

14th national youth cricket from Feb 10

Sports Reporter

Zonal matches of the 14th national youth cricket of 1993-94, under the auspices of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB), will begin from February 10, at six different venues across the country.

The names of the 37 participating teams, groups and venues are:

Zone A — Barisal District Association (DSA), Jhalakathi DSA, Bhola DSA, Chittagong DSA, Sunamganj DSA and Munshiganj DSA. (Chandpur Stadium)

Zone B — Sherpur DSA, Kishoreganj DSA, Mymensingh DSA, Sylhet DSA, Rangamati DSA, Chandpur DSA and Narayanganj DSA (Sunamganj Stadium).

Zone C — Gopalganj DSA, Pabna DSA, Rajbari DSA, Sirajganj DSA, Jessore DSA and Tangail DSA (Faridpur Stadium).

Zone D — Magura DSA, Satkhira DSA, Khulna DSA, Jendah DSA, Kushtia DSA and Meherpur DSA (Jessore Stadium).

Zone E — Faridpur DSA, Bogra DSA, Dinajpur DSA, Thakurgaon DSA, Natore DSA, and 'Narabaganj' DSA (Pabna Stadium).

Zone F — Naogaon DSA, Rangpur DSA, Gaibandha DSA, Kurigram DSA, Nilphamari DSA and Rajshahi DSA (Thakurgaon Stadium).

Last year's champions Dhaka DSA and runners up Comilla DSA will play directly in the final round.

Raqibul new BSWA president

Sports Reporter

Raqibul Hassan, the former skipper of the Bangladesh national cricket team, was elected the new president of the Bangladesh Sports Writers Association (BSWA) while Mahmud Hossain Khan Dulal retained his post of the general secretary for another term respectively at the organisation's biennial general meeting held at the conference room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

The other 18 members of the newly elected 20-member executive committee are — Ikram-uz-Zaman (senior vice-president), Sanaul Haque Khan (vice president), M Manzur Milki (joint secretary), Kazi Alam Babu (joint secretary, international), Abdus Shukor (treasurer), Rezaul Rahman Sohaq (organising secretary), Hassan Mahmud Babie (office secretary), Utpal Chandra Shuvra (library secretary).

The members are — Salina Rafiq, Najmul Amin Kiron, Khairul Islam Shaheen, Mofakkarul Islam Dikosh, Qamrunnahr Dana, Shamsul Haque Tenku, Tohabin Haque, Abdullah Sayed, Lutful Haider Sohaq, Ataul Huq Mullick.

The election was conducted by Kazi Samsul Islam, Biman Bhattacharya and Talha Ebne Nazrul, and presided over by Abdul Towhid, outgoing BSWA president.

Orient group champs in Div II cricket

Sports Reporter

Orient Sporting Club emerged Group A champions when they beat DOHS by 59 runs in one of the three Second Division cricket league matches held at different city venues yesterday.

Batting first on the eastern strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Orient made 184 for five wickets with Shahriar and Sohag being their main run-getters with 49 and 34 not out, respectively.

Maher of DOHS took two wickets for 29 runs.

DOHS were all out for 127 with Tareq, Shuvo and Jewel chipping in with scores of 31, 31 not out and 20 respectively.

Minto and Tuhin of Orient proved to be the bane of DOHS batsmen with figures of three for 11 and two for 25.

In another match, held at the Dhaka Stadium, Ajax scored 134 for five wickets to chalk up a five-wicket win against Nabin Sangha.

Dola remained unbeaten on 35 but Rafiq top-scored for the winners with 38.

Earlier Nabin Sangha collected 130 for nine wickets from their stipulated quota of 40 overs.

Jalal with 35 and Adel, who later captured two Ajax wickets, made 26 for Nabin.

Amarjyoti beat Young Pegasus A by three wickets at the Jagannath Hall cricket ground.

Batting first Pegasus were restricted to 139 for nine with Shipon making 32.

Ahmed engineered Amarjyoti's victory with an excellent knock of 63 not out with his side posting 144 for 7 wickets in 35.5 overs.

12th Nirman Schools tourney on Arab Mission, Pallabi win

Sports Reporter

Arab Mission Public School and Pallabi Model School careered to comfortable wins yesterday, the second day of the 12th Nirman Schools cricket at the different city venues.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, powered by Sakib's half century and effective bowling by Pauline, Arab Mission outclassed Graduate High School by 113 runs.

Arab Mission bated first and piled up 213 for seven wickets with the bulk of the runs coming from Sakib and Farhad's bats.

Sakib made 79 while Farhad helped himself to another 31 runs.

Graduate's Mir Noor bowled lion-heartedly capturing four of the seven Arab wickets at a cost of 40 runs.

Pitted against a Monumental challenge of 214 for a win form the possible 31 overs since day's first innings could be stretched upto that number of overs because of a delayed start, Graduate limped to 100 for nine wickets.

Asif and Nasir were the major run-getters for the losers with 20 and 15 respectively.

Although the generous Arab Mission bowlers and fielders gave away 25 extras, Pauline helped his side in putting pressures on the Graduate batsmen with figures of three for 16.

In a match of preposterous abundance of extras Pallabi Majedul Islam Model High School beat Segun Bagicha.

High School by 58 runs in day's other encounter held at the Dhanmondi Club ground.

Aided by Mesbah's 61 and extras' 53 Pallabi who batting first, amassed 209 for seven wickets.

Maruf with 41 and Rashed with 26 were the other notable contributors for the eventual victors.

Ashraf of Segun Bagicha withstood the rather ludicrous run-glut to finish with respectable bowling analysis of two for 26.

Despite having the bonus of as many 63 extras, Segun Bagicha students were bowled out for 151 in 33.4 overs, eight balls short of the full quota of 35 overs.

Pallabi's Mansoor was the man behind Segun Bagicha's debacle. He captured four wickets for only 19 runs.

Jahangir, and Chayan of Segun Bagicha battled against Mansur's onslaughts to emerge with scores of 33 and 20 respectively.

JAMIL'S TON

Jamil added statistical significance to the inaugural importance of a tourney when he hit

Partex b'ball

Sports Reporter

Kurmitola Appolo Club defeated Backstroke Boys Club 66-62 in a keenly contested match of the Partex First Division basketball league at the Outer Stadium wooden floor gymnasium yesterday.

In another encounter, the Greys Club outplayed Fleet Club 97-60.

With skipper Sakib and Masud remaining unbeaten on strokeful knocks of 34 and 26, the winners needed just 12.5 overs to post 114 for one wicket only.

Fifty three teams are taking part in this championship sponsored by Nirman International.

Batting first Gulshan were all out for 110 in 20.3 overs with Ripon making 41.

With skipper Sakib and Masud remaining unbeaten on strokeful knocks of 34 and 26, the winners needed just 12.5 overs to post 114 for one wicket only.

Fifty three teams are taking part in this championship sponsored by Nirman International.

Solid start for Aussies

ADELAIDE, Jan 28: South African fast bowler Allan Donald angered the 20,000 Adelaide Oval crowd with a dismissive gesture after taking Australian opener Michael Slater's wicket in the third and final Test today, reports Reuters.

The incident came 24 hours after the Australian Cricket Board announced it was launching an inquiry into bowlers "unsportingly" being abusive to dismissed batsmen during the 1993-94 season.

Donald dispatched Slater for 53 as Australia, 1-0 down in the series, made 240 for four by the close of the first day after winning the toss.

Slater and fellow opener Mark Taylor had put on 83 when Donald, at top speed, bounced a delivery at Slater who edged the ball onto his helmet and into the hands of Jonty Rhodes.

Donald then spread out his arms tauntingly at the departing Slater, to the anger of the crowd, though no official warning to any player regarding conduct was made during the day, Australian officials said.

Explaining his actions when Slater was dismissed, Donald said: "When I got him out I just showed him the way. I didn't say anything to him."

The South African paceman added: "Think now we are pretty much in the game with four wickets."

(Captain) Hansie (Cronje) said to me just before lunch 'I don't care how many you go for, just get me a wicket.' I bowled (Slater) a bouncer and that did the trick."

Slater, Taylor (62) and David Boon (50) gave Australia a solid base — they were 159 for two at one stage — but each batsman got out when seemingly well set.

With Mark Waugh falling for two, South Africa pulled the Australians back to 183 for four, but captain Allan Border (28 not out) and Steve Waugh (32 not out) steadied the innings with an unfinished fifth wicket stand of 57.

South Africa fielded four pace bowlers, Donald, Fanie de Villiers, Richard Snell and Brian McMillan, omitting off-spinner Pat Symcox.

Yet it was opening batsman Gary Kirsten, an occasional spin bowler, who struck a big blow for South Africa just before tea, bowling Taylor as he advanced for a big hit.

That made the score 152 for two, and its soon became 159 for three when Mark Waugh was caught by Snell in the gully off McMillan.

Kirsten, a newcomer to bowling in first-class cricket, took one wicket for one run off four overs at one stage and ended the day with one for 32 off 16 overs, including six maidens.

Boon was dismissed after successive cuts to the boundary off Donald, who lured him into giving a catch in the deep to De Villiers.

That made the score 183 for four just after tea, at which point Border linked up with

Steve Waugh in a partnership of growing authority.

South Africa, plagued by injuries on their tour, suffered again when Rhodes was forced to leave the field after badly bruising the palm of his right hand stopping a ball in the covers.

Rhodes, who went to hospital for a precautionary X-ray, hurt his left hand earlier in the tour.

Donald bowled well on a good batting pitch with a lightning fast outfield, taking two for 61.

Venables new England boss

LONDON, Jan 28: Terry Venables vowed to devote all his time to putting England back on the glory trail here on Friday after being formally confirmed as Graham Taylor's successor, reports AFP.

The 51-year-old former Barcelona and Tottenham chief has frequently been side-tracked into unsuccessful business ventures during his time in club football.

However, after being named as England team coach on a two-and-a-half years contract worth around 140,000 pounds a year, he pledged to concentrate his energies on leading England to home European Championship success in 1996.

"I'm delighted and honoured to be appointed," said Venables, who feared that revelations and allegations about his business conduct would make him too hot to handle in the most prized job in English football.

"It's been a very turbulent time for me. Now what I want to do is put all the distractions behind me and concentrate on the most important task of my career."

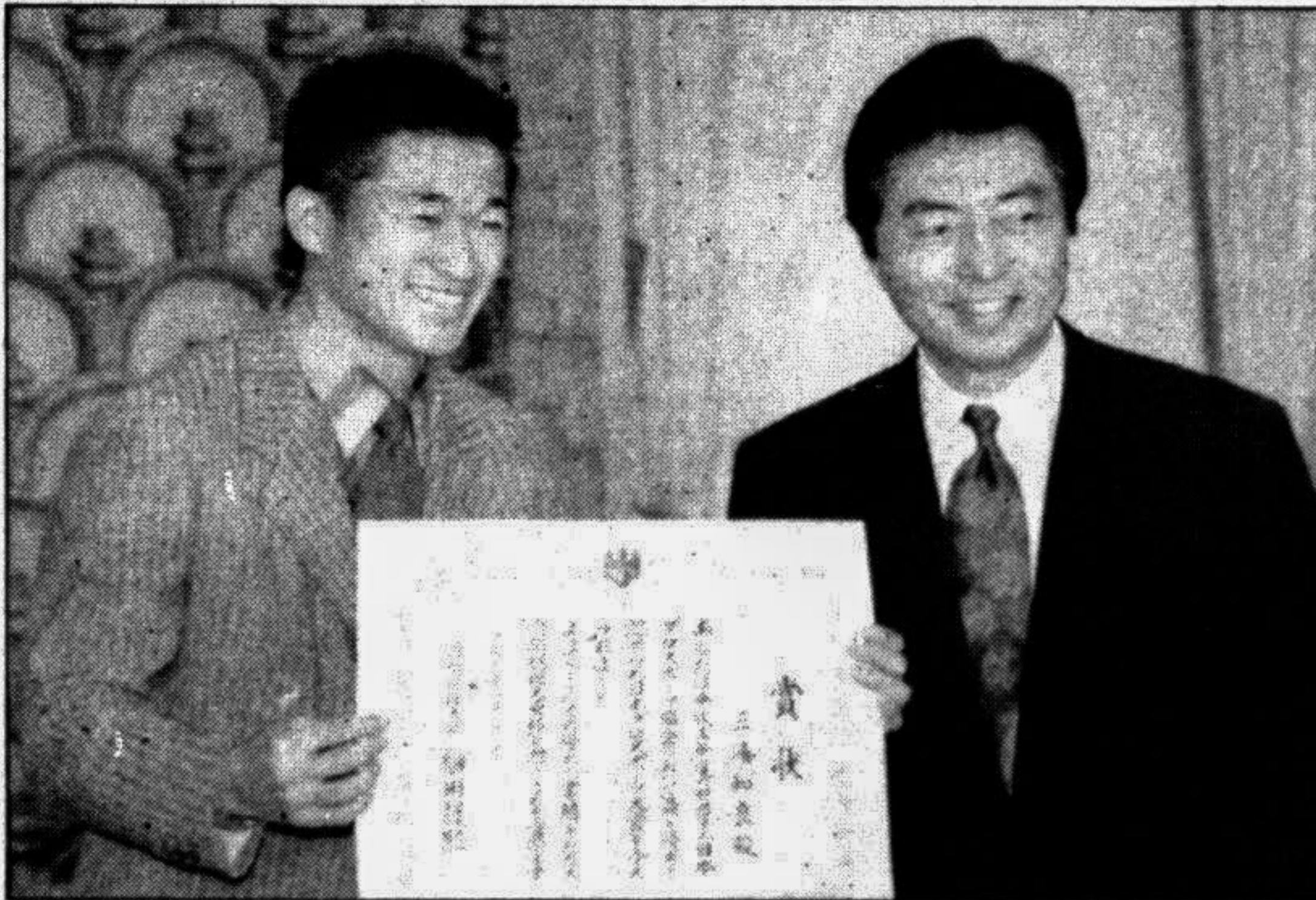
Football Association (FA) chairman Sir Bert Millichip — won round by the overwhelming support for Venables within the professional game — now endorses special adviser Jimmy Armfield's recommendation.

Venables' appointment is part of a complete restructure of the England set-up after their failure to qualify for this year's World Cup finals.

FA chief executive Graham Kelly said: "The committee decided early on that they wanted to appoint a coach as part of the overall structure."

Venables, said that England did not qualify for the World Cup finals, is not prepared to make any predictions about his reign.

His immediate priority is to pick a squad for the Denmark friendly at Wembley on March 6.



Japanese soccer star Kazuyoshi Miura (L) and Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa pose for photographers during an award giving ceremony of 1993 Japan Professional Sports Prize at the Premier's official residence in Tokyo yesterday. Miura received the Grand Prix award for his outstanding performance in the field.

Sher-e-Bangla Cup soccer results

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Ansars moved into the final of the Sher-e-Bangla Cup national football tournament when they beat Bangladesh Navy 1-0 at Munshiganj yesterday.

Shah Alam scored the match decider in the 20th minute.

Earlier, Bangladesh Army defeated Bangladesh Police 3-2 in the tie-breaker on Thursday.

The match ended goalless after 120 minutes of play.

Army play Customs and Excise in the semifinal today.

Besides, in another match held on Thursday, Munshiganj advanced to the Rajbari zone final beating Dhaka 4-2 in the tie-breaker.

The normal and the extra time of the game ended 0-0.

Munshiganj will take on Narayanganj in the zonal final today.

Div III soccer

Sports Reporter

Government Printing Press were promoted to the Second Division football league when they beat Sunrise Sporting Club 2-1 in the Progoti Insurance Third Division football league play off match at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

The first goal for Press came from Murad in the very first minute. Then Abul Kashem equalised in the 34th minute for Sunrise.

Habib grabbed the winner in the 40th minute.

Earlier, Basabo Tarun Sangha confirmed their promotion to the Second Division as they became champions in this year's Third Division league.

Both Government Printing Press and Sunrise SC earned ten points from their respective seven super league outings.

The play off was held to decide the runners up position.

When will Border quit?

ADELAIDE, Jan 28: Australian cricket captain Allan Border has declined to cast any fresh light on one of the game's most intriguing questions — when will he retire?

Border, 39 in July, is popularly expected to quit after Australia's nine-week tour of South Africa ends in early April, reports AFP.

But the veteran of a world record 152 Tests which has yielded 10,934 runs — more than any player in the history of the game — insisted here today he had still not decided when he will hang up his golden bat.

"After South Africa, I want to analyse how I feel," he said.

"I am just not clear at the moment what I want to do. I want to make sure it is the right decision at the right time."

Meanwhile, Border has given a rare insight into how he felt when he took over the captaincy from Kim Hughes more than nine years ago.

"Initially I was a very reluctant captain — no question about that," he said. "I was quite happy being one of the boys, looking after my own game."

"You don't realise until you are captain, you just ride very ball bowled in this job. You sit in the rooms wishing everything goes well. You are on the edge the whole time."

"My own attitude was not as good as it should have been when I look back now. I realise I should have jumped into the job full throttle, but I did not."

Border said he started to feel comfortable in the leadership role during the 1987 World Cup (in India and Pakistan) won by Australia.

"We were totally unfancied and it all started to come together," he recalled.

"But maybe the 1989 Ashes tour (which Australia won 4-0) was the real turnaround."

Kapil gets a move on towards his goal Shri Lanka in dire straits

BANGALORE, Jan 28: Kapil Dev moved one step closer Thursday towards becoming Test cricket's most successful bowler as India took command of the second Test against Sri Lanka, reports AFP.

The ageing all-rounder, who has recently found wickets hard to get on pitches custom-built for the spinners, had Duleep Samaraweera caught by Manoj Prabhakar for a duck to take his Test tally to 427.

Shri Lanka, replying to India's massive first innings total of 541 for six declared, suffered a second blow when star batsman Aravinda de Silva fell to a catch by Rajesh Chauhan off Prabhakar's medium-pace. De Silva scored 17.

They finished the second day on 59 for two, opener Roshan Mahanama unbeaten on 25 and skipper Arjuna Ranatunga on 11.

Kapil, under pressure to hold his place in the team as an opening bowler at age 35, is now just five scalps short of overtaking great New Zealander Richard Hadlee as the highest Test wicket-taker.

Before taking the ball Thursday, the veteran showed he had lost none of his striking prowess with the bat as he smashed an unbeaten 53 to swell India's total past 500.

The old warhorse slammed two huge sixes and six fours, dominating a 73-run unfinished partnership for the seventh wicket with wicket-keeper Nayan Mongia, who remained 18 not out.

Skipper Mohammad Azharuddin's 13th Test century highlighted the Indian innings Thursday after three batsmen — Navjot Sidhu (99), Vinod Kambl (82) and Sachin Tendulkar (96) — failed to reach three figures.

Resuming at 339 for three, India lost an unusually-subdued Tendulkar 46 minutes into the day's play when the young batting genius was bowled by left-arm spinner Don Anurasiri.

The hard-working spinner sent down 30 overs Thursday and added two more wickets to finish with four for 179.

Shri Lanka are fighting to save the three-match series after losing the first Test in Lucknow by an innings.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close of play on the second day of the second Test between India and Sri Lanka:

INDIA: 1st innings

Prabhakar c Dissanayake	14
b Wickramasinghe	14
Sidhu lbw Muralidharan	99
Kambl c Wickramasinghe	96
b Muralidharan	82
Tendulkar b Anurasiri	96
Azharuddin lbw Muralidharan	108
Manjrekar c Mahanama	39
b Muralidharan	39
Kapil Dev not out	53
N Mongia not out	18
Extras: (b-6, lb-6, nb-20)	32
Total: (for six wickets, declared)	541
Fall: 1-34; 2-182; 3-248; 4-372; 5-459; 6-468	

Bowling

Wickramasinghe	20	0	98	1
Jayasuriya	8	2	26	0
Muralidharan	65	11	179	4
Ranatunga	4	0	14	0
Anurasiri	45	2	158	1
Kalpage	19	1	54	0

SRI LANKA: 1st innings

Mahanama batting	25
Samaraweera c Prabhakar	0
b Kapil	0
De Silva c Chauhan	17
b Prabhakar	17
Ranatunga batting	11
Extras: (lb-1, nb-5)	6
Total: (for two wickets)	59
Fall: 1-7; 2-36	

Bowling

Prabhakar	9	3	24	1
Kapil	7	1	24	1
Kumble	2	0	10	0

SL charged with foul play

BANGALORE, Jan 28: India accused Sri Lanka today of employing negative tactics to stave off defeat in their second Test as Kapil Dev eyed a world record in wickets, reports Reuters.

When play resumes on Saturday after a rest day, Sri Lanka will be struggling to build on a precarious 59-for-two reply to India's 541 for six declared in the first innings.

India inflicted an innings defeat on Sri Lanka in the first Test to take a 1-0 lead in their three-match series.

"These days you do not see bowlers persisting with a leg stump line and deploying seven men on the on-side," Indian team manager Ajit Wadekar said, criticising Sri Lanka's approach to the Test.

"Even (Don) Bradman's side would have found scoring runs difficult under these circumstances."

The charge brought an angry response from the Sri Lankans. "Does the Indian manager expect us to play the way he wants?" asked Sri Lankan captain Arjuna Ranatunga.

Shri Lankan manager Bandula Warnapura said he supported his team's method of containing the Indian batsmen.

"If bowlers cannot get wickets, they have to be at least restrictive. Every team adopts such tactics," he said.

Indian captain Mohammedi Azharuddin admitted having difficulty in batting despite making a century, which narrowly eluded teammates Navjot Singh Sidhu and Sachin Tendulkar.

Sidhu, who made 99, and Tendulkar, who made 96, were dismissed after struggling at times to score on the placid pitch in this southern city, capital of Karnataka state.

The Indian bowlers and especially the spinners, however, may get more help from the pitch as it begins showing cracks.

Leg-spinner Anil Kumble destroyed Sri Lanka in the first Test with a haul of 11 wickets, but Ranatunga in a television interview ascribed the performance to luck in an apparent comment on umpiring in the Test.

Azharuddin said such a comment was not in good taste.

But, all attention in Bangalore will be focussed on the medium pacer — Kapil Dev — who rolled back the years and silenced critics with a fine all-round display in the closing stage of Thursday's play.

Kapil's unbeaten 53 and a wicket in his third delivery confirmed a return to form and put him within sight of

New Zealander Richard Hadlee's world record of 431 Tests victims.

Dulip Samaraweera's dismissal was 35-year-old Kapil's 427th, made in 129 Tests.

Once the Indian captain and still a national sporting idol, Kapil has recently been criticised at home for his poor form. Critics suggest he be replaced by Jawagal Srinnath, whose omission from the team for the Bangalore Test caused fans to loudly protest on the first day's play.

Srinath's supporters posted bills in Bangalore threatening, "No Srinath, No Test."

Kapil says he is confident of his form. "I don't know when it (the record) will come about, but I will keep on trying," he said.

But Kapil said spinners might play a bigger role in the Test. "Our spinners are bowling so well that I will have to make the most of the short spells of bowling that I will get."

For Sri Lanka, the dismissal of Aravinda de Silva is a big blow because he and Ranatunga are the side's main batsmen.

"There is no way we can even think of winning and to save the match, we will have to bat right through the next three days," manager Warnapura said. "I know that is not going to be easy."

Hong Kong's third in a row

HYDERABAD, Jan 28: Hong Kong won the women's Commonwealth table tennis team title for the third time in a row Friday, dashing England's hopes of completing a grand double, reports AFP.

The Hong Kong women, who had won the event Cardiff in 1989 and Nairobi in 1991, showed their class with an emphatic 3-1 win over England in the best-of-five match final here.

The win ruined an otherwise perfect day for England.

'Kazu' soon J-League's richest star

TOKYO, Jan 28: Kazuyoshi Miura is poised to become Japan's richest soccer star with a new one-year contract worth 220 million yen (2 million dollars), a Tokyo newspaper said on Friday, reports Reuters.

"Kazu" outshone every other player in the 1993 inaugural season of the professional J-League, scoring 20 goals in 36 matches for eventual champions Kawasaki Verdy.

"It's the kind of money you dream about, the Nikkan Sports quoted him as saying.

"I have always tried to support Japanese soccer and I'll be ashamed if my play doesn't match this amount of money."

Last season Miura earned 120 million yen (1.1 million dollars) but said he wanted to leave Japan to play in the Italian League, even if it meant a hefty pay cut.

The English women, who stormed into the final Thursday night with a great revival against Canada after being 0-2 down, failed to show the same form against the quick-moving Hong Kong girls.

Lisa Lomas led world number eight Chai Po Wa 12-9 in the first game of the opening match before a 40-minute interruption due to a power breakdown told on the English girls' nerves.

The experienced Chai fought back to take the first game 21-14 and then romped home easily by 21-10 in the second to give Hong Kong a 1-0 lead.

Allison Gordon, who fashioned England's semi-final victory over Canada by winning the decider at 22-20, wasted four match points in the second match against Chan Tan Luito go down in three games.

Gordon took the first game at 23-21 and appeared well in control when she led 20-19 in the second. But Chan smashed here way out of trouble and saved three more match points before winning the game at 27-25.

"England lifted MEN'S TITLE"

England defeated Canada 5-3 to continue their hold on the men's team title.

England's allround superiority enabled them to beat back a one man Canadian resistance in world No 14 Johnny Huang in the best of nine match final at the Lal Bahadur Indoor Stadium here.

The 30-year-old Huang won all his three matches, but found little support from lesser talented team mates.

It was England's eighth title triumph in 11 Commonwealth meets, and set them up for a grand double. England take on holders Hong Kong in the women's final later in the day.

England's heroes were Alan Cooke, ranked 53 in the world, and Andrew Eden, who won to matches each. Matthew Syed, the third player, finished with a 1-1 record.

Syed began England's campaign with a morale boosting win over Canadian No 2 Joe Gideon. Syed won in three games 21-8, 16-21, 21-15.

Cooke made it 2-0 by defeating Francis Trudel in straight games, before Huang won, Canada's first point with an emphatic 21-13, 21-18 triumph over Eden.

Cooke then accounted for Gideon to make it 3-1, but Huang reduced the margin once again with a hard fought 21-19, 23-21 victory over Syed.

Eden sealed England's superiority by defeating both Trudel and Gideon, even as Huang maintained an unbeaten record by polishing off Cooke in three games.

Huang acknowledged that England were "a better team" and deserved to win. "There was no advantage in my winning matches because there was no support form the others."

Both Huang and Cooke said they were looking forward to the individual events starting Saturday, despite the humidity inside the stadium and the uneven bounce on the tables.