

# Bangladesh beaten again



HIROSHIMA, Oct 10: China beat Bangladesh 1-0 in the Group B of the Asian Games men's hockey tournament today, reports AFP.

Jia Wei scored the all important goal in the 46th minute of the keenly-contested match.

In the other matches of the group, held earlier, Bangladesh lost 0-1 to India and 0-10 to South Korea.

TEAMS

CHINA: Liu Shuangquan, Jin Zihong, Liu Chengjun, Wang Haifeng, Yuan Xin, Gao Feng, Oui Yingbiao, Ren Baode, Zhuang Xiaoding, Li Gang, Jia Wei.

BANGLADESH: Jahangir Alam, Rabibuddin, Khwaja Iteza, Mamanur Rashid, Zahirul Islam, Abu Zafar, Mahbub Harun, Haider Alam, Mohammad Sadek, Alamgir Alam, Rafiqul Islam.

Meanwhile, India threw open the meet with a stunning 3-1 upset of powerful South Korea in a crucial Group B match here today.

India went top of the group with an all-win record and avoided a semi-final against arch-rivals Pakistan, the de-

But three minutes later,

First Test against Zimbabwe today

# Batting Lankan strength



HARARE, Oct 10: Arjuna Ranatunga, with hundreds in each of Sri Lanka's two tour games, heads a powerful batting

lineup in the first Test against Zimbabwe starting on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

The Sri Lankan skipper hit 119 against Mashonaland Country Districts and an unbeaten 100 in the match against a Zimbabwe President's XI.

Centuries have also been scored by his vice-captain Aravinda De Silva, Roshan Mahanama, Asanka Gurusingha and Hashan Tillakaratne on Sri Lanka's inaugural tour of Zimbabwe.

"Our batting, in particular, is in good shape at the moment," Ranatunga said.

In our two warm-up games, we have fielded some of our younger players but, when it comes to Test cricket, it is a totally different ball game. We are very positive, very confident and I think the boys are very keen to take on Zimbabwe as soon as possible."

Sri Lanka name their 12 after today's practice with

A RANATUNGA

wanted to flourish in the run-up to Wednesday's friendly against Romania at Wembley were disappointing.

Peter Beardsley, earmarked for a return, was almost anonymous, restricted by the thigh strain which made him doubtful for this game.

Robert Lee, captain David Platt's probable replacement, was easily kept quiet by Blackburn's hard-working midfield and could not add to this season's 11-goal tally.

An early goal would have lifted the game, but Shearer missed the best chance of a disappointing first half after only four minutes, leaping above Howey on to Stuart Ripley's cross, but powering his six-yard header across the face of goal and wide.

The Blackburn striker's frustrations were increased when he was booked for volleying over, even though he could not have heard the offside whistle. Chris Sutton, too, was punished for an innocuous foul on Steve Watson.

But with Newcastle careless at the back, the visitors looked more dangerous than a home side who struggled to get out of the tactical strait-jacket Dalglish wrapped round them.

Jason Wilcox and Mark Atkins concentrated on keeping Lee quiet, while the pacy Paul Warhurst stayed on Cole's shoulder, booked in the 49th minute for pushing the 22-year-old, whose performance justified Venables' decision to keep waiting for his England chance.

Cole got away from Warhurst in the 25th minute but his shot, strait at Tim Flowers, was a blot on his reputation.

Both Darren Peacock and Lee stumble over corners that begged to be punished, while Wilcox was just as wasteful from a chance set up by Sutton and half time was a respite rather than an interruption for a disappointed crowd.

Both sides picked up the pace after the break, but Flowers got well behind Fox's stinging shot, while Shearer's low right-foot drive in the 52nd minute had Srnicek sprawling full-length to save.

Cole, at last showing his old self, twisted into a 56th minute shot pounced on superbly by Flowers, who looks set to take over from David Seaman and England goal-

fending champions and Group A winners.

India will meet the runners-up of Group A, to be decided later in the day, in Wednesday's second semi-final.

South Korea will take on Pakistan in the other semi-final, a replay of last year's Asia Cup semi-final here which the Koreans won 4-0.

Cheered by their Sports Minister Mukul Wasnik and some 150 compatriots from the nearby Athletes Village, the Indians played brilliant hockey to upset South Korea in murky conditions. Striker Dhanraj Pillay was the hero, setting up the first two goals with lightning raids down the middle that bewildered the usually solid South Korean defence.

India took the lead in the 21st minute when Pillay's well-directed pass from the top of the circle was pushed home by an unmarked Satheesh Kumar.

The Koreans responded by forcing four penalty corners on either side of the interval. Shin-Seok-Kyu equalised for South Korea in the 53rd minute when he slammed in the second penalty corner after the break.

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## Day 8

Pillay dribbled his way past the Korean defence from the 25-yard line and passed to Bajit Singh to push in the second goal.

India forced a penalty corner in the next minute and tall defender Anil Aldrin drove home to make it 3-1.

The Koreans forced two penalty corners in the dying seconds, but were thwarted by the rejuvenated Indian defence.

Indian coach Zafar Iqbal was delighted at his team's victory but warned them against complacency.

"We played well today, but still a lot remains to be done," he said. "It will be very tough after this, but this win has given us confidence."

TEAMS

SOUTH KOREA: Koo Jin-Soo, Shin Seok-Kyu, Han Beung-Kook, Yoo Myung-Kyun, Cho Myung-Jun, Park Shin-Heum, Kang Keon-Wook, Choi Jung-Ho, Jeong Yong-Kyun, Yoo Seung-Jin, Kim Young-Kyu.

INDIA: Ashish Ballal, Rajnish Mishra, Harpreet Singh, Jude Felix, Shakeel Ahmed, Mukesh Kumar, Dhanraj Pillay, Baljit Singh, Anil Aldrin, Mohammad Riaz, Sanjeev Kumar.

# Nat'l junior gymnastics on

## Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC) swept the board on the opening day of the eleventh national junior gymnastics championships, winning all the four gold medals on offer at the National Sports Council gymnasium yesterday.

Morsched Akhter won the gold in girl's side horse event while teammate Sharmin Sultana Sumi finished first in the floor exercise.

In the boy's pommel horse, Akhter Hossain scored 17.35 points to clinch the gold ahead of Atiqur Rahman had 17.30.

Zahidul Islam captured the gold in the parallel bars while Akhter took the silver.

Fifty gymnasts including 15 girls from eight different teams are taking part in the meet.

## SL-Zimbabwe XI match drawn

HARARE, Oct 10: Last-wicket pair Ujesh Ranchod and Ervton Matambanadzo survived the final 14 balls of the match to earn the Zimbabwe President's XI an unlikely draw against Sri Lanka in their three-day match on Sunday.

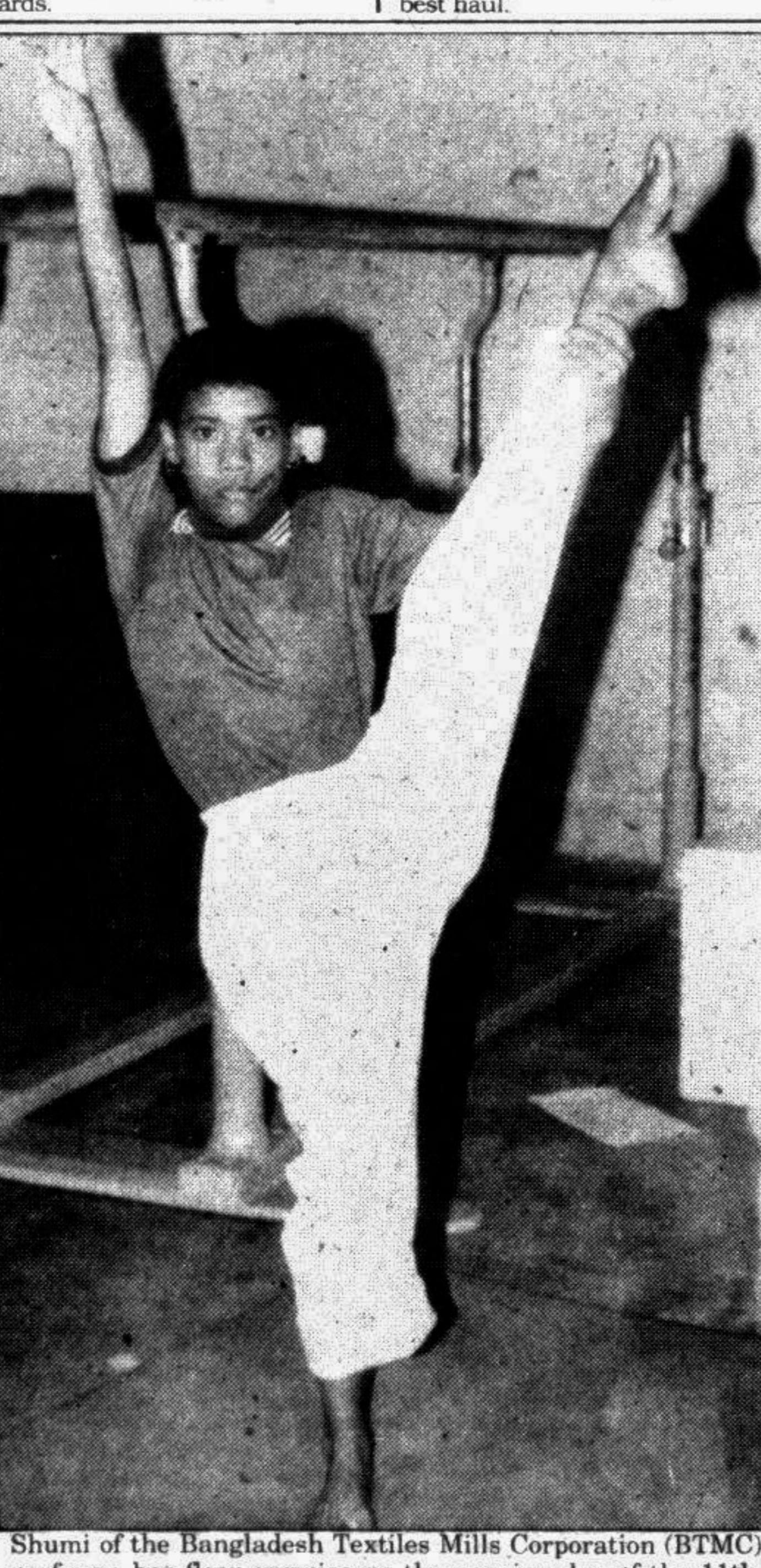
Ranachod had been dropped at slip in the penultimate over by Sanath Jayasuriya off left-armers Chaminda Vaas.

Faced with a massive first innings deficit of 406, the home side held out for 91 overs to finish on 188 for nine after Ranachod had been dropped at slip in the penultimate over by Sanath Jayasuriya off left-armers Chaminda Vaas.

Comfortably placed at 147 for three, the President's XI lost their next six wickets for only 39 runs to ensure a tense finish which had seemed improbable when they were bowled out for 96 in their first innings.

First Flowers tipped Lee's header on to the top of his crossbar from a Sellars free kick and then, when Beresford got away from Warhurst, Beardsley volleyed his cross against the same spot from 20 yards.

Resuming on their overnight score of 68 for six, they were swiftly dismantled by Vaas, who took a career-best five for 41, and 19-year-old Ravindra Pushpakumara, whose figures of five for 38 also surpassed his previous best haul.



Shumi of the Bangladesh Textiles Mills Corporation (BTMC) performs her floor exercise on the opening day of the 11th national junior gymnastics competition.



Japan's Yukari Kawamoto performs with the ball in the final of the rhythmic gymnastics individual multiple event at the 12th Asian Games in Hiroshima yesterday. Kawamoto won the gold with a total score of 37.350. — AFP photo

# China stays way ahead

HIROSHIMA, Oct 10:

Chinese walked, rowed and paddled their way to a big haul of Games gold medals Monday, and gained another from a rare letdown by South Korea's world-class women archers, reports AP.

The Koreans stormed back

in the men's team archery

event, beating Japan in the

final with a world record 259 to 236. The Japanese had set the former mark of 254 in July.

The Korean women lost

237-236 to Indonesia in the

men's archery semifinal,

but bounced back to beat Taiwan for the bronze 248-226. The 248 was a Games record. China took the final 240-231 from the Indonesians.

On the first rainy day in the

Games' eighth full day of competition, only tennis matches were halted while other events went on as scheduled.

China piled up 19 gold

medals for the day, bringing its total to 92 — approaching the goal of 100 it had set before the Games, which end on Sunday.

South Korea was far behind

in second with 33, including two on Monday. Japan captured four golds, but still were one behind the archrival Koreans' total. Kazakhstan had 13 and Iran eight, including six in wrestling.

In total medals, China had

170 to 127 for Japan, 97 for

South Korea and 43 for

Kazakhstan.

The Chinese missed out on

only one of the day's four track and field golds — in the men's 10,000 metres — which they didn't enter.

Japan's Toshinari Takaoka

won that race in a Games record 28 minutes, 15.48 seconds,

pulling away in the final stretch from teammate Jun Hiratsuka, who took the silver in 28:18.10. Takaoka broke the Games record by 11.26 seconds.

In the hammer throw, Bi

Zhong broke his own Games

record of 71.30 metres with a

winning heave of 72.24.

Japan's veteran Koji Murofushi

took silver with 67.48 and

Pakistan won its first medal of

these Games when Aqarab Abbas took bronze with 66.70.

China's formidable women's

team had started track compe-

# Clash of regional rivals

HIROSHIMA, Oct 10:

It is the game many critics expected to be the championship decider at the Asian Games soccer tournament: Japan vs South Korea.

Instead, the regional

archrivals will face each other

in a quarterfinal Tuesday night

with more than prestige and

the chance of a gold medal at stake, reports AP.

Japan and South Korea both

are bidding to be named host

for the World Cup finals in

2002 and victory is perceived

as being likely to strengthen

the winners' case.

The highly paid Japanese

squad — paced by the industry

of midfielder Tsuoshi Kitazawa,

the guile of Italian-based Kazu Miura and the power of striker

Takuya Takagi — clinched its

quarterfinal spot with a 5-0

victory over Burma Sunday night.

It was the first victory after

two draw for the Japanese,

who must now find a way to

halt the impressive scoring

threat of South Korean striker

Hwang Sun-Hong, who leads

the tournament scoring list

with eight goals from three

games in which the Koreans

have recorded two victories

and a defeat against Kuwait.

Chun Mong-Joon, president

of the South Korean Football

Association, has added heat to