Bangladeshi athletes fail to impress

Abdur Rahim Nayeem and Sulaiman Majumder of Bang* ladesh finished seventh and eighth in the men's 400m hurdles timing 52.39 seconds and 52.94 seconds respectively in the Asian track and field championships in Manila yesterday, reports BSS.

Krira Chakra.

beaten side with an enviable all

win record in their nine mat

ches, Abahani, to their dismay.

discovered the tenth as the

cruellest encounter so far as

strong Bangladesh Biman han-

ded them a crushing 73-run

defeat in a crucial Navana

Premier league tie at the Dhaka

Stadium yesterday.

Zaid Abou Hamed of Syria got the gold of the event with the meet record time of 49.10 seconds.

In women's 800 metres, Lubna Mahmud finished eighth in two mins 1.7.60 seconds. Shri Lanka's Dhammika Menikee earned the bronze with a time of two mins 04.90 seconds.

India's Shiny Wilson and Rosa Kutty secured the fourth and sixth places clocking two mins 05.21 seconds and two mins 10.26 seconds respec-

Brothers beat Biman in Div I chess

Sports Reporter

Brothers Union continued their reign at the top but-Bangladesh Birnan lost the second position to Bangladesh Ansars after the completion of the eleventh round of the First Division chess league at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday.

Brothers, who beat Biman 2.5-1.5 yesterday, widened their led at the top to six points with a collection of 38 points. Ansars, registered a comfortable 3.5-0.5 win over Farashgani Sporting Club in their eleventh round engagement, have 32 points to their name. Biman, who had been following Broth ers quite closely from the beginning of the league, drop down to 30.5 points.

In the Brothers-Biman tie. Hasibul Hasan's victory over Tanima Parveen made the difference as Grandmaster Niaz Murshed, Pakistani International Master Mahmood Ahmed Khan Lodhi and Indian IM Shekhar Chandra Sahu all drew their respective matches.

Quite contrarily, Ansars' hopes of a clean sweep were impeded by Arifs draw with Kamal.

Dhaka University, currently in the fourth position with a haul of 28 points, lost one match on their way to winning against Narayangani Chess Mahakhali Pradip Sangha

Pony Electronics, Parijat Chess Club and Patuakhali District Sports Association also won their respective outings.

The match between Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation and Konica Sangskritik Gosthi ended in a draw.

JPC cricket side given reception

Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh in Calcutta Jahangir Sadat held a reception at the mission premises Tuesday in honour of the visiting Jatiya Press Club cricket team. reports BSS.

According to a message received in Dhaka yesterday, Kanti Biswas, West Bengal Minister for Information and Culture Faroog Sobhan, the Bangladesh High Commissioner in India prominent journalists and clite of Calcutta attended the reception.

Div II soccer

Sports Reporter

Both the matches of the Sonali Bank Second Division football league at the Hockey Stadium were drawn.

in the first match yesterday BG Press evenly shared four goals with Lalmatia. Mahbub and Aravinda scored for BG Pross while Moon and Sha habuddin found the mark once each for Lalmatia.

The other match between Mahakhali and Avijatřík Mal shagh split points in a one-all draw. Shahed nullified Avijatrik's one-goal lead in the 56th minute.

BANEX Open on

Sports Reporter

The first-ever BANEX Bang ladesh Open squash tournament organised by the Bangladesh Squash Rackets Federation and sponsored by a local courier service Bangladesh Express Co Ld (BANEX) got underway at the Dhaka Club

Squash Complex yesterday. The competition is being played in two groups - the main group with sixty-four players and a sixteen-man veteran group that boast's some foreigners.

On the opening day nine

matches were held. The following players were in action: Bhola Lal. Q 5 Zaman, M Shahidul Haq. S M Hasan, Gopal. Raja. Hubert, Maj Mahmud, Bishnu, Ashegar Selim, Rajeev, Taneem, Ershad. Shamsul and Murad Ali.

Earlier State Minister for Planning Dr A Moyeen Khan inaugurated the ten-day event as chief guest.

All down on the same plain

Sports Reporter

with tall Ahmed Faiyaz Sha-Biman is not heen, grafted a patient 55 but everybody's home in the air. Not at killed too many balls as he failed to probe the gaps. Frusleast for the reigtration crept in and being ning Navana Prerattled by Illingworth's profesmier Division crisional perkiness, he stepped out cket league champions Abahani to allow the slow left armer fire a yorker to dislodge his bail. Flying high as the only un-

The son of former English Test captain Ray Illingworth accounted for two more batsmen including Biman's Indian cricketer KP Bashkar to finish with a haul of three for 41 from nine

Enamul Huq Moni, Biman's skipper, was timing the ball su-

Meanwhile Akram, the most consistent and in-form of the local batsmen, was brilliantly run out by Bhaskar who recovered with from a fumble harish agility to leave a relaxed Akram stunned with a neat attempt from point.

Minhazul Abedin Nannu, the only bateman who could have pulled a near miracle for Abahani, was smartly run out for 22 and although wicketkeeper Nasu hung around for 24 the writing on the wall never faded.

Shaheen, who eiptomised a generally high standard of Biman fielding with superb stops



Biman's Rafiq, who reportedly switched over to left-arm spin on teammate Wasim Haider's advice and is yielding good results in this year's Navana Premier league, raises his hands in joy as his side troops back after 73-run demolition of Abahani at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Star photo

Fired by a successful crossing of a hurdle in their last match against former champions Mohammedans, whom they beat by three wickets. Biman yesterday took another giant leap towards regaining the most coveted title in domestic competition with a rare display of orchestrated individual brilliance.

It was total, committed cricket right from the time Abahani skipper Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu won the toss and put his opponents in to bat on a wicket that, though not being a batsmen's paradise for its uneven pace and bounce, gave very little assistance to the bowlers.

A rather unduly slow and watchful start by Biman openers was worked up to a magnificent climax by their Pakistani allrounder Wasim Haider, who in a ravishing display of cultured slogging, took the wind out of Abahani's sail even before their strong batting line-up actually got out their in the middle to make a match of Biman's collection of 194 for five from the quota of 45 overs.

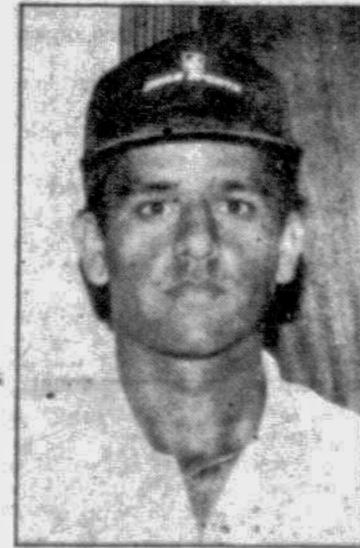
The handsome, lithe Pakis tani took 15 runs of Satful regarded as the quickest bowler in the country, saddled with the unpalatable task of bowling the last over. Donned in a blue cap. the tall soft spoken right hander, who had remained unbeaten on 27 when Biman earned victory against Mohammedans, hit through the line to clear the deep extra cover fence after a couple of power packed skyey pulls with the young paceman of the Bangladesh national team searching in vain for an ideal length to stop the fire works.

Haider's straight bat, which grew broader and broader as time wore on, added 60 invaluable runs for the sixth wicket with admirably controlled spree of strokes featuring four hits to the fence and two sixes with the second over boundary coming off spinner Effee whom he hoisted beyond the sight screen to start a terrific assault.

Earlier, Biman innings, after an ideal start, was face to face with the stark reality of losing way due to callous approach of their major batsmen.

Jahangir Alam, a national player who opened the batting

perbly, when an unfortunate attempt for a run resulted in the dismissal of this left-hander who has quite a bit of gift for hitting. After Zakaria's 47-ball 21 Mont with 17 was the other notable scorer followed by



S SHARMA ... 104 n. o.

Shaheen and Dulu who made 16 and 14 not out respectively. An exquisite off drive by

Harunur Rashid Liton, who came to open the Abahani innings with a promoted and luck less Faruque Ahmed, did not really augur the ill befall them later. The hard-hitting opener himself set the pattern by depositing a half-hearted drive to a leaping Haider in deepish mid-on with Abahani on ten in the seventh over.

Faruque could not celebrate his reappointment as the skipper of he national team after being refused by England inter national Neil Fairbrother in sharp and eventually abortive attempt to get a single.

The Lancashire left hander gave a rather poor account of the vaunted English professionalism when he, seemingly caught in two minds - to hit or not to hit, gave Moni of all people a very, very simple catch for nought. Fairbrother, who got seven in the last match, just did not appear, motivated enough throughout the match.

His compatriot Illingworth, who bats right handed, left the same away suggesting some late afternoon villatny like the stopping and standing up tendency of the ball in the wicket.

and safe catching, gobbled up Effe at widish midwicket to herald the end of Abahani's innings at 121 in 44 overs.

Dulu, Biman's regular bowling hero, bagged two wickets for 12 followed by left-arm spinner Moni and Rafiq, who, too, took two each for 18 and 24 runs respectively.

Biman's win has now enhanced the importance of Friday's derby between arch rivals Abahani and Mohammedans The winners of this crowd pulling tie will have to meet Biman again to decide this year's league which has no unbeaten team left in the fray.

All three contenders for the league title - Mohammedans, Abahani and Biman - have so far won nine matches each suffering one defeat apiece in the process.

TARUN WIN

Indian Sanjeev Sharma became the only the third centurion of this year's Navana league after compatriots Lamba and K P Bhaskar as he powered Surja Tarun to a massive 120run win over Udity at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium vesterday.

The former India international made a brilliant, unbeaten 104 off 107 balls as Tarun, batting first amassed 220 for five with the help of 41

So deft was the placement of this consistent allrounder that suffice it was for a ton to feature just five hits to the fence.

Rajinder, another Indian who is skippering Tarun this year, followed Sharma with 47. Shawkat of Udity took two

Sharma took two wickets for 13 runs only as Udity, chasing 221 for a win, were skittled out for 100 in 36.2 overs.

Tinku with 23 and Titu with 20 offered some resistance to the rampant Tarun bowlers, four of whom - Sajal, Nafis, Sohail and the redoubtable Sharma, took two wickets apiece.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Brothers Vs Kalabagan (Dhaka Stadium)

GMCC Victoria V s (Dhanmondi Stadium)



State Minister for Planning Dr A Moyeen Khan inaugurating the first-ever BANEX Open squash tournament in a colourful opening ceremony at the Dhaka Club Squash Complex yesterday.

Pakistan 197/2 on Day One

KARACHI, Dec 1: Pakistan opener Shoaib Mohammad marked his Test recall with an unbeaten 71 against Zimbabwe today, reports Reuter.

Shoaib, sidelined since August last year, and Aamer Sohail laid the foundation for the first day total of 197 for two with an opening partnership of

The stand ended in the last over before lunch when Sohail became off-spinner Stephen Peall's first Test victim. The lefthander made 63, including nine fours.

Peall, one of six new Zimbabwe caps, maintained good line and length throughout and kept the Pakistani batsmen on a tight leash. He finished with one for 50 in 22 overs. Medium pacer Eddo Brandes

removed Inzamam-ul-Haq, who presented a catch to wicketkeeper Andrew Flower after reaching 21. Waqar Younis led Pakistan

impressed with his 15 overs. He

for the first time in the absence of Wasim Akram, who has a fractured wrist.

Security was tight in and around the Defence Cricket Club following the threat of demonstrations against the change of venue from the traditional National Stadium.

SMH, official Atlanta Games timekeeper

ATLANTA, Dec 1: SMH Swiss Corporation for Microelectronics artd Watchmaking Industries Ltd on Tuesday was named official timekeeper and a sponsor of the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, reports Reuter.

In joint news conferences in Atlanta and Lausanne, Switzerland, SMH, makers of the popular Swatch watches, was named the official Olympic timer for the 20th time since 1932.

This particular sponsorship is a combination of cash and inkind contributions," Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) chief Oil Payne

"It also is at the highest level of sponsorship as a fully qualifying Atlanta centennial Olympic Games partner." Although the precise amount

of the SMH sponsorship was not revealed Tuesday, ACOG has previously said full sponsorships cost a minimum of 40 million dollars.

SMH chairman Nicolas Hayek said it will use its Olympic sponsorship to promote its Swatch line of watches. He said the company would create several series of plastic commemorative watches to mark the centennial Games.

Hayek said he is not sure how much SMH will spend on its Olympic sponsorship.

The investment is important, but the issues and especially the communications we are going to have with it is certainly worth it," Havek said. "If you want to know how much. I don't know. I'll tell you at the end of 1996."

Hayek said that in addition to providing the timing system for the 1996 Olympics and paying some licensing fees to ACOG, the company would sponsor a number of special events marking its Olympic affiliation. He said the company hopes to bring 15 to 20 Swatchmobiles - its planned environmentally friendly city car- to Atlanta during the Games

Railway win

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Railway defeated City Club by six wickets in the Milnars First Division cricket league at the Mirpur Pallabi ground yesterday.

Batting first, City Club folded their innings with three balls to spare in the stipulated 45 overs for 136. Zahid notched the highest individual score of 25 followed by Bappi and Jahangir who contributed 17

Suman Jr was by far the best Railway bowler accounting for four City batsmen for 33 while Rubel bowled commendably to finish with two for 33.

In reply, Railway reached the victory target in the 39th over scoring 140 for four wickets. Rezaul and Shahid were at the crease with 34 and 27 runs

respectively when Railway

posted the winning run. Ishtiaque was the other notable scorer for the winners with a useful 24.

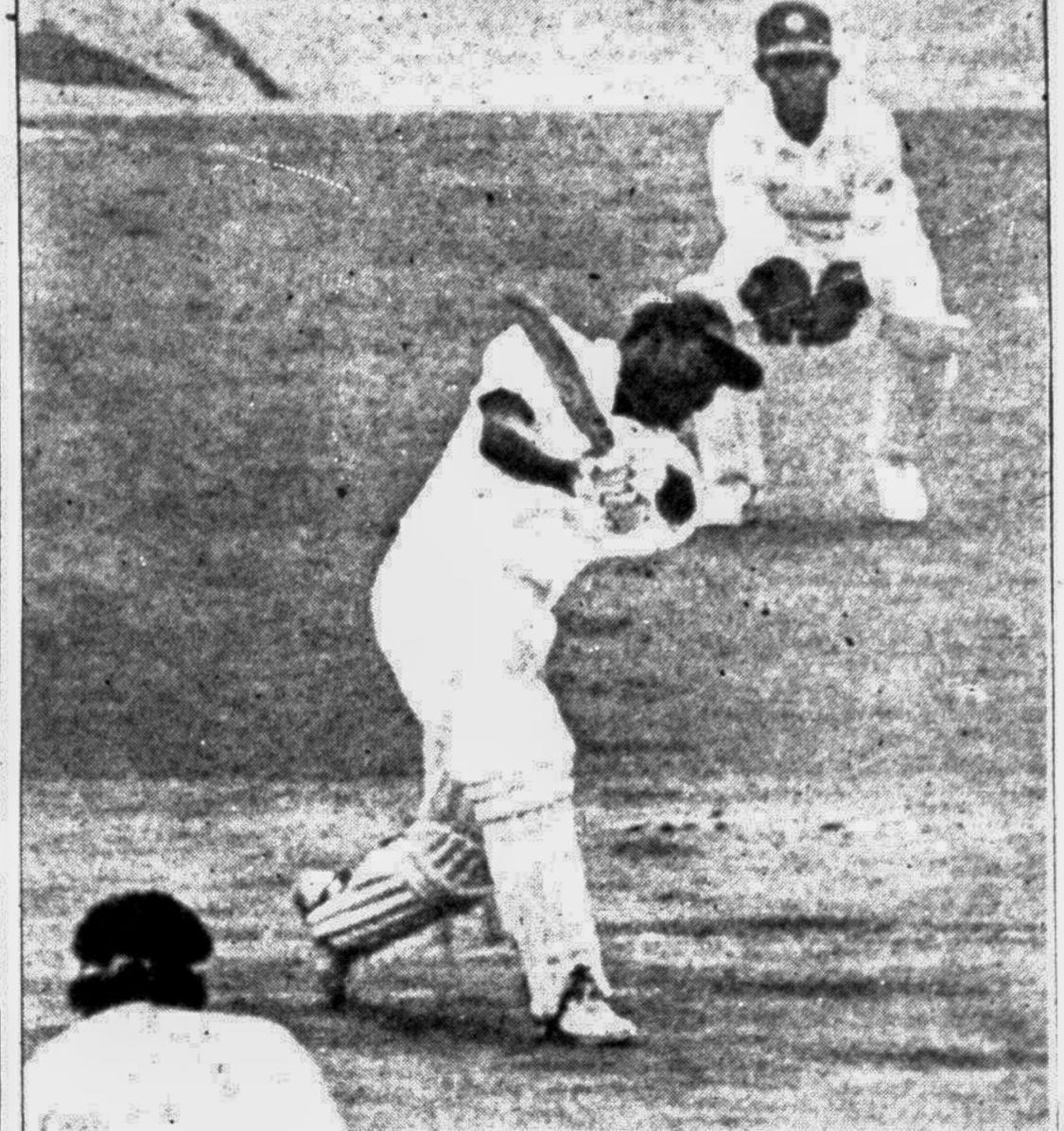
Jahangir took two wickets for 20.

Div II cricket from Dec 7

Sports Reporter The Second Division cricket league will begin from Decem-

Thirty-two teams split into four groups will take part in the league with the top three teams from each group qualifying for the superleague.

The 40 overs-a-side matches will be played at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (West) and Dhanmondt Club Ground.



West Indian opener Brian Lara plays a handsome cover drive off Shri Lankan bowler Rumesh Ratnayake in the first one-day international in Colombo, Shri Lanka yesterday. The game was abandoned due to bad light with Lara scoring 89.

WI-SL one-dayer abandoned

dynamo never got into stride

before being caught by Phil



COLOMBO. Dec 1: Bad light forced the first one-day international between the West Indies and Shri Lanka to be abandoned here today, reports AFP.

Shri Lanka, chasing a target of 198, were 35 for 1 in 12 overs when play was halted for bad After an hour, the umpires

decided to abandon the 50-over match, which had earlier been reduced to 40 overs. The start of play was delayed by two hours after heavy

overnight rain had left the outfield damp. West Indian captain Richie Richardson, winning the toss elected to play safe and bat.

"I didn't want to take a risk and field. We have many big men and it would have been dangerous for us to field on a slippery outfield," said Richar-

His decision was vindicated as the West Indians were hardly troubled by the Shri Lankan attack as they rattled up 197 in 39 overs, one short of the allotted 40 evers.

The Shri Lankans were hardly in the chase as West Indian opening pace duo, Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh bowled with plenty of fire to keep a firm clamp on the bat-

With runs difficult to come

by, the Shri Lankans suffered the first blow when opener Sanath Jayasuriya was carried off the pitch with cramps in the ninth over with the score on 13 Jayasuriya was replaced by

Shri Lanka's top batsman Aravinda de Silva, but the little Simmons of Walsh in the next Shri Lankan captain Arjuna Ranatunga, celebrating his 30th birthday, gave the home fans

something to cheer about when

he hit Carl Hooper for a six and two fours in his very first over to take the score to 35 for 1 in the 12th over. But with the light fading fast, play was stopped at the start of the 13th over after

bowled a bouncer at Ranatunga Brian Lara, the only West Indian to have played in Shri Lanka before - making a brief appearance in an exhibition match last year - reminded the

paceman Kenneth Benjamin

hosts what a danger he can be with a sparkling knock of 89. The left-handed opener, with his penchant for cover drives. was totally at ease against the Shri Lankan attack as he collected eight fours in the 118-

ball innings. Lara had only one blemish in his innings, when on 74, he was dropped at square leg by Roshan Mahanama off the bowling of left arm leg spinner Don Anurasiri.

Lara, who figured in an 88run partnership for the second wicket with Richardson, failed to fully capitalise on that chance, being caught and bowled by Sanath Jayasuriya in the 34th over.

By that time, however, the West Indies were well on their way to a respectable score, and Keith Arthurton continued the good work by blasting a quickfire unbeaten 37 as the tourists reached 197 for 3 in 39 overs. SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the first oneday international between West Indies and Shri Lanka at the P Saravanamuttu Stadium, here Wednesday.

WEST INDIES: Lara c b Jayasuriya Simmons c Kalpage b Ratnayake Richarson b Anurastri Arthurton not out Hoper not out Extras: (w-9, nb-2, lb-15) Total: (for 3 wkts)

Fall of wickets: 1-33; 2-121; 3-154 Bowling: Wickremasinghe Ratnayake Kalpage 37 Ranatunga 10 Anurasiri 26

40

0 10

Jayasuriya De Silva SHRI LANKA:

Mahanama not out Jayasuriya retired hurt De Silva c Simmons b Walsh Ranatunga not out Extras: (lb-6, nb-1, w-1) Total (for one wicket, 12.1 overs)

Fall of wicket: 1-16

Did not bat: H Tillekeratne H Wickremaratne, R Kalpage, R Kaluwirthana, R Ratnayake, P Wickremasinghe, D Anurastri. Bowling: 4 Ambrose 1 10 Walsh Benjamin

Result: Match abandoned Next match: Shri Lankan XI v West Indies, December 3-5, in

Galle.

Donald, Schultz sidelined



CANBERRA Dec 1: South Africa will open their Australian cricket tour against the Prime Minister's XI on Thursday without fast bowiers Alian Donald or Brett

Schultz, reports AP. Donald has not fully recovered from a side muscle strain. while South African captain Kepler Wessels wants to keep the promising 23-year-old Schultz under wraps until the

Cricket Ground. "We don't want to give the Australian batsmen a look at him yet," Wessels said during a

opening Test against Australia

on Dec 26 at the Melbourne

Cox's Bazar soccer

From Our Correspondent COX'S BAZAR, Dec 1: The Cox's Bazar Zilla DC Cup football competition organised by the Zilla Krira Sangstha began today at the local stadium.

Thirteen teams of the district are taking part in the competi-

On the opening day, the Abdus Sobhan Club of Chittagong beat the Cox's Bazar District Eleven 1-0. Jaial netted the only goal for winners in the 18th minute of the first half, Tomorrow the Bengal FC. Chittagong will take on Chand-

gow FC, Chittagong. Earlier. Pisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah-Al-Noman inaugurated the tournament as chief guest.

practice session Wednesday.

Although he admits his team knows little about the young PM's XI, Wessels is confident of victory in the one-day game at Manuka Oval.

He said Donald, who has taken more than 40 wickets in one-day games since South Africa's return to international cricket, should be fully fit by the weekend. The paceman appeared to bowl freely in the nets Wednesday.

"At the moment things are looking all right ... by the weekend we hope everything will be back on course," Wessels said.

The South African team will not be named until Thursday morning because of fitness concerns over batsmen Daryll Cullinan and Jonty Rhodes.

"Some of the guys still have the flu, they picked it up in India," team manager Robbie Muzzell said.

South Africa arrived in Australia on Monday for its tour, which will include three Tests in Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide. Australia leave for the return tour immediately after the last Test in late January.

South Africa recorded victories in their two most recent Test series, with a 1-0 win from there Tests in Shri Lanka and a 1-0 win from four Tests in india. They flew into Sydney after losing to host nation India in the semifinals of the Hero Cup one-day tournament.

The PM's XI includes upand-coming players such as West Australian state fast bower Jo Angel and batsman. Justin Langer.

Earlier Wednesday, Prime

Minister Paul Keating officially welcomed the South African

team to Canberra. Jessore Area. Clinch Army hockey title

JESSORE, Dec 1: The Jessore Area won the Army hockey championship which concluded at the Osmani Stadium of Jessore cantonment yesterday, an ISPR press release said, reports

They defeated the Bogra Area team 3-0 in an exciting final.

Nk Md Amin Hossain of the Jessore Area was adjudged the LNk Maksudul Haque Siddique. Lt Colonel Md Fazal

scored for the winners. Malaysia will be

Kader and Nk Aminul Islam

this time KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 1: In an effort to win as many medals as possible during the Com-

monwealth Games here in 1998 Malaysia has brought 33 fulltime coaches in from abroad, mostly the former Soviet Union countries and China, reports Youth and Sports Ministry Parliamentary Secretary Ismail Said told Parliament Wednesday

that there will also be 252 local coaches training the nation's The government plans to

spend more than 130 million ringgit (US dir 50.78 million) to train some 300 athletes competing in 11 sports, Ismail said.