

Bangladesh in 12th Asiad: Day 9

Bangladeshi performance in different disciplines on the ninth day of the 12th Asian Games at a glance:

Track and Fields:

Long Jump: Bani Amin — 7.19 metres (failed to qualify for the final)

Shooting:

Free pistol (prone) — 60 shots (best possible score 600)

Faridul Yosuf — 580 (finished 30th among 44 competitors)

GM Haider — 579 (finished 31st among 44 competitors)

Nasiruddin — 578 (finished 33rd among 44 competitors)

Soft Tennis: Bangladesh 0

Philippines 3

ASIAN GAMES MEDALS TABLE

HIROSHIMA, Oct 11: Following is the ninth day medals tally at the 12th Asian Games here on Tuesday (tabulated under gold, silver, bronze and total):

	G	S	B	T
China	100	64	241	883
Japan	36	46	541	36
South Korea	35	28	431	06
Kazakhstan	16	14	20	50
Iran	8	7	5	20
Taiwan	6	7	13	26
Uzbekistan	3	7	12	22
Syria	3	3	0	6
Malaysia	3	1	10	14
Kuwait	3	1	4	8
Indonesia	11	1	4	16
Turkmenistan	1	3	1	5
Mongolia	1	2	1	4
Vietnam	1	2	0	3
Vietnam	1	2	0	8
India	1	1	6	8
Saudi Arabia	1	1	4	6
Singapore	1	1	2	4
Qatar	1	0	2	3
Thailand	0	5	10	10
Hong Kong	0	4	4	8
Kyrgyzstan	0	2	5	7
Philippines	0	2	3	5
Jordan	0	2	2	4
United Arab Emirates	0	1	3	4
Pakistan	0	1	2	3
Sri Lanka	0	1	1	2
Brunet	0	0	2	2
Nepal	0	0	2	2
Burma	0	0	1	1
Macao	0	0	1	1
Tajikistan	0	0	1	1

President Cup snooker final today

Sports Reporter

Lloyd Gonsalves of Catholic Club along with A.B. Chowdhury of Engineers Club and Rashedul Ameen and R.I. Mian of the hosts Dhaka Club moved into the semifinals of the President Cup snooker championship at the Dhaka Club billiard room yesterday.

The four day meet, sponsored by Karim Pipe Mills Limited, ends today.

Now you see 'em, now you don't

HIROSHIMA, Oct 11: Nine Asian Games athletes — from Sri Lanka, Nepal and Pakistan — have disappeared, and police are searching for them. Athletes' Village officials said Tuesday, reports AP.

Organisers were so concerned by the problem that they called a meeting of all delegation chiefs at the Athletes' Village to discuss how to prevent further disappearances.

Officials refused to speculate on reasons for the nine men disappearing, but many Asians sneak into Japan or overstay their visas to seek higher-paying jobs than those available at home.

Before the Games began, 55 Filipinos posing as athletes in an effort to enter and find work were found to be carrying bogus identification cards and were sent home.

An Iranian was believed missing, but his delegation had not reported the matter, the officials said.

They declined to name those missing, but said they included an 800-metre runner and three cyclists from Sri Lanka, two soccer players and a Karate entry from Nepal, and two canoe racers from Pakistan.

Their delegations have asked Japanese authorities to search for them. Eiji Korekata, head of the Athletes' Village management office, said at a news conference.

The four Sri Lankans — two policemen and two soldiers — had failed to return to the Village after going out. Japanese Games organisers said in a statement. They were reported missing on Sunday.

The three Nepalese were reported missing on Monday after leaving for Osaka airport, officials added.

The two Pakistanis, both public officials left for the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park with their cameras on Sunday and did not return to the Village, officials added.

Village officials said those missing were believed not carrying their passports, since athletes' passports usually are kept by their delegation chiefs during the Games.



Chinese Taipei's Wang Huei Chen (L) lunges for the line ahead of Sri Lanka's Susanthika Jayasinghe (R) to take the gold in the women's 200 metres at the Asian Games yesterday. Wang finished in a Games' record time of 23.34 seconds. — AFP photo

Mansoor creates history



HIROSHIMA, Oct 11: Sprint king Talal Mansoor raced into Asian Games history here on Tuesday — then furiously

accused officials of plotting to wreck the greatest moment of his life, reports AFP.

The Qatari star had to survive a controversial five false starts to achieve his dream of three Games titles in a row before lashing out: "They wanted me out."

But under-fire Chinese coach Ma Junren was left smiling after his first real success here, when Zhang Linli won the 3,000m gold.

It was a triumph Ma needed desperately to restore his reputation — and help him win a power battle with his Chinese athletics overlords.

Mansoor, who clocked a new Games record of 10.18 seconds for gold, looked up to the heavens in thanks when receiving his gold medal to go with his Seoul and Beijing successes.

He said: "There were no false starts — it was crazy."

The Japanese were targeting me — they wanted me out of there.

They got rid of my teammate Saad Mustah al-Kuwaiti in the heats yesterday when he was disqualified. They thought it was me. They made a mistake so they tried again. But my God was with me."

And Qatar Amateur Athletics Federation vice-president Jebab al-Rumaihi pushed off a policeman trying to usher him away to add: "I have never seen anything like it in my life."

They got rid of one of my athletes on Monday for two false starts.

I argued with the appeal jury for four hours that there was something wrong with the electronic starting system but they argued the judge is always right.

I told them to dismiss the gun for believing the false starts but they would not listen — I was right and now it has happened again."

Officials, who admitted no runner was flagged for the last three false breaks, later conceded it was possible there was a fault with the starting system but that concession could not save Mansoor's blighted day.

The real loser, however, was Anvar Kouchmouradov of Uzbekistan, disqualified from the final after the first two failures to get the race away.

He was later to say: "Maybe I could have won but now I will never know. It was unbelievable."

By the fourth recall gun, Mansoor was waving his arms about in anger while his rivals held their heads in disbelief.

His supreme performance after the controversy — which also came on top of a brush with race officials for keeping his heat hanging around in the rain on Monday — will forever be overshadowed by the row.

But the record books will at least reflect his fine achievement, which beat his own Games record and was only

four hundredths off his personal best.

He beat chunky Vitaly Savin from Kazakhstan into silver, with the bronze going to China's Chen Wenzhong.

Mansoor still managed a lap of honour draped in his national flag.

Now Qatar athletics officials will work overtime to convince he is too young to retire at 30 — four years younger than his hero, the Olympic and world champion Linford Christie of England.

As the row blew open, Ma's bandwagon was quietly on the move at last.

Zhang Linli, the world silver medalist and pat of China's extraordinary 1-2-3 finish at Stuttgart, had to fight off local

headlines with three world champions and a string of world records last year.

Ma, whose methods include turtle and slug concoctions and iron discipline, is currently locked in a power battle with athletics chiefs in China.

He threatened to resign earlier this year over interference and although he predicted no records from his team here, he desperately needed further success to consolidate his position back home.

Ma may want to claim some reflected glory from 10km walk winner Gao Hongmiao, and marathon silver medalist Zhang Linrong, who also comes from Liaoning but whose herself denies being a Ma recruit.

But this was his first real reason to cheer.

The other major performance of the day came from sprinter Wang Hei-Chen, who ended Taiwan's 24-year-wait for an Asian Games track gold when she blasted to a title and her second 200m event record in two days.

Wang timed 23.34 on Monday she ran 23.41 — to beat Sri Lankan teenage duo Susanthika Jayasinghe and Darsha Damayanthi, with Indian comeback girl PT Usha, who won four golds in Beijing, fourth.

Oiga Chichigina of Kazakhstan produced an upset to win the women's 100m hurdles. Asian record holder Zhang Yu of China flopped with the bronze.

The heptathlon went to Syria's Sheaa Ghada who led from start to finish to record and event record of 6,360 points.

Japan took the men's 400m hurdles when Shunji Karube raced home in yet another Asian Games best of 49.13 secs ahead of compatriot Yoshiihiko Saito.

China's Huang Geng, meanwhile, the man who beat world champion Mike Powell in Tokyo in September, leapt to 8.34m to beat compatriot Huang Baotong.

Taiwan's Nai Hui-Fang and the East Asian Games winner and a Manila bronze medalist last year, could only manage sixth with 7.90.

TALAL MANSOOR

favourite Harumi Hiroyama over a tense final lap before winning in a new event record of 8 min 52.97 secs.

Lu Ou, another Ma footsider, took bronze.

Zhang later revealed a huge blister on the ball of her left foot.

I got it in training on Monday. Every step was painful," she said. "I didn't do well today. I was suffering."

For the 21-year-old Zhang, a former world junior champion and former 3,000m world record holder, this was the first major victory at senior level.

But her win was even more vital for Ma, the mercurial coach who grabbed world

Triangular series S Africans turn to Miandad

LAHORE, Oct 11: Former Pakistan captain Javed Miandad is to advise South Africa's cricketers on the state of the pitches in the triangular limited overs series starting here on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

South Africa play Australia in the opening 50-overs game at Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium where a fire pitch, which is expected to produce a glut of runs, has been prepared.

"We will be having a friendly chat with Miandad to inquire about the condition of the pitches for the tournament," South Africa's new coach Bob Woolmer told reporters as his team went through a strenuous three hours' practice.

Former England all rounder Woolmer, on his first assignment since replacing Mike Procter as coach, said taking part in the tournament would help the South Africans gain experience of the 1996 World Cup being staged on the sub-continent.

This trip has dual purposes. It will provide us with a chance to look at the players and also know about the local conditions," he said.

Pakistan have dropped number three batsman Zahid Fazal for the 14-strong squad for their game in the competition, against Australia in Multan on Friday.

His place has gone to another promising batsman Atif Rauf, who last week cracked a double century during a domestic first-class match.

Rauf went on Pakistan's tour of New Zealand earlier this year but failed to retain his place on the subsequent trips to Sharjah and Sri Lanka.

PAKISTAN SQUAD

Aamir Sohail, Saeed Anwar, Atif Rauf, Aamir Malik, Salim Malik (captain), Inzamamul Haq, Rashid Latif, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Akram Raza, Mushtaq Ahmed, Mohsin Kamal, Asif Mujtaba and Kabir Khan.

Sri Lanka 157 for one

HARARE, Oct 11: Sri Lanka were 157 for one in their first innings at the end of the opening day of the first cricket Test against Zimbabwe today.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the opening day of the first cricket Test between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka today.

SRI LANKA: First innings
Mahanama c James b Jarvis 8
Gurusinha not out 67
S Ranatunga not out 65
Extras : (lb-15, nb-1, w-1) 17
Total (for one wicket) 157

Fall of wicket : 1-28

To bat: A de Silva, A. Ranatunga, H. Tilikaratne, P. Dassanayake, M. Muralidharan, P. Wickremasinghe, R. Pushpakumara, C. Vaas.

BOWLING: O M R W
Brain 5 2 9 0
Streak 21 7 36 0
Jarvis 24 12 33 1
Whittal 10 3 16 0
Peal 25 7 36 0
G Flower 5 2 12 0

ZIMBABWE: G Flower, M Dekker, A Campbell, D Houghton, A Flower, W James, G Whittall, H Streak, D Brain, S Peal, M Jarvis.

From a superb sprinter to devoted father

HIROSHIMA, Oct 11: After sprinting to his third straight 100-metre victory in the Asian Games Tuesday, Qatar's Talal Mansoor — dubbed "Asia's fastest human" — said he was retiring to take care of his son, reports AP.

Mansoor, 30, won the gold in 10.18 seconds, breaking his own 4-year-old Games record and nearly rewriting his Asian mark of 10.14.