

Indian betting

MUMBAI, Sept 3: Indian skipper Sachin Tendulkar, former Captain Mohammad Azharuddin, stumper Nayan Mongia and former coach Sangeet Patil are to appear before former chief justice YV Chandrachud on Thursday, reports PTI.

Justice Chandrachud is probing the betting and match-fixing charges against the Indian cricketers accused by former Test player Manoj Prabhakar, after being appointed as the one-man commission by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

He has already conducted two sittings at New Delhi and Mumbai since being appointed. Former Test captain Ajit Wadekar, Kapil Dev, Dilip Vengsarkar and Prabhakar, Test discard Sanjay Manjrekar and Sunil Gavaskar, the Delhi and districts cricket associations' sports secretary who was manager for the tour to South Africa last year, have already appeared before the committee.

Patil was cricket coach in India's tour to England last year and Azharuddin led Indian squad.

County cricket roundup

LONDON, Sept 3: Australian Stuart Law stole the limelight from county championship pacemakers Kent and Glamorgan by blazing 155 from 131 balls for Essex against Lancashire at Old Trafford on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

Law hit 23 fours and three sixes after coming in when his side were 68 for two.

He scored his 155 out of 199 runs added while he was at the crease. Essex were eventually dismissed for 389.

Kent, joint top of the table with Glamorgan, made 305 against third-placed Gloucestershire at Canterbury, 35-year-old Allan Wells top-scoring with 77.

Gloucestershire replied with 12 for no wicket by the close.

Glamorgan dismissed Surrey for 204 at The Oval with England off-spinner Rober Croft and seamer Darren Thomas each taking three wickets.

Skipper Matthew Maynard then guided his side to 133 for 26 in reply with an unbeaten 56.

England bowlers Phil Tufnell and Andy Caddick were in impressive form in front of watching chairman of selectors David Graveney at Middlesex played Somerset at Taunton.

Tufnell, the hero of England's sixth Test win over Australia last month, took four for 53 as Somerset were bowled out for 241.

Caddick, though, refused to be outshone and took three for 25 in eight overs for the home side. Middlesex were 60 for three at the close.

Mark Waugh scored his first championship century for Warwickshire who amassed 338 for five against Durham at Chester-le-Street.

The 20-year-old reached 1,000 first class runs for the season on his way to 124.

Rio Ferdinand omitted

LONDON, Sept 3: England coach Glenn Hoddle on Tuesday omitted West Ham's teenage defender Rio Ferdinand from his squad to play Moldova in a World Cup qualifier next week after a drink driving incident, reports AFP.

A statement from Football Association director of external affairs David Davies said: "The England coach has been informed by West Ham of a drink driving incident involving Rio Ferdinand which the player deeply regrets."

Rio Ferdinand has been omitted from the squad from which the team and substitutes for the Moldova World Cup match will be selected.

"He has lost the chance of making his England debut in the match next Wednesday. He will, however, attend training sessions over the next few days. Glenn Hoddle will make no further comment today."

It is understood the offence happened in London over the weekend and has already been dealt with by magistrates.

If he had played, 18-year-old Ferdinand, cousin of England striker Les Ferdinand, would have been the youngest player since Duncan Edwards in the 1950s to have played for England.

Spirlea, Williams in semis

From Special Correspondent



NEW YORK, Sept 3: Irina Spirlea of Romania produced her best form to beat Monica Seles in the quarterfinals of the 1997 US Open at the Arthur Ashe Stadium Tuesday.

Down a set the number 11 seed came back strongly mixing her shots to upset the slow-moving Seles 6-7, 7-6, 6-3 to reach the first Grand Slam semifinal in her 7-year-old professional career. Her best showing was a quarterfinal berth at the Australian Open last January. By virtue of this win Spirlea settled a score with Seles so far this year.

The five-foot-nine Irina who according to experts modelled her game after Steffi Graf, held her serves against an attacking Seles in the first set but her backhand dropshots constantly bothered her as they all hit the net making points easier for Seles to come by. Even then she continued to play that shot.

"I know that she doesn't like

to run," said Spirlea. And then at the tie-break she blew a 5-4 lead on her serve.

The second set went pretty much the same manner but Seles tiring a bit because of running around the court. The 24-



VENUS WILLIAMS

year-old number 2 seed gradually fine-tuned her grunting as each player held to her serve. And again in the tie-break Spirlea squandered a 4-1 lead but finally managed to win 10-8 to clinch the second set 7-6. The third set was almost a one-sided affair as the granting became louder and louder Seles committed more and more mistakes and finally succumbed 3-6. "I just felt she just played better on the key points. She went for her shots. I was hitting short and to the middle. She mixed it up really well. Serve was going a lot better than my serve. That made a big difference."

It was partly time for the Romanian. She is the second woman to have reached the quarterfinals at the Australian Open this year since Virginia Ruzici in 1980, also surpassed the one million dollars in career-prize money and also the first Romanian to reach the US Open semifinals.

Meanwhile as her ranking jumped a 101 spots during the last two months, so did she Tuesday night as she brushed aside a mighty challenge from Sandrine Testud of France. Yes, 17-year-old Venus Williams of the United States reached the semifinals Tuesday night 7-5, 7-5. Williams' billed as the "champion of the future" may prove that the future could be next Saturday, the why she had been going. Prior to the US Open Venus had played at the Wimbledon and Roland Garros this year and first and second round disaster were the outcome.

But she was a vastly improved player. The five feet 11 inches Floridian upset the No. 9 Iva Majoli at the 1997 Indiana Wells as a wildcard entry eventually losing to the champion Lindsay Davenport in the semifinal. She does not have any title to her credit to date but the way she had been shaping up these will be no problems for her in very near future. She had the will, determination and powerful shots coupled with an intelligent court sense that would take her a long way. For Testud this was her first quarter in a Grand Slam since 1989. The 25-year-old upset the No. 4 seed Iva Majoli in the second round at the Open this year. Venus meets Irina in the semis — two unseeded players.

Police Red runners-up Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Police Red emerged runners-up in the KM Moinuddin Smriti Premier kabaddi league with an easy 17-6 victory over Bangladesh Rifles Juniors in the play-off held at the kabaddi court near Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 5-1.

U.S. OPEN FROM FLUSHING MEADOWS

A USTA EVENT

Tawfiq Aziz Khan

FLUSHING MEADOWS, Sept 3: Michael Chang survived a close call against the unseeded Frenchman Cedric Pioline Tuesday night and he is now the only bearer of the 'Stars and Stripes' at the 1997 US Open men's singles event. With Agassi's removal by the tough Australian Patrick Rafter, the number 13 seed all speculations of at least one American reaching the final received a jolt. Andre Agassi and Michael Chang were drawn in the lower half of the draw and had Agassi survived he would have, in all probability, played Chang in the semifinals.

Pete Sampras's surprise demise in the fourth round against the frail Petr Korda left all non-Americans in the fray. In the top half only Korda survives as a seeded player. All others — Bjorkman, Rusedski and Krajicek — are unseeded. All these players, except Korda, are big servers of the game.

World tour

A four-member group from "War Free World," a voluntary organization began a world-tour by bicycles from Jatiya Press Club on Tuesday, reports BSS.

The group members are: Asaduzzaman, Abu Sufian, Arifuzzaman and Jahangir Alam. They expect to visit about 50 countries disseminating messages of peace.

While Chang may take some solace in the fact that his opponent, the tough Chilean, Marcelo Rios in the quarters does not have the experience of topnotcher Korda will be up to his neck against Bjorkman, if the current form of the Swede is any indication.

Both Rusedski and Krajicek are top servers of the game. Rusedski has been grappling with himself for the last three years and he seems to have come to terms with himself as he reached the quarterfinals. But he will have his hands full with the 1996 Wimbledon champion Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands. Both players

US OPEN AT A GLANCE

NEW YORK, Sept 3 (AP): Highlights Tuesday of the US Open tennis championships: Weather: Hot and humid. Afternoon high was 85 degrees F (29 degrees C).

Attendance: Day session, 21,947. Night session, 20,231. Total 42,178.

Star of the Day: Irina Spirlea had 75 winners in her upset victory over Monica Seles, who had 41 winners.

Quote of the Day: "I can get used to it. I like it." Irina Spirlea on having the crowd roar for her.

are tall, well-built and possess the fastest serve. This is found to be a good context to watch. It is very interesting to note that out of the 16 seeds only two were Americans. Sampras (1) and Chang (2) and as many as 7 were Spaniards.

Enter Baggio, exit Ravanelli

ROME, Sept 3: Fabrizio Ravanelli was axed from the Italian national squad on Tuesday, as the Middlesbrough ace made way for rising stars Filippo Inzaghi and Christian Vieri, reports AFP.

Roberto Baggio, who made an extraordinary return against Poland in April also was called up from national coach Cesare Maldini for the September 10 European Group 2 World Cup qualifier in Georgia.

But aside from Baggio and Lazio centre-forward Pierluigi Casiraghi, Maldini is clearly opting for youth to lead the attack in Tbilisi.

Inzaghi, the Serie A's top scorer last season with 24 goals for Atalanta, guided Juventus to victory on his debut against Lazio on Sunday with the crucial first goal in a 2-1 victory.

He also won the Italian Super Cup for Juventus last month, scoring twice in their convincing 3-0 victory over Venezia.

Venus in famous company

From Special Correspondent

NEW YORK, Sept 3: Venus Williams became the first woman to reach the US Open semifinal in her debut since American Pam Shriver in 1978. Shriver, who was the 16th-seed, advanced to the final. She lost to second-seeded Evert 7-5, 6-4.

In the Open Era, the only other player to reach the US Open semifinal round during her first appearance at the event was American Chris Evert (1971). Unseeded, sixteen-year-old Evert lost in the semis to eventual champion and top-seeded Billie Jean King 6-3, 7-2.

Another notable Australian Margaret Smith Court reached the semifinal round during her debut in 1961.

Williams is the first unseeded semifinalist since Mima Jausovec of Yugoslavia, in 1976. She joins a group of just 12 players to reach the US Open semifinal round as an unseeded player (the feat occurred on 13 total occasions since Darlene Hard reached the semis twice as an unseeded player, 1954 and 1958).

1950 Nancy Chaffee
1954 Darlene Hard
1958 Jeanne Arth, Darlene Hard

1960 Donna Floyd
1962 Victoria Palmer
1963 Dede Catts
1964 Carol Hanks
1966 Kerry Melville
1971 Chris Evert
1974 Julie Heldman
1976 Mima Jausovec
1997 Venus Williams

Zinho back in Brazil team

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 3: Brazil coach Mario Zagallo recalled midfielder Zinho, a member of the 1994 World Cup-winning team, to the national squad on Tuesday after a two-year absence, reports Reuters.

Zinho, who played in all Brazil's games in the 1994 World Cup and won the last of 48 caps in a 1-0 win away to South Korea in August 1995, was included in the squad for next week's friendly international at home to Ecuador.

Striker Debeto, another 1994 World Cup regular, had also been tipped to end a long national team absence on Tuesday but was left out because he is still recovering from injury.

Full-back Russo, who plays for Victoria, international striker Christian and defender Bordon of Sao Paulo were the only uncapped players named Tuesday.

The six foreign-based players, including uncapped midfielder Emerson Ferreira, had been named the week before.

Several regulars, including Ronaldo and Roberto Carlos, were left out because they have already used up or are near to using up the quota of friendly internationals for which their clubs are obliged to release them this year.

The game will be in the northeastern city of Salvador on September 10.

SQUAD

Goalkeepers: Carlos Gernano, Zetti.

Defenders: Junior Russo, Bordon, Cleber, Junior Balano, Goncalves Cafu, Ze Roberto, Al-dair.

Midfielders: Denilson, Dorive, Richardinho, Rodrigo, Zinho, Emerson Ferreira, Mauro Silva, Rivaldo.

Forwards: Christian, Dodo, Donizete, Sonny Anderson.

SA soccer coach may retire

JOHANNESBURG, Sept 3: Clive Barker, who coached South Africa to the 1996 World Cup final, is expected to decide Monday whether to continue with the national soccer team, reports AP.

"The contract we handed Clive provides him with the opportunity to either accept it as a full-time or part-time position," South African Football Association head Danny Jordaan said Tuesday.

Barker has said he would retire from coaching once the team qualified for the World Cup, citing obligations to his business, a sporting goods agency in Durban.

The team's win over Congo last month, which qualified it for the finals for the first time, represented yet another milestone for South Africa's re-entry into international sports after apartheid ended in 1994.



Romanian Irina Spirlea pumps her arm in celebration after defeating second seeded American Monica Seles in the quarterfinals of the US Open in New York on Sept 2.

— AFP/UNB photo

Chang survives a scare



NEW YORK, Sept 3: Michael Chang may be small in size but he demonstrated his enormous heart

things can turn around," he said of a philosophy that has gotten him to four career Grand Slam 'finals, including last year's Open.

"I just try to go out there and just try to fight my way

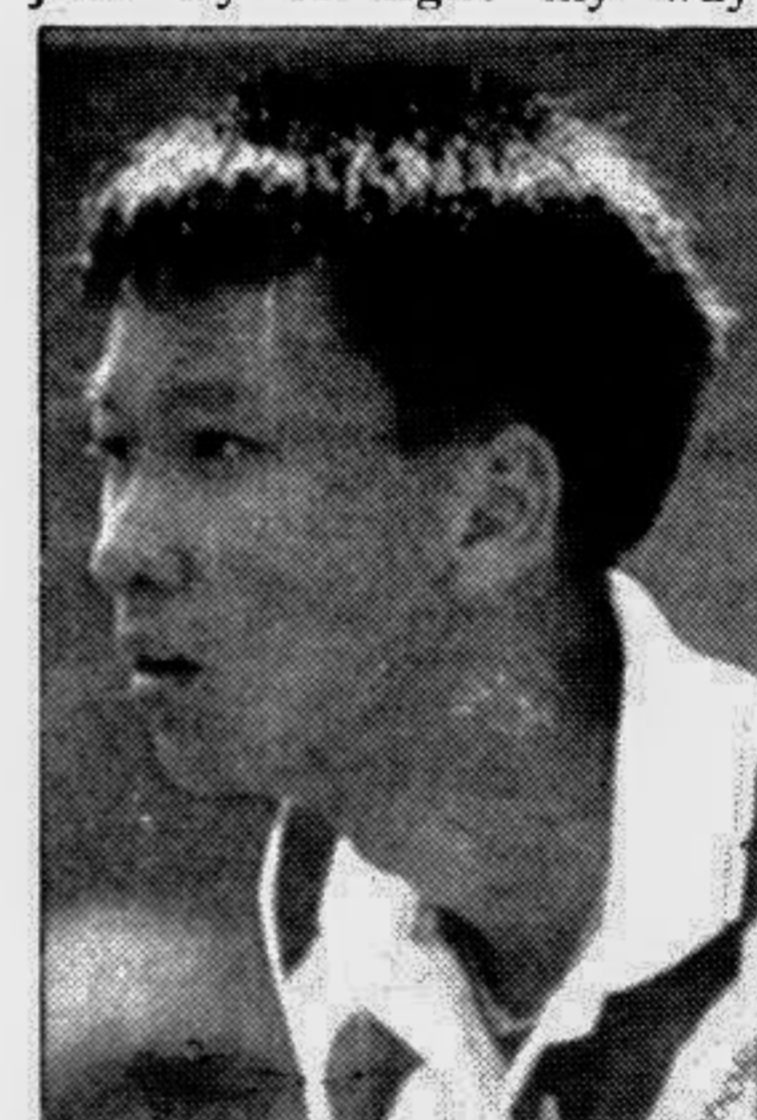
once again Tuesday in battling back from the brink to beat Frenchman Cedric Pioline in a five-set fourth-round thriller at the US Open, reports agencies.

Down 5-3 in the fourth set with the Wimbledon runner-up serving just two points away from victory, the second-seeded Chang clawed his way back in the high heat and humidity to send the game into a fifth set.

The never-say-die American, sweat streaming down his intensely concentrated face, ended up reeling off 11 of the last 12 games from the fast-fading Frenchman to claim a spot in the quarterfinals for the fifth time in the last six years.

"I thought I was being counted out already," Chang said after his dramatic 6-3, 0-6, 5-7, 7-5, 6-1 win earned him a meeting with 10th seed Marcelo Rios of Chile.

"You just never know when



MICHAEL CHANG

through, whatever it takes when I am up or whether I am down," he said.

Chang's survival instincts are well documented by his 19-9 career record in five-set matches and in the respect given to the 5-foot 9-inch battler by yet another vanquished exhausted and cramping foe.

"Everybody knows he is tough player to beat, he showed us that today," said Pioline, who barely managed to make a play at the ball in the closing moments of the three hour and 41 minute marathon that started in the afternoon and concluded on a sticky evening under the Arthur Ashe Stadium lights.

A combination of physical fitness and unsurpassed mental toughness seem to make fifth set Chang territory.

"It is a little bit of will out there," said Chang. "When you are out there, you try not to think about being tired. You try not to think about anything that has to do with the physical aspect of the game."

"In the fifth set you want to give whatever you have left to pull it out. I had a little bit more in reserve today," Chang said.

While Pioline had 48 winners, more often than not the French was frustrated by the tireless retrieving of the indomitable American.

"He can reach some balls that other players don't reach," Pioline said of the 25-year-old Chang, whom he has never beaten in five meetings. "So it is very difficult because you never know if you have a point or not."

A feeling of a job well done swelled within Chang as he walked slowly off the court.

"I think it is always nice to be able to walk off a court and just say that you gave your best," he said.

In other men's matches, Marcelo Rios of Chile and Sweden's Magnus Larsson reached the quarterfinals.

The 10th seeded Rios, 21, brushed aside two-time French Open champion Sergi Bruguera, the seventh seed, 7-5, 6-2, 6-4. And Larsson posted a 6-3, 7-6, 6-3 victory over South African Wayne Ferreira.

Chang will play in the quarters against Rios and Larsson takes on 13th seeded Australian Patrick Rafter a 6-3, 7-6, 4-6, 6-3 victory over fan favourite Andre Agassi.

Duplicate pair bridge

The monthly pair duplicate competition organised by the Dhaka Club will be held at the club premises at 4 pm on Friday, reports BSS.

US OPEN NOTEBOOK

NEW YORK, Sept 3 (AP): Lindsay Davenport is a winner before she takes the court for her US Open quarterfinal match.

Davenport will be ranked in the top five in the world when the Corel WTA Tour rankings are compiled on Monday. The 1996 Olympic women's singles gold medalist is ranked sixth this week.

Mary Pierce, who did not play in the US Open last year because of a shoulder injury, will jump two spots to No. 8.

In other upward moves, Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario will return to the top 10 and young Anna Kournikova of Russia will jump into the world's top 25 and Venus Williams will move into the top 50.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Melissa Middleton of Houston and Brandis Braverman of Newport Beach, California, have come to know each other well at the US Open.

Besides being teammates on the USTA's US National Team, they are roommates at a New York City hotel during the Open. On Tuesday, they also were first-round opponents in the Junior Girls singles. Middleton won 7-6 (8-6), 6-1.

LEFT-HANDED COMPLIMENT

When Peter Korda upset top-seeded and two-time defending champion Pete Sampras in a fourth-round match Monday night, he joined a select group.

Korda is only the third left-hander to beat Sampras since the start of 1994.

Thomas Muster beat Sampras in October 1995 at an indoor tournament in Essen, Germany, and Goran Ivanisevic beat the world's No. 1-ranked player on hardcourt at the Lipton Championships in Key Biscayne, Florida, in the spring of 1996.

HOLDING ONE'S OWN

Top-seeded Martina Hingis is the only player in the women's singles who reached the quarterfinal round at the US Open this year without losing a set.

Through the first four rounds, Hingis has won 49 games while dropping just 12.

In the Open era, 10 players have won the women's singles without losing a set. The last to accomplish the feat was Steffi Graf last year.

OLDEST SPONSOR

Canon USA, Inc., now in its 20th year as a sponsor, is the official copier facsimile machine and camera of the US Open.

This year, as in the past 12 years, Canon has an on-site service center at the National Tennis Center to provide the world's photographers and photojournalists with equipment repairs and loans.

The Daily Star TV Guide

Thursday 4th September
(All programmes are in local time. There may be changes in the programme.)

BBC

6:00am BBC World News 6:30 World Living: The Travel Show 7:00 BBC World News In World Business Report/Asia Today/24 Hours 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 World Focus: The Money Programme 11:00 BBC News 12:30 Hard Talk 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 World Focus: The Money Programme 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Focus: Airport 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Hard Talk 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 World Living: The Travel Show 5:00 BBC Newsdesk 6:30 World Focus: The Money Programme 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report & Pacific 8:30 World Living: Jeremy Clarkson's Motorworld 9:00 BBC World News 9:30 Hard Talk 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 World Living: Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India 11:00 The World Today

12:30 Hard Talk 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 World Focus: Panorama 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Living: Tomorrow's World/Time Machine 3:00 BBC Newsdesk In World Business Report & 24 Hours 5:00 BBC World News 5:10 Newsnight

CHANNEL V

6:00am Rewind VJ Sophia 7:00 Turn On TV 8:30 Rewind VJ Sophia 9:30 Turn On TV 1:30 By Demand VJ Trey 2:30 Liberty First Day First Show 3:00 BPL Ovel 4:00 Turn On TV 5:00 Music Update Tokyo 5:30 Turn On TV 7:00 By Demand VJ Trey 8:00 Turn On TV 8:30 Close Up Close Encounters 9:00 Videoclan Flashback 9:30 Turn On TV 10:00 Liberty First Day First Show 10:30 Malibu Jammin VJ Sophia 11:00 Freestyle 11:30 The Ride 12:30 Turn On TV 1:00 Hayash VJ Dania 2:00 By Demand VJ Trey 3:00 The Ticket 3:30 Sigaw Manila VJ Joey 4:30 Turn On TV

STAR PLUS

6:30am Ninnad 7:30 Good Morning India 9:00 Business Agenda 9:30 Ninnad 10:30 The Wonder Years 11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:00 EL TV 12:30 Simply Delicious: Fish 1:00 Nine To Five 1:30 Picket Fences 2:30 The Bold & the Beautiful 3:00 Santa Barbara 4:00 The Crystal Maze 5:00 The Wonder Years 5:30 Maneka's Ark 6:00 Dasi Mein Kala 6:30 Kohra 7:00 Ek Din Ek Jeevan 7:30 Star News (Hindi) 8:00 Meri Awaz Suno 8:30 Tu Tu Main Main 9:00 Ghatun 9:30 Star News 10:00 Are You Being Served? 10:30 Baywatch 11:30 The Bold & the Beautiful 12:00am Santa Barbara 1:00 Star News 1:30 Space Above and Beyond 2:30 Mystery Movie: Caddale "The Sanctuary Sparrow" 4:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show 5:30 21 Jump Street

STAR SPORTS

9:00am Asia Sports Show 9:30 FIM World Motorcycle

Championships Czech Grand Prix Highlights 1:00 Inside PGA Tour 11:30 Sports Illustrated 12:30 EPGA BMW International Open 1:30 World Wrestling Federation Raw 3:30 US Open Tennis 1997 From: Flushing Meadows New York, USA Day 10 Night Session: Men's & Women's Quarter Finals 7:00 US PGA Tour 97 Greater Milwaukee Open Day 3 8:30 Whitbread Round The World Preview 9:00 Live US Open Tennis 1997 From: Flushing Meadows, New York, USA Day 11 Night Session: Men's Quarter Finals

STAR MOVIES

7:30am Film Club: Georgia 15 9:30 Family: Eggs From 70 Million BC 12 (Hindi Subtitles) 11:30 Action: Armour Of God 15 (English Subtitles) 1:30 Action:

Arctic Blue 15 3:30 Thriller: Hidden Fears 15 5:30 Film Club: Victim of Innocence 15 7:30 Family: The 12 Tasks of Asterix G (Hindi Subtitles) 9:30 US Top Ten 10:00 Romance: Secrets 15 12:00 Madcap Murder: A Perfect Little Murder 15 2:00 Film Club: The Power Of One 18 6:00 World Cinema: Sanshiro Sugata (English Subtitles)

PTV

08:00 TILAWAT AUR TARJUMA/HAMD/NAAT 08:20 CARTOON 09:30 KHABRAIN 09:30 Out of Context 09:30 Ashang & Roshni 09:45 Phool Chandi 10:05 Serial 10:30 Buttons And Rashes 10:55 Nagma 11:00 Khabra 11:10 Dastan 12:55 Play 12:45 Kawaii 12:55 Kolan-E-Hakim & Bismillah 01:15 Serial 02:00 Serial 02:45 Perspective & Health Forum 03:40 Talimi Mahummat 04:35 Aurat Aur Kanoon 05:25 Serial 05:55 Serial: Chayya 06:25 Aloo Course 07:05 Mukabli Hai

Asina 07:20 Annak Wala Zin 07:45 English News 08:05 Jawan Sangat 08:45 Serial 09:00 Break for Headline News 10:00 Khabarnama & Commercial News 10:35 Mast Mast Sanyo (Musical Show) 11:15 Urdu Feature Film & KHAS KHAS KHABRAIN: CLOSE DOWN

DD 7

10:30 Janmadin (Birthday Greetings) 10:35 Daily Sopa: Oga Priyatham 11:00 Daily Sopa: Rajeshwari 12:30 Serial: Chuti Chuti/Harek Rakama 01:30 Daily Sopa-Simarkha 02:30 Kusaha Zakhn 02:30 Sukhi Dukhina (Serial) 03:00 Dailly Sopa 03:30 Pristana/Ghurni/Vey 03:30 Daily Sopa: Rajeshwari/Tana 04:00 Sanela 10:30 Zee News 10:55 Stand By (Trailer Show) 11:00 Hindi Feature Film 01:30 Fuji (Shahrul Khan) 02:00 Fasana (Serial) 02:30 Public Demand 03:30 Sorry Meri Lorry 04:00 Hindi Feature Film (B/W)

Katha (Serial) 08:30 Chelana (Serial) 09:00 Jannabumi (Serial) 09:30 TBA 10:00 Bengali Movie Club Film Show 01:00 Closed

EL TV

07:00 Yeasoon Ki Baral 07:30 Stand By (Trailer Show)