

Manoj spills the beans



NEW DELHI, June 3: Former Indian Test player Manoj Prabhakar alleged Monday he was offered bribes to lose matches and hinted that India's defeat to England in the 1987 World Cup semifinal may have been fixed, reports AFP.

The all-rounder said he was offered 72,000 dollars by an unnamed teammate to ensure that India lost to arch-rivals Pakistan during the Singer Cup limited-overs tournament in Sri Lanka in 1994.

"I was offered 2.5 million rupees by an Indian team member for sabotaging the match in Pakistan's favour," Prabhakar has written in the forthcoming issue of Outlook magazine.

"He asked me to play below my usual standards. I asked him to get out of my room and told him I would never do what he was telling me to do."

"Because of this I soon acquired the tag of a spoilt sport in that group," wrote Prabhakar, who quit the game last year after being axed from the national squad.

The match was eventually washed out by rain, but Prabhakar said he was often offered bribes to ensure India lost a match. He, however, did not provide specific instances or names of players.

"There are times that things

are so obvious the entire nation has watched it happen," he wrote, referring to India's defeat to England in the World Cup semifinal at Bombay in 1987.

"The rumours which were rife about India's performance

for six."

"I also distinctly remember the game against Pakistan at Sharjah in 1994 when I was batting with Sanjay Manjrekar and both of us decided to walk off because of failing light."

"To our surprise, we received a signal from the team management to play on, this decision still baffles and angers me," India lost that match in near darkness.

Prabhakar backed Pakistani opener Aamir Sohail's recent claim that many one-day internationals are fixed under pressure from sponsors and bookies.

"I remember the incident at Sharjah when Sohail and Mohammad Azharuddin (the rival captains) went out to toss and both came back claiming that the other had won it," he wrote.

Another former captain, Bishan Singh Bedi, told the paper that "there can be no smoke without fire. But then, there is no use if the name of the colleague is not revealed."

Former Test batsman Kirti Azad said Prabhakar's allegation reinforced his fears about betting.

A few months ago, a sports writer of The Pioneer newspaper alleged that a man offered him money during the recent Indian tour to the Caribbean to help him get players to rig the matches, but he refused to do so.

The officer told the magazine that he had ordered the bookmaker, who had been under police observation for some time, to call the players in New Zealand before India's match against the hosts in the four-nation Centenary Cup on February 16, 1995.

"I listened in on a parallel line and was aghast when after the courtesies, the bookie asked if everything had been done and the player replied yes it's all done," the magazine quoted the

officer, who played cricket for Bombay University, told the magazine that he was willing to present the bookie as a witness if an enquiry was set up.

"Every side, with the expectation of England and Australia can be purchased," the officer was quoted as saying. "The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) can plead ignorance, pleading ignorance is a kind of connivance."

Sunil Dev, India's manager on the recent tour of South Africa, added: "I believe the performances of some players is definitely influenced by outside forces, some former players are also involved in this racket."

"There was one player who was unhappy when India beat Zimbabwe at Benoni to qualify for the finals of the triangular one-day series."

"I was sitting next to (Saurav) Ganguly, who kept calculating how many runs were required. The other player too kept making enquiries but for a different purpose."

Indian cricket board secretary Jagmohan Dalmiya, who takes over as head of the International Cricket Council (ICC) next month, refused to believe the allegations.

"I don't know how to respond," he said. "I don't think the players are involved at all. I don't think the players will betray their country for the sake of a little money."

"If it's proved it will be the shock of my life, but it's not our job to question the assets of certain players, the country has other authorities to do the job."

Manoj Prabhakar's allegations of bribery and match-fixing, repeats AFP.

Former manager Ajit Wadekar stunned cricket circles here by revealing that he had ordered phones in players hotel rooms to be tapped for a month to find out if they were involved with bookmakers.

And an unnamed police officer told he was willing to give evidence if an enquiry was set up.

The revelations came a day after Prabhakar accused an unnamed teammate of offering him 72,000 dollars to ensure that India lost to arch-rivals Pakistan in a tournament in Sri Lanka in 1994.

Wadekar, the former Test captain who was manager from 1992 to 1996 said he was forced to tap phones without the players' knowledge when rumours of betting surfaced in early 1993.

"I found nothing incriminating or objectionable, but I had to resort to unconventional methods to find out the truth," he said.

The Outlook magazine which carried Prabhakar's allegations of match-fixing, reported that a Bombay-based police officer admitted overhearing a phone call between two Indian players and a bookmaker during India's tour of New Zealand in 1995.

At the Rajuk ground, Matuail Udayan Sangha and Magh-bazar Krira Chakra shared points with a 2-2 draw.

Four teams — Jiban Bima Corporation, East End Boys, East End Club and Dilkusha SC — won their respective matches in the National Bank First Division volleyball league yesterday, reports UNB.

Jiban Bima Corporation registered 15-3, 15-9, 15-8 points victory over Chand Textiles in the day's first match while East End Boys fought hard to beat Nabagajra Sangha.

In the day's other matches, East End Club defeated Azad Sporting Club by 8-15, 16-14, 15-11, 15-7 while Dilkusha SC beat Fire Service 10-15, 15-8, 12-15, 17-15, 15-9.

Cricketers' trading on Aug 16-19

The transfer of cricketers in the Premier and First Division leagues will take place from August 16-19, reports BSS.

The Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) took the decision at a meeting yesterday. CCDM chairman Tanveer Haider presided.

The CCDM decided to hold the Damal Smriti Cricket Tournament from September 15 to October 5.

The Premier Division and the First Division leagues will start on October 10.

The Premier Division cricket league will be a 50-over-a-side affair in the first phase while the super league and the relegation league will be a 80-over-a-side two-day match, executive secretary of the Bangladesh Cricket Board Tanzeem Ahsan Saad said, adding that it would be subject to the approval of the board.

The CCDM will try to complete the Premier league by December 31, he said.

The transfer of cricketers for the Second and Third Division leagues will take place on November 1-4.

The Second Division league is scheduled to start on November 15 and the Third Division on January 5.

Charity soccer tomorrow

Sports Reporter

Two charity soccer matches between the old and the present teams of Mohammedan Sporting Club and Abahani Krira Chakra, organised by Football Players' Welfare Association to raise funds to help the cyclone affected people will be held at the Dhaka Stadium tomorrow.

In the first match which will be a 60-minute affair, the veterans of the arch-rivals will engage themselves while the second match will be between the present teams.

Meanwhile, Abahani Krira Chakra have asked the members of their past and present teams to be present for the match at the club tent at 12 noon tomorrow.

Besides the present team, following players will feature in Abahani's old team: Motaheb, Nannu, Ashraf, Badshah, Tutul, Yusuf, Rakib, Amalesh, Helal, Hasanuzzaman Khan Babul, Suruj, Swapan, Ashish, Salahuddin, Chinnu, Gaffar, Anwar and Tamim.

Div III soccer

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Government Printing Press trounced Purbachal Parishad 3-0 in one of the two Third Division football league matches held at the Army Stadium yesterday.

"The winners led the first half 2-0.

Tariqul struck twice while Ikram scored the other goal for BG Press.

In the other match at the same venue, Fire Service recorded a solitary goal victory over Dipalee Jubo Sangha.

Haroon scored the lone match winner 27 minutes into the game.

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NBL v'ball

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Action from the Green Delta First Division league encounter between Mariners and Bangladesh Sporting Club at Hockey Stadium yesterday. Mariners won 3-1. — Star photo

Mariners keep on going

Sports Reporter

The lead as early as in the very fifth minute with national defender Lisa converting a penalty corner while Musa sealed the first half blasting the board from a Javed pass in the 32nd minute.

After the breather, Musa scored his second goal in the 39th minute as a result of a lapse in defence which saw his power packed hit sail past the advancing Farashganj custodian Khalil.

After conceding the third goal, Farashganj made a late second half rally and pulled one back through Jitender who flicked the ball home from a Wahid pass in the 67th minute.

It was the eighth successive win for Mariners they joined league leaders Usha Krira Chakra, Abahani Krira Chakra and Mohammedan Sporting Club at the crowded top slot having raised their tally to 24 points.

On the other hand, Farashganj suffered their fourth defeat which kept them glued to their previous collection of 10 points.

AJAX WIN
In the other match of the day, Ajax Sporting Club recorded a 5-4 victory over Bangladesh Sporting Club.

The winners led the first session 2-1.

Forward Shuvo struck two goals while Tuhin, Rana and Tito added one apiece. Gurdhyan Singh netted twice for Bangladesh Sporting Club and Mandeep Singh and Abu scored one each.

Ajax raised their tally to 22 points from 8 matches, two adrift of leaders Mohammedan SC, Abahani KC, Usha KC and Mariner Young's Club. Bangladesh Sporting Club have six points from eight matches.

STANDINGS
Teams M W D L GF GA P
Usha KC 8 8 0 0 79 3 24
Abahani KC 8 8 0 0 47 1 24
Mariner Young's Club 8 8 0 0 37 3 24
Mohammedan SC 8 8 0 0 31 0 24
Ajax SC 8 7 1 0 37 8 22
Wari Club 8 5 2 1 21 10 17
Sadharan Bima KS 8 5 0 3 26 8 15
Farashganj SC 8 3 1 4 11 24 10
Sonali Bank 8 2 3 3 11 11 9
Bangladesh SC 8 2 1 6 8 19 4
Azad SC 8 1 2 6 3 31 4
Victoria SC 8 0 2 6 3 38 2
B Railway 8 0 1 7 5 44 1
Bachelor SC 8 0 0 8 0 48 0
Dhaka Ansars 8 0 0 8 2 56 0
Police AC 8 0 0 8 2 56 0

Double hattrick: Kamal (Usha) against Ansars.
Hattricks: Sadek (Usha) against Ansars, Railway, Azad SC, Farashganj and Police, Kamal (Usha) against Bachelor SC, Bangladesh SC, Railway and Police, Roni (MSC) against Ansars, Biaka Lusai (Mariners) against Bachelor SC, Raju (AKC) against Bangladesh SC, Javed (Mariners) against Ansars, Tutul (Usha) against Victoria SC, Morad (S Bima) against Police and Liton (AKC) against Police.

Leading scorers (minimum five goals): 28 goals — Kamal (Usha), 25 goals — Sadek (Usha), 15 goals — Shuvo (Ajax), 11 goals — Siam (MSC), Biaka Lusai (Mariners), 10 goals — Morad (S Bima), 9 goals — Javed (Mariners), 8 Goals — Raju (AKC), Lulu (AKC), 7 goals — Tutul (Usha), Liton (AKC), 6 goals — Nixon (MSC), Roni (MSC), Nakib (Usha), 5 goals — Khokon (AKC), Alamgir (AKC), Rakib (Mariners), Mukti (Ajax), Shamimul (Wari), Musa (Mariners), Wise (Farashganj).

Worldwide Bridge on Friday
The 12th Worldwide Bridge Contest-1997 will be held at the Dhaka Sheraton Hotel at 4 pm on Friday, reports UNB.

Sponsored by Beximco, the contest will be held under the auspices of Bangladesh Bridge Federation.

Registration will start at 2:30 pm and close at 3:30 pm on the same day. Interested pairs have been requested to report in time with an entry fee of Tk 500 per pair.

Eligibility for participation in the tender

Enlisted contractor/firm of PWD, R&H or any other govt/semi govt/autonomous organization/firm who has successfully completed similar nature of work in a single tender whose estimated cost put to tender/tender value or executed value is not less than Tk 50,000/= (fifty thousand) only during the last 5 (five) years. Copies of work order are to be submitted against the performance certificate of completion of works.

Intending tenderers must procure performance certificate (in duplicate) from the concerned officer of the organization not below the rank of Executive Engineer in standard proforma (available free of cost in the Engineering Dept) & submit the same along with the attested photostat copy of (A) Renewed enlisted papers (B) Renewed trade licence & up to date income tax clearance certificate (C) VAT registration certificate (D) Uptodate bank solvency certificate.

Cost of tender schedule : Tk 400/= (Taka four hundred) only (non-refundable).

Office of selling of tender schedule : Engineering Department, Bangladesh Bank, Motijheel, Dhaka. (Annexe building 2nd floor).

Last date of selling of tender schedule : 15-6-97 up to 12:00 noon.

Office of the General Manager, Bangladesh Bank, Motijheel, Dhaka (Main building 1st floor).

Date & time of receiving the tender : 16-6-97 up to 12:00 noon.

Date & time of opening the tender : 16-6-97 at 12:15 PM.

Other terms and conditions : Incomplete & conditional tender will not be considered. Bangladesh Bank authority reserves the right not to accept any offer & also have the right to accept in full or in part or to reject any or all offers without assigning any reason whatsoever.

A H Tawfique Ahmed
General Manager
Phone No 9553702.

Bangladesh Bank Motijheel office
Dhaka

Tender Notice
No Engg 12/97

1. Name of the work : Brick flat soling pavement work for staff bus parking at Bangladesh Bank Staff Quarter, Faridabad, Dhaka.

2. Estimated cost : Tk 1,31,038/= (Taka one lac thirty one thousand thirty-eight) only.

3. Earnest money : 2% of the total quoted amount (deposits only in the form of Bank Draft/Payment Order from any scheduled bank in favour of the General Manager, Bangladesh Bank, Motijheel, Dhaka).

4. Time allowed for completion of the work (from the date of issue of work order) : 30 (thirty) days.

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