin, Abu Bakar Mohammad Shibly, Nazmul Huq Pitu, Mofizul Islam Khokon, Mamun Ahmed, Mashkur Rahman Diply, Mostafizur Rahman Rajon, Nizam, Abu Riyad Khan, Mizanur Rahman Mamun and Shahidul Islam Shahid.

### South Korea beat India 7-0

SEOUL, June 9: South Korea overwhelmed India 7-0 in a World Cup Asian zone Group D preliminary match here today, reports AFP.

At half-time, South Korea led India 4-0.

In another match played earlier, Lebanon upset Hong Kong 2-1 after a 1-1 half-time score.



Professor A R Khan addressing a press conference held at the Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association conference room yesterday in connection with the new-look Senior Division league which gets underway at the Dhaka Stadium on June 11. — Star photo

## Bracing for an experiment

Sports Reporter

The 1993 Senior Division football league, recast in an unprecedented format is all set for a grand opening tomorrow.

For the first time in country's 20-years-old history of league football a bifid system awaits implementation. Mooted for a long time the idea of a premier league with the top teams and a parallel league which will accommodate the lesser equities will be concretised as the top ten teams of last year's league will vie for the top honours in the Star Premier Division football league and the less privileged group of ten which includes the last eight teams of the points table and the two promoters from Second Division league — Bangladesh Boys and East End — will fight for the two places in the Premier league.

The top two teams from the lower tier or First Division football league will earn promotion to Premier league while the two last finishers of that league will go down the ladder.

In a press conference held yesterday, Azizul Huq, the president of the Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA) told that Sadek Hossain, the State Minister for Youth and Sports would inaugurate the league on Friday at 4 pm.

Champions Abahani Krira Chakra will take on Public Works Department at 4:30 while Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club will face East End Club at 6:30 pm. Two matches will be played everyday at the Dhaka Stadium.

The official return of football to the Dhaka Stadium from the faraway Mirpur Stadium is another salient feature of this year's league football, the prospect of which appeared quite suspect and dark at one time following intermittent wrangle among DMFA, club officials and footballers.

Organisers learnt the hard way as football, the *piece de resistance* of sports lovers failed to draw satisfactory crowds last year with a large chunk of stadium frequenters showing reluctance to take all the trouble of going to the Mirpur Stadium.

Poor gate receipts and inadequate security finally forced the organiser to abandon the noble plans of giving some respite to the much used, beleaguered Dhaka Stadium.

The DMFA officials who were accompanied by representatives of sponsors Bangladesh Tobacco Company, hoped that if everything goes smoothly the league should be over by July 26.

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## Indonesians ride on luck

SINGAPORE, June 9: Defending champions Indonesia scored a lucky 1-0 win over Vietnam in a Group A match of the 17th South East Asian (SEA) Games football tournament at the national stadium here Wednesday, reports AFP.

There was no score at half time. It was Vietnam that drew the applause of the crowd when they dominated the exchanges. Their forwards made repeated raids into the Indonesian goal area, but were unlucky in finding the net.

Indonesian goalkeeper Donny Latuperissa had a good game and brought out no less than half a dozen good saves, particularly in the second half.

Six minutes after the start of the second half, Indonesia found the decisive goal when Tafik Yunus, left unchecked outside the box, moved close to the goal and sent a neat shot past goalkeeper Pham Vanhug.

The Indonesians failed to click and nearly all their attempts at scoring were easily checked by the tight Vietnamese defence.

Indonesia's present team is no where near the class of the 1991 team that won the gold medal in Manila and their chances of retaining the title here looks very slim judging from today's performance.

They equalised against the run of play six minutes after the interval when Mohd Said Abdullah netted from close range after a breakaway attack.

But the more experienced Malaysians regained control and their speedy frontline found the target twice as Dollah Saleh and Zainal Abidin took the final score to 3-1.

As expected Singapore dominated the game right from the start and were three up by the break.

The Philippines, new to regional soccer, seldom participate in overseas tournaments and were outclassed by the more experienced Singapore side.

Dominating every department of the game, Singapore scored at will, opening their account in the 20th minute through a penalty converted by Steven Tan.

Leading striker Pandi Ahmed scored a hat-trick, hitting Singapore's second in the 33rd minute, and finding the net again in the 49th and 74th minutes.

Malek Awab (41), Rafi Ali (50), and Sundram Moorthy (67) were the other scorers.

Malaysia led 1-0 at half time. The Malaysians who won the football gold medal in the 1989 Games took time to settle down against the unfancied Brunei team who lost to Laos 3-2.

After Zainal Abidin put Malaysia ahead in the fifth minute, they failed to convert several good sorties into the Brunei penalty box.

Brunei played defensively, as they had done against Laos, often resorting to long clearances.

UTRECHT, Netherlands, June 9: Result of a European Group Two under-21 qualifying match between the Netherlands and Norway on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Netherlands 2 Norway 1 (half-time 1-1)

Scorers: Netherlands: Klomp (13th minute), Mutsaers (51st); Norway: Osenstad (9th)

## Abahani march on

Sports Reporter

Last year's runners-up Abahani Krira Chakra maintained their hundred per cent winning record in the ongoing Green Delta First Division hockey league when they posted a 2-0 triumph over Bachelors Sporting Club at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

It was Abahani's seventh successive victory. Jummon Lussai put Abahani ahead in the 18th minute with a field goal and Akhter Hossain doubled the margin also through a field goal five minutes before the long whistle.

The victors could have won the match by a wider margin had their forwards been a bit keener. The Abahani forwards failed to capitalise as many as 13 penalty corners.

The Bangladesh Hockey Federation has decided to lift the ban on Jasimuddin Kanchan of Dhaka Mariner Youngs. He will be able to play for his team against Bangladesh Police on June 14.

TODAY'S MATCHES  
Wari Club vs PWD SC  
Dhaka Mariner Youngs vs Wanderers SC

## Marco van Basten undergoes another surgery

Sports Reporter

ANTWERP, Belgium, June 9: Fears over the long term future of Marco van Basten were dispelled here on Wednesday after he underwent successful key-hole surgery on his right ankle, reports AFP.

But the Dutch international striker, 28, will need four months to recover and is almost certainly out of the key World Cup qualifier against England on October 13.

The AC Milan forward was first operated in December for a cartilage problem and there were fears his career could be under threat after continuing problems with the injury.

But consultant surgeon Marc Martens, who carried out Wednesday's operation, said: "I'm optimistic about his future, even though it was a bad cartilage tear."

"The operation consisted of cleaning out cartilage debris from the ankle and it went very well."

"Van Basten will stay in the clinic for a few days and will have to have physiotherapy for at least four months."

Van Basten missed twelve weeks of the Italian league season recovering for the operation. He returned in time to play against Olympic Marseille in the European Champions Cup final in Munich on May 26 but has not played since.

## Case against Marseille begins

Sports Reporter

PARIS, June 9: Legal proceedings in a bribery case involving European champions Marseille were started by the French soccer league on Tuesday, judicial sources said, reports Reuter.

Allegations have been made by players from Valenciennes that they were offered bribes to let Marseille win a First Division match on May 20.

Defender Jacques Glassmann said he had received a phone call from Marseille official and player before the game, which Valenciennes lost 1-0.

The French league decided to file a suit against persons unknown in order to bring the affair into the open.

Marseille were recent winners of a record fifth consecutive French league title.

It has been a tough year on him in this city," Montreal centre Kirk Muller said. "I'm happy for him because there was a lot of pressure on him before the playoffs. He has come through and played 'unbelievable'."

Roy blocked 10 shots in extra-time Monday night in Montreal's 3-2 victory over Los Angeles.

The Canadians have won 10 straight extra-time games in the playoffs, three of them over the Kings. Roy has gone 96 minutes and 39 seconds in extra-time without allowing a goal, stopping 58 shots in that span.

"It's tough for us and frustrating," Los Angeles captain Wayne Gretzky said. "I've played on teams that haven't

played as well and been up 3-1."

"We've played with our hearts and thrown everything we have at him," Los Angeles forward Tony Granato said. "Hopefully we will get a break and put one past Roy."

Los Angeles fired nine of the first 10 extra-time shots on Monday night, but Roy denied the Kings on their home ice.

"I thought we had glorious chances," Los Angeles coach Barry Melrose said. "Roy was

played as well and been up 3-1."

"There is no better goalie in hockey right now than Patrick Roy," Montreal coach Jacques Demers said. "To win on the road as he did, he's simply the greatest goaltender in the game."

In the 100-year history of the Stanley Cup, only the 1942 Toronto Maple Leafs have recovered from a 3-1 deficit to take the trophy.

## Broken toe adds to Lineker's woe

Sports Reporter

TOKYO, June 9: Former England captain Gary Lineker will be sidelined for at least six weeks with an injured toe, adding to his unhappy debut in Japan's football league, reports Reuter.

Doctors checked the 32-year-old star of Nagoya Grampus Eight Tuesday, who pulled out from a match on Saturday with pain in his right foot, and said he had a stress fracture of his right second toe.

"I feel sorry not to be able to play. I feel more pain in my heart than in my feet," Lineker told reporters as he limped out of a hospital with his right foot in a plastic cast in Toyota, home to Grampus Eight.

Lineker, who called the injury the biggest of the season, will sit out the rest of the first half of the inaugural J-League season ending on July 14, team officials said.



International Master Verugese Koshy of India moves his bishop's pawn during his match against compatriot Grandmaster Dibyendu Barooah in the opening match of the three-player play-off meet for the qualifying round of the world chess championship for Zone Eleven at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday. Barooah won. — Star photo

## Bright start for Dibyendu

Sports Reporter

Grand Master (GM) Dibyendu Barooah of India started his campaign for the single slot of the qualifying round of the world chess championship for Zone Eleven at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday.

Originally scheduled for a June 4 start the three-player tourney, designed to determine the single qualifier for the next round to be held in Switzerland later this year, was refixed as the two Indians failed to arrive in time.

June 8 was the new date but the two Indians who finished at the top of the points table along with Niaz Murshed with eight

points each from the main eleven-round meet held earlier in Iranian city of Isfahan were late and the meet finally got underway yesterday, with the Indian duo finally making it to the city on June 8.

The meet was formally inaugurated at three in the afternoon with A R Khan one of the vice presidents of the Bangladesh Chess Federation and the chief judge of the meet, got Koshy's clock ticking to mark the beginning of the cerebral contest between the compatriots.

Playing with the white pieces Koshy began with King's gambit. Dibyendu, who cut a sorry figure in his last appearance in Grand Masters' meet in Dhaka, manipulated his black pieces well to set up an absorbing clash. However, midway through the proceedings both players suffered time constraint with the well built Koshy showing signs of vulnerability under

time pressure.

Things worsened further for the Indian IM when on the 36th move Dibyendu exchanged his rook for a bishop and the writing was on the wall for Verugese Koshy who is also a familiar figure among the local chess fans. Destined to be checkmated the tall sturdy chess player accepted defeat to his fancied opponent.

Today Niaz Murshed, the only Grand Master from Bangladesh, will play with white pieces while Koshy will try to make up for first day's loss with black.

Following is the fixture of the rest of the meet which concludes on June 14.

June 11: Dibyendu (white) vs V. Koshy (black)

June 12: Koshy (white) vs Niaz (black)

June 13: Dibyendu (white) vs Niaz (black)

June 14: Niaz (white) vs Dibyendu (black).

## Villain to hero in 7 months

Sports Reporter

MONTREAL, Quebec, June 9: Montreal hockey fans loathed goaltender Patrick Roy seven months ago. Now they adore him, reports AFP.

Roy was blamed when the Canadians were adjusting to a more offensive style of play and his goals-against average was high.

But in the playoffs, Roy's efforts have moved Montreal within one victory of the National Hockey League championship.

The Canadians have a 3-1 lead over Los Angeles in the best-of-seven series entering Wednesday's game here.

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Lineker, who called the injury the biggest of the season, will sit out the rest of the first half of the inaugural J-League season ending on July 14, team officials said.



A goalmouth scramble during yesterday's Green Delta First Division hockey league match between last year's runner-up Abahani Krira Chakra and Bachelors Sporting Club at the Hockey Stadium. Abahani maintained their hundred per cent winning record with a 2-0 triumph. It was the seventh consecutive victory for the men in azure attire. — Star photo

## Havelange feels Japan should host 2002 World Cup

PARIS, June 9: Japan should stage the World Cup football finals in 2002, FIFA president Joao Havelange said here Wednesday, reports AFP.

Japan, whose first domestic championship has just got underway, have already submitted what Havelange described as an attractive bid to the International Football Federation.

Eighteen cities, all linked by express train, are candidates to stage matches and Havelange said FIFA members found the project meant players would not have to waste time and energy hanging around airports waiting for planes.

He envisaged a trouble-free World Cup in the United States in 1994 and said French premier Edouard Balladur had assured him an 80,000-seater stadium would be built for the 1998 finals.

The French have been haggling about the site and size of a main stadium for the last two years.