

# Bima's march continues

Sports Reporter



Title-aspirants Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha maintained their march towards the goal albeit unconvincingly when they beat City Club by four wickets in the lone Milaras First Division cricket super league encounter at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

The insurance men who recorded their second win on a trot owed yesterday's success to their bowlers who kept the city batsmen under tight leash in the morning after Bima skipper Towab won the toss and asked his counterpart to make the first use of the wicket.

Litu was the kingpin of the Bima attack taking four wickets for 26 runs from 8.2 overs. Ismail gave him excellent support with figures of two for 24 from nine overs. Hadi was, however, the unsung hero at least figurewise, being re-

warded by just one wicket from nine overs of extremely stingy operation with the new ball that resulted in just 13 runs.

City innings of 119 all out from all but two balls of the stipulated quota of 45 overs was a study in scarcity registering just five double-digit scores with two batsmen — skipper Wahid and tail-ender Al Amin claiming the highest score of 17.

Veteran Shabbir who is the wicketkeeper cum opening batsman of Bima scored his second consecutive half century to guide his side to the second successive win after the favourites suffered a series of early set backs in their quest for 120 runs.

City who scrambled to the super league by virtue of a win over Agrani Bank in a play-off match put up a determined show to halt Bima's progress. Their steady and trusted new-ball bowler Al Amin triggered

off an absorbing struggle by clean bowling Bima skipper Towab for six.

Al Amin's partner then sent back Sanchay with the total on 32 and at 71 Wahid trapped Kiron in front of the wicket to add to the mounting pressure on the chasers.

Although Shabbir kept his head down to ensure Bima's stifled but sustained advancement, lately introduced Saiful spread panic by dismissing two Bima batsmen in the twilight hours.

Shabbir was there at the kill with 54 not out when Bima posted 120 for six wickets in 38.4 overs. Kiron with 16 and Dear with 13 were the other Bima batsmen who were among the double figures.

Saiful captured two for eight from four overs. The trio of Bappi, Wahid and Al Amin got one wicket apiece with the last mentioned completing his quota of nine overs conceding 24 runs.

# It's 'do or die' for S Africa



PERTH, Jan 15: South Africa go into Sunday's crucial World Series cricket one-day clash against Australia here full of hope after Friday's demolition of New Zealand, reports AFP.

"That victory, our first against the Kiwis in this competition, has given us a lot of confidence for this tough game," skipper Hansie Cronje said as his side completed their preparations on Saturday at the WACA Ground practice nets.

"Our sole aim is just to beat Australia — we have not given any particular thoughts to the degree of the margin," he said. "We just want a victory and two points."

Two points from a match to be played in front of a capacity crowd of almost 30,000 would propel South Africa to equal second place with New Zealand in the triangular competition.

Run-rates would then determine which of the two teams qualified for the showdown with the home country. New Zealand have a slight edge, but a South African win on Sunday would leave the countries neck and neck.

South Africa, however, must also hope Australia beat New Zealand to next Wednesday's last qualifying game in Melbourne. Australia are already assured of a place in the 50,000 Australian (US \$4,000) best-of-three finals starting in Melbourne next Friday. Cronje said he hoped the pitch for Sunday would suit his bowlers as much as the wicket on which his team ousted the Kiwis for a paltry 150 to win by five wickets.

"It was good to get into winning position and then to be able to turn the screws," he said.

There was some concern in the South African camp about the fitness of pace bowler Brian McMillan, who has a knee problem.

McMillan was a key member of Friday's attack, capturing three wickets and, with hostile speedster Allan Donald, providing the firepower which undid New Zealand.

"The doctor has said Brian's condition cannot get worse, so we hope he will be able to play," Cronje said.

South Africa made a flying start in the limited-overs contest, defeating Australia by seven wickets in Melbourne on December 9.

But since then, the host nation has turned the tables twice, in Sydney five days later and Brisbane last weekend.

Australia, with no concerns about qualifying for the lucrative finals, are now thinking as much of honing the quality of their cricket for those clashes as of winning qualifying games.

"We want to make sure we have our game well in place for the finals," captain Allan Border said Saturday.

"Our bowling has been good so far in this contest, but our

batting has been a bit swish-ho. This is an area where we need to improve."

Top-order batsman Mark Waugh satisfied selectors on Saturday that he was overcome on an injury on the ring finger of his right hand and he is expected to play.

There have been strong suggestions that Border, who has had a poor run in the competition, may be rested, allowing dashing young Western Australian right-hander Damien Martyn to stay in the side.

Team officials have refused to cast light on whether Border will play.

Both teams will be finalised early Sunday.

### TEAMS

**AUSTRALIA:** Allan Border (capt), Mark Taylor (vice-capt), David Boon, Damien Fleming, Dean Jones, Tim May, Damien Martyn, Glenn McGrath, Paul Reiffel, Shane Warne, Mark Waugh, Steve Waugh, Tim Zoehrer.

**SOUTH AFRICA:** Hansie Cronje (capt), Daryll Cullinan, David Callaghan, Fanie de Villiers, Allan Donald, Andrew Hudson, Gary Kirsten, Peter Kirsten, Craig Matthews, Brian McMillan, David Richardson, Jonty Rhodes, Des Rundle, Richard Snell, Errol Stewart, Pat Symcox.

### Awards for lensmen

Rakib Khan of the Aajker Kagaz, a Bangali daily won the first prize of Taka 3,000 for the best photograph of the award in the Hatkhola Sporting Club Cup women's handball championship which concluded yesterday.

Amran Hossain of the Daily Star won the second prize of Taka 2,000 while Peupol of the daily New Nation whose camera work was judged third regarding the coverage of the just concluded meet was richer for Taka 1,000.

### Nat'l junior chess results

Refat-bin-Sattar, Ziaur Rahman, Tayebur Rahman and Enamul Hossain Rajeb jointly led the points table with a collection of four points each in the fifteenth national junior chess championship at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

Shawkat Hossain Pallab, Tanima Parveen, Abu Sufian Shakil stayed in the second spot with three and a half points each.

### SL-President XI 3-day match drawn

NEW DELHI, Jan 15: The Sri Lankan cricketers were ordered into the nets after struggling to 157-9 declared in cold, murky conditions against the Indian Board President's XI on Saturday, reports Reuter.

When the three-day match — reduced to just four hours of play — ended the president's XI had reached a brisk 34-1 from 'six overs.

The Sri Lankan batsmen never looked happy against the President's XI's Test hopefuls.

Dulip Samaraweera took 30 minutes to get off the mark against the lively medium pace of Bhupinder Singh and Venkatesh Prasad.

After he and fellow opener Roshan Mahanayak had put on 60, wickets fell regularly as the Sri Lankans went for their shots.

The weather-blighted match was the only one scheduled for the touring team before the first Test, against India starting in Lucknow on Tuesday.

Shri Lanka, who were prevented from practising by rain at home and then by more rain on their arrival in Delhi, play three Tests and three one-day matches in India.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the three-day cricket match between the touring Sri Lankans and the Indian Board President's XI, which ended in a draw here

### BOARD-PRESIDENT'S XI:

First innings	Kapoor J Jayasuriya	17		
	Wickramasinghe	17		
	Rathore not out	1		
	Puri not out	4		
Extras: (w-1, nb-1)		2		
Total (1 wk)		34		
Did not bat: R Dravid, S Ganguly, A Vaidya, U Chatterjee, V Prasad, Bhupinder Singh, P Vaidya, N Hirwani				
Fall of wicket: 1-30				
Bowling: O M R W				
Wickramasinghe	3.3	0	17	1
Pushpakumara	3	1	17	0

### Div III soccer

Basabo Tarun Sangha and Maghbazar Krira Chakra won their respective Pragati Insurance Third Division football league matches at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

Basabo defeated Kadamtala Sangsod 2-1.

Monirul and Arifur scored once each for the winners while Amit pulled one back for Kadamtala.

In another encounter Maghbazar KC beat Maghbazar Kisholaya 1-0.

Habibul netted the match winner.

### Friends Society Club Hatkhola h'ball champs

Friends Society Club of Rangpur clinched the title of the first-ever Hatkhola Sporting Club Cup women's handball championship out-playing Baghmara Sporting Club of Jessore 29-10 in the final at the wooden floor gymnasium adjacent to the Outer Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 15-6.

Both Nasima Gulshan and Rasheda Khatun top scored with eight goals each and Ariffin netted four for Friends.

Nazmun and Jamrun both hit three each while Farida too hit three for the losers.

Later State Minister for Textiles and chief patron of the Bangladesh Handball Federation (BHF) Abdul Mannan distributed prizes among the winners.

The president of the BHF MA Hamid, PSC general secretary Asaduzzaman Kohinor, president of Hatkhola Sporting Club SM Ali Akbar and chairman of the organising committee Ali Kabir were also present on the occasion.

Six teams from different parts of the country, including two from Dhaka, took part in the eight-day long competition.

Friends Society Club of Rangpur pose after clinching the Hatkhola Sporting Club Cup women's handball title beating Baghmara Sporting Club of Jessore 29-10 in the final at the wooden floor gymnasium of the Outer Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

# Cricketers back home

Sports Reporter

Cricketers duly returned home yesterday after having completed a 15-day tour of Pakistan as part of Bangladesh cricket team's preparation for the forthcoming ICC Trophy in Kenya starting from next month.

Under the banner of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board Eleven, the virtual national team of Bangladesh, led by Faruque Ahmed played ten matches in Pakistani cities of Lahore and Karachi from January 2 to 14.

BCCB XI won four and lost six of their ten engagements.

Sajal Chowdhury, Raimur Rashid Rahul and Morshed Ali Khan have been selected for a training stint in the Madras Rubber Factory (MRF) Pace Bowling Foundation, a clinic for grooming budding fast bowlers in the Indian city of Madras, said a BCCB press release yesterday.

Dennis Lillee, one of the greatest exponents of fast bowling is the chief instructor of the foundation which offers annual scholarships for foreign cricketers as well as the talented pace prospects from India.

Sajal Chowdhury who is regarded by observers as the fastest bowler of the land at the moment, played for Surja Tarun Club in last year's domestic league cricket. A student of Class Ten Sajal the right-arm new-ball bowler has got a smooth athletic action and generates fair amount of pace for a man of small stature.

Raimur Rashid Rahul, the tall right-arm pacer played for Brothers Union last year while Morshed Ali Khan Suman the dark left-arm paceman who completes the trio played only one match for Mohammedan Sporting Club in last year's Navana Premier league. The chosen three have been asked to report to the BCCB joint secretary today at 5-30 pm.

### MRF TRIO

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### Biman Cup soccer results

Khulna emerged zonal champions in the Biman Cup national under-14 football tournament beating hosts Sakhira 1-0 in the final yesterday.

Mozammel Haider scored the winner.

Later Deputy Commissioner of Sakhira Mohammed Muzibur Rahman gave away prizes among the winners as chief guest.

Earlier, seven district teams qualified for the nine-team final round to be held in Dhaka.

The teams were: Sylhet, Bandarban, Rajshahi, Gaubandha, Mymensingh, Patuakhali and hosts Dhaka.

Reigning champions Tangail will directly play in the final-round to be held in the last week of February.

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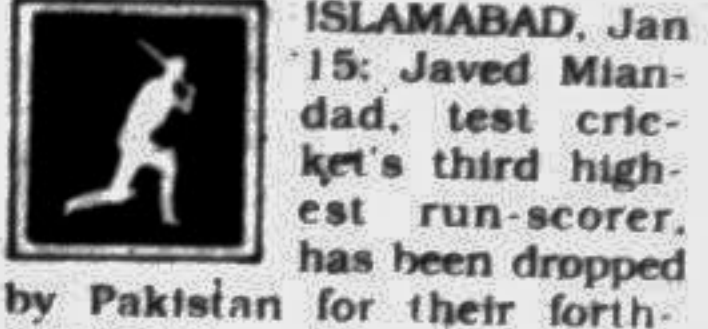
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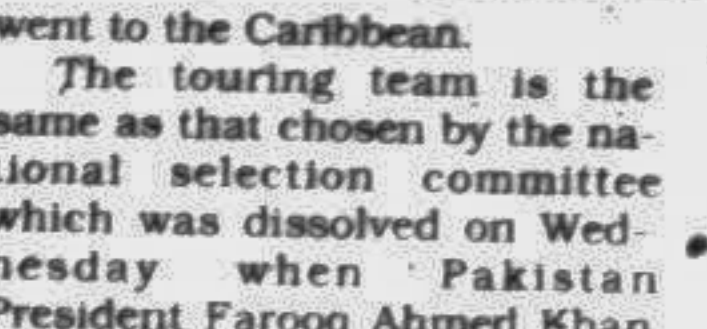
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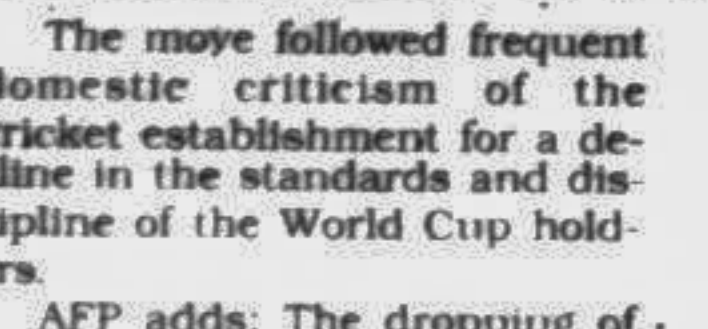
# Axe falls on Miandad & two others



JAVED MIANDAD



RAMEEZ RAJA



AAQIB JAVED

ISLAMABAD, Jan 15: Javed Miandad, test cricket's third highest run-scorer, has been dropped by Pakistan for their forthcoming tour of Bangladesh and went to the Caribbean.

The touring team is the same as that chosen by the national selection committee which was dissolved on Wednesday when Pakistan President Farooq Ahmed Khan Leghari sacked the BCCP.

The move followed frequent domestic criticism of the cricket establishment for a decline in the standards and discipline of the World Cup holders.

AFP adds: The dropping of star batsman Javed Miandad

and two other players from New Zealand-bound Pakistan cricket team has triggered a revolt in the squad, sources said Saturday.

Paceman Waqar Younis is said to be the leader of the group bitterly opposing the omission of Miandad, opener Rameez Raja and seamer Aaqib Javed from the 16-member team announced in Lahore Saturday.

Waqar was appointed vice-captain.

They have refused to play under Waqar Younis, who was appointed captain, if the axed trio were not reinstated, said sources in Lahore.

Cricket officials were holding talks in Lahore with the rebellious group to settle the issue, the sources said.

Pakistan team is due to leave for Bangladesh on January 22 to play two one-day internationals in Dhaka before proceeding to New Zealand for a 41-day tour with four Tests and three one-dayers.

Other cricketers in the protesting group were Salim Malik, Aamir Sohail, Saeed Anwar, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Rashid Latif, Asif Mujtaba, Basit Ali and Mushtaq Ahmed, the official Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) said.

Ironically, a similar revolt occurred 12 years ago when players senior to Miandad refused to play under his captaincy during a home series against Sri Lanka.

Miandad has blamed former captain Imran Khan, who led Pakistan to victory in the 1992 World Cup cricket in Australia, for his removal from the team.

He reportedly claimed that

the cricketeer-turned 'social worker' a reference to Imran, who is building a cancer hospital in Lahore — had influenced the decision.

Imran was not available for comment.

The row coincided with trouble in the country's cricket management, which led to the dissolution of the Board of Control of Cricket in Pakistan (BCCP) by President Farooq Ahmed Leghari three days ago.

The President, exercising his power as patron of BCCP, replaced the board with a three-member adhoc committee headed by former Test cricketer Javed Burki, which finalised the team for New Zealand.

Reports said the dissolution was necessitated by gross mismanagement of cricket affairs by the now defunct board.

Touring team: Wasim Akram (captain), Waqar Younis (vice-captain), Shoaib Mohammad, Aamir Sohail, Saeed Anwar, Salim Malik, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Basit Ali, Asif Mujtaba, Rashid Latif, Atif Rauf, Mushtaq Ahmed, Aamir Nazir, Ata-ur-Rehman, Shakeel Ahmed.

### LATEST

ISLAMABAD, Jan 15: Ten rebel Pakistani cricketers are refusing to tour New Zealand if Javed Miandad and two others are not restored to the team, the official APP news agency said today, reports Reuter.

Miandad, former opening batsman Rameez Raja and medium-pacer Aaqib Javed were missing in a 16-man squad named yesterday for the 40-day tour beginning on January 22.

Fast bowler and vice-captain Waqar Younis is leading the revolt, APP said. It named eight other rebels as Salim Malik, Aamir Sohail, Saeed Anwar, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Rashid Latif, Asif Mujtaba, Basit Ali and Mushtaq Ahmed, APP said, The 10th rebel player was not named.

They have refused to play under the captaincy of all-rounder Waqar Younis unless the three (dropped) players are brought back into the side," APP said.

The revolt is reminiscent of 1981, when Majid Khan, Zaheer Abbas, Imran Khan, Sarfraz Nawaz and Wasim Bari refused to play under Miandad's captaincy during home series against Sri Lanka.

Yesterday's squad selection was announced by a three-man adhoc committee named by President Farooq Ahmed Khan Leghari on Wednesday to replace the sacked Pakistan Cricket Control Board.

The committee was locked into intense negotiations with the rebel players to resolve the dispute, APP said.

### Morris joins Durham

DURHAM, Jan 15: Former England batsman John Morris has joined Durham after being released by Derbyshire, reports AFP.

The hard-hitting 29-year-old, who was won three caps, was being chased by six counties, but Durham's year-round contract, with youth development and promotional work in the winter, clearly attracted him.

Alan Wright, Durham's chief executive, said: "We've offered him an attractive package. I'm sure some of the other counties would have matched our offer, but John is keen to come here."

### DU cricket

Devastating bowling from Khokan helped the defending champions Department of Finance overwhelm the Department of Statistics by nine wickets in the Dhaka University inter-department cricket championships at the Jagannath Hall cricket ground yesterday.

Batting first, Statistics were shot out for a paltry 38 runs in 16 overs.

Latif top scored with 14.

Khokan ran through the brittle Statistics batting captured six wickets giving away only 12 runs.

Finance posted their victory target in 12.2 overs losing only one wicket.

Shahbaz remained unbeaten on 21 for Finance while Mamun took the lone wicket for Statistics.

### Border gives it thumbs down

PERTH, Jan 15: God forbid the day when an electronic eye takes over completely the role of cricket umpires. Such are the sentiments of Australian captain Allan Border, the left-hander who has scored more Test runs than any man in the history of the game, reports AFP.

Border, 38, with 10,934 runs, including 27 centuries, in 152 Tests, admits to being a traditionalist who believes the presence of umpires on the field contributes atmosphere and character to the game, even though the men in white may sometimes make mistakes.

And his anything but enthusiastic about a plan revealed by South African cricket chief Ali Bacher for the role of the third, off-field, umpire to be extended during Australia's South Africa tour starting next month.

The plan is to include adjudication of boundary controversies. Television replays will rule whether a ball has reached the boundary and whether the batsman has scored a four or six.

TV replays are used in Australia only to determine run outs and stumpings.

Border said here Saturday he was not a fan of the ex-

### Allardice blazes for Victoria

SYDNEY, Jan 15: Victoria's Geoff Allardice, recalled to the side in place of Dean Jones, top-scored for the visitors with 86 on the second day of their Sheffield Shield match against Queensland in Brisbane, reports Reuter.

Allardice added 123 for the second wicket with Wayne Phillips (42) but a middle order collapse saw Victoria reach only 272 in replay to Queensland's 347.

Pacemen Mike Kasprovic and Andrew Bichel took four wickets each for Queensland.

Allardice returned to the Victorian side when skipper Jones was selected for the Australian World Series one-day team.

### Div II soccer

Shantinagar Club have almost ensured promotion to next year's Star First Division football league with one match to spare in the Sonali Bank Second Division football league thanks to a two-all draw with title aspirants Muslim Institute at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

Shantinagar will play Lalbagh SC in their last super league match on January 19.

### FIDE ratings

Twenty-six Bangladeshis found room in the latest FIDE ratings, according to a Bangladesh Chess Federation press release issued yesterday.

Besides the nineteen players who were in the previous list, seven new players — Kalam, Mahbub, Rakib, Rafiq, Khaled, Mintu, and Qudus — have made it to the club.

The names of the players and their ratings are given below:

1. Grandmaster Niaz Morshed — 2520
2. International Master (IM) Ziaur Rahman — 2435
3. Rifat-bin-Sattar (IM) — 2430
4. Zillur Rahman (IM) — 2295
5. FIDE Master (FM) Sayed Tahmidur Rahman — 2280
6. Yunus Hassan (FM) — 2260
7. Kalimullah Khan Kalam — 2255
8. Ziaul Qader Tuhin — 2245
9. Jamilur Rahman (FM) — 2225
10. Rezaul Hoque — 2210
11. Khondker Kaes Hassan — 2210
12. Neamul Hoque Niru — 2190
13. Anisur Rahman — 2180
14. Rani Hamid (IWM) — 2155
15. Mahbub Ali Ferdous — 2150
16. Abdullah-al-Rakib — 2150
17. Rafiqul Islam — 2145
18. Sayefuddin Lablu — 2145
19. Sayed Ruhul Kabir Shiply — 2145
20. Omar Khaled — 2130
21. Sayeda Savana Parveen Nipa — 2105
22. Ali Amzad Mintu — 2100
23. Sayed Iqbal Rakib — 2080
24. ANM Ruhul Qudus — 2060
25. Nahid Misyaid — 2060
26. Roxana Gulshan — 2005

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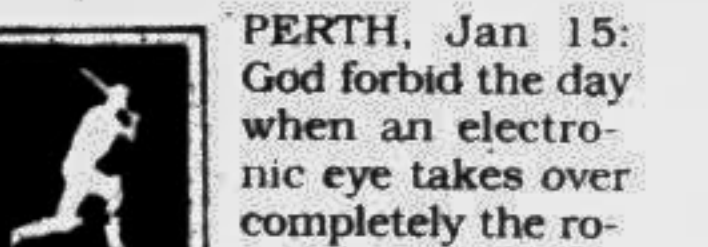
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19. Sayed Ruhul Kabir Shiply — 2145
20. Omar Khaled — 2130
21. Sayeda Savana Parveen Nipa — 2105
22. Ali Amzad Mintu — 2100
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tended use of cameras because it would be possible to get to the stage where umpires in the middle would not be used at all.

"The decisions will just be registered in red and green lights and no-one will be standing out there," he said.

Under the current Australian system, lights flashing on the scoreboard indicate whether the replay has shown a batsman out or not out.

"I fear the day of no umpires on the field may happen, and I think that to be a sad day," Border said. "I am a bit more traditional."

But it is not only tradition which drives Border's thinking. There are practical considerations, too, he says. "It is a good idea to use the cameras with line decisions where the issue is clear cut, but just about everything else is not as clear cut as it may seem — for example, things like lbws, caught behinds and catches down leg side.

"If we keep going (with modern technology), we could get to the stage where we just set up a bowling machine for a one-day game and fire balls down to batsmen who smash them all over the place.

"What do you need bowlers for? It is a game for run-scoring, and we could even play with one stump on a synthetic wicket.

There are certain special things which cricket has, and one is umpiring decisions.

"I really do question how much TV should intrude on the game."

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### FIDE ratings

Twenty-six Bangladeshis found room in the latest FIDE ratings, according to a Bangladesh Chess Federation press release issued yesterday.

Besides the nineteen players who were in the previous list, seven new players — Kalam, Mahbub, Rakib, Rafiq, Khaled, Mintu, and Qudus — have made it to the club.

The names of the players and their ratings are given below:

1. Grandmaster Niaz Morshed — 2520
2. International Master (IM) Ziaur Rahman — 2435
3. Rifat-bin-Sattar (IM) — 2430
4. Zillur Rahman (IM) — 2295
5. FIDE Master (FM) Sayed Tahmidur Rahman — 2280
6. Yunus Hassan (FM) — 2260
7. Kalimullah Khan Kalam — 2255
8. Ziaul Qader Tuhin — 2245
9. Jamilur Rahman (FM) — 2225
10. Rezaul Hoque — 2210
11. Khondker Kaes Hassan — 2210
12. Neamul Hoque Niru — 2190
13. Anisur Rahman — 2180
14. Rani Hamid (IWM) — 2155
15. Mahbub Ali Ferdous — 2150
16. Abdullah-al-Rakib — 2150
17. Rafiqul Islam — 2145
18. Sayefuddin Lablu — 2145
19. Sayed Ruhul Kabir Shiply — 2145
20. Omar Khaled — 2130
21. Sayeda Savana Parveen Nipa — 2105
22. Ali Amzad Mintu — 2100
23. Sayed Iqbal Rakib — 2080
24. ANM Ruhul Qudus — 2060
25. Nahid Misyaid — 2060
26. Roxana Gulshan — 2005