

Sport

Hockey team off to Delhi

Sports Reporter

A 20-member Bangladesh hockey team left for the Indian capital of New Delhi yesterday to take part in the Sri Singh Memorial hockey tournament.

Bangladesh, a regular visitor to the domestic meet in India, will feature in the second round. The first round has already got underway at Jalandhar in Punjab on November 3.

Besides, the national team will also take part in the prestigious Nehru Cup, scheduled to begin in Delhi from November 15.

Mohammed Sadeq, the veteran centre-forward, will lead the national team, which included 16 players and four officials. Besides, it was learnt that two observers — Sajed Adel and Nurul Amin — are also accompanying the team. But surprisingly, the authorities have failed to even provide assistant coach of the team Jamal Haider a Government Order (GO) who after being ignored by the selectors expressed his desire to accompany the team at his own expense. The former national player had represented the national team in three Asia Cup appearances.

SQUAD

Mohammed Sadeq (captain), Khurshid Alam (vice-captain), Shamim Ahmed, Mohammed Javed, Rabiuddin Ahmed, Mamun-ur Rashid, Isa Miah, Ishtiaq Ahmed, Mahabubul Ehsan, Rafiqul Islam Kamal, Gausuddin Rubel, Ramiz Ahmed, Monwar Hossain (team leader), Zahidur Rahman Pushkin (manager), Ehtesham Sultan (coach) and Fazlur Bari (doctor).

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) has also announced the list of a quartet of stand-by players. They are — Rashed Khan, Shahidul Islam Khokon, Tutul Kumar Nag and Shamsuzzaman.

Inzamam, Shiv retreat

TORONTO, Nov 4: A Pakistani cricket star and a heaving fan, both arrested after a fight during a match in Toronto's Sahara Cup series, have dropped assault charges against each other, reports AP.

"We were prepared to prosecute both sets of charges but defense counsels for each party came to me and indicated that their clients were willing to have the charge against the other side withdrawn," Prosecutor Fred Braley said Monday.

Cricketer player Inzamamul Haq was cleared of two counts of assault and one count of assault with a weapon; fan Shiv Kumar Thind was cleared of assault with a weapon.

During the international cricket match between Pakistan and India on Sept. 14, Inzamam allegedly ran into the stands and punched and kicked Thind.

Witnesses said Thind, 29, was heckling Inzamam, 27, and calling him a potato through a megaphone.

A video of the game shows Inzamam being led back on to the cricket field after wrestling with a fan, Braley said. Thind is seen chasing after him and throwing the megaphone at him.

"This would have been over relatively simply if it hadn't been for the retaliation," Braley said.

Both men suffered minor injuries and Inzamam was suspended for two games.

3 more enter Chase field

STAMFORD, Connecticut, Nov 4: The field for the Chase Championships grew by three Monday when Mary Pierce, Irina Spirelea and Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario qualified for the season-ending tournament, reports AP.

The top 16 singles players and top eight doubles teams will compete for more than 2 million dollars in prize money at New York's Madison Square Garden the week of Nov 17.

Already in the elite field are Martina Hingis, Monica Seles, Lindsay Davenport, Amanda Coetzer, Iva Majoli and Jana Novotna.

Spirelea reached the semifinals of the US Open in September, losing to Venus Williams in a match best remembered for an on-court bump between the two players.

Pierce won the Italian Open and reached the final of the Australian Open, while Sanchez-Vicario shared the singles crown at Eastbourne — the final was rained out — thus keeping intact her streak of 10 straight years with at least one singles title.

Feyenoord back on track

ROTTERDAM, Nov 4: Feyenoord ended a run of four successive defeats with a 2-1 victory over RKC Waalwijk in the Dutch First Division on Sunday, reports Reuters.

Feyenoord, who sacked coach Arie Haan on Tuesday and are still without a replacement, needed the victory to lift morale before Wednesday's Champions League match against Manchester United but the performance left much to be desired.

Feyenoord's Argentine duo Patricia Graff and Julio Cruz had them 2-0 up with Carlos van Wanrooy claiming a late consolation for the visitors.

Double delight for hosts



LAHORE, Nov 4 (AFP, AP): Saeed Anwar's unbeaten 108 steered Pakistan to a comfortable eight wicket win over West Indies in the quadrangular cricket tournament here Tuesday.

He put on a 164-run unbroken stand with Aamir Sohail as Pakistan romped home with 9.2 overs to spare. Sohail finished 71 not out as Pakistan scored 219 for two in 40.4 overs.

Pakistan with one win in two matches remain in contention for the final while West Indies with three defeats in three matches have bowed out of the tourney.

Earlier, West Indies' front line batsmen fell cheaply as the hosts restricted the visitors to 215 for seven in 50 overs.

Phil Simmons and opener Stuart Williams helped West Indies surpass the 200-mark with half centuries after their other batsmen had failed to reach the double-digit figure mark.

Simmons made 70 off 103 balls while Williams cracked 10 fours in his 75 runs before he was bowled by Azhar Mahmood in the 33rd over.

After skipper Courtney Walsh lost his third toss in this four-team competition, Pakistan sent the West Indies to bat.

Walsh crumbled at 56 for four in only the 17th over of the innings.

Simmons and Williams then put on 74 runs for the fifth wicket before Mahmood broke the partnership.

Batting sensation Brian Lara (7), on whom West Indies rely heavily, lasted for only 12 deliveries before he played on to paceman Waqar Younis in the 12th over of the innings.

Carl Hooper managed only a single off 10 balls and became one of Saqlain Mushtaq's two opening spell victims.

All the Pakistan bowlers bowled to a disciplined line and length with Mushtaq grabbing three wickets, including that of Simmons for 35 runs.

Younis picked up two wickets for 42 while Mahmood was economical with 2-26.

Pakistan face Sri Lanka on Wednesday. South Africa have already qualified for the November 8 Final.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the quadrangular cricket tournament between West Indies and Pakistan at the Gaddafi Stadium Tuesday:

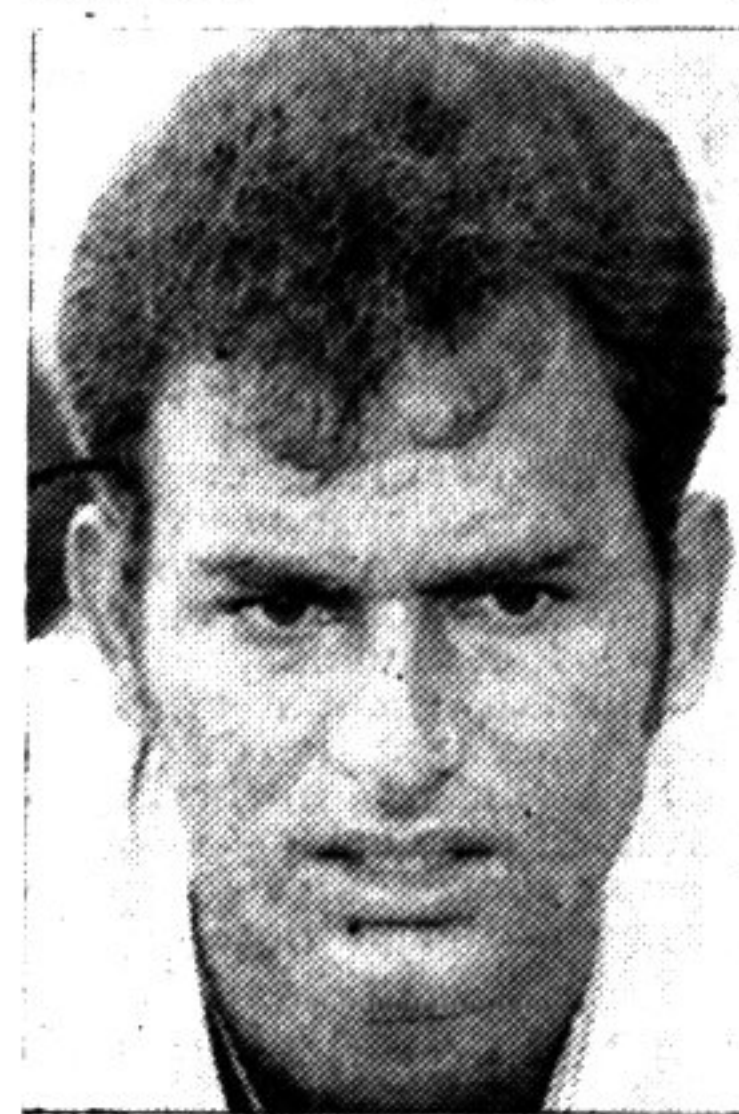
WEST INDIES	
Williams b Mahmood	75
Campbell c Latif b Waqar	6
Lara b Waqar	7
Hooper c Afridi b Saqlain	1
Chanderpaul lbw b Saqlain	0
Simmons c Latif b Saqlain	70
D Williams c and b Mahmood	13
Bishop not out	15
Rose not out	7
Extras: (b-5, lb-11, w-5)	21

Total: (seven wickets in 50 overs)	
Fall of wickets: 1-24; 2-51; 3-54; 4-56; 5-130; 6-166; 7-204	
Bowling	
O M R W	
Akram	8 0 35 0
Waqar	10 1 42 2
Saqlain	10 0 35 3
Afridi	8 0 41 0
Sohail	5 1 20 0
Mahmood	9 1 26 2

Khan, Wasim Akram, Rashid Latif, Waqar Younis, Saqlain Mushtaq	
Bowling	
O M R W	
Walsh	7.4 1 43 1
Rose	7 1 41 0
Dillon	8 1 37 0
Bishop	5 0 42 1
Hooper	9 1 29 0
Chanderpaul	1 0 5 0
Simmons	3 0 19 0



ANWAR ...m-o-m



SOHAIL ... 71 n.o.

Only Haynes ahead of Anwar

Sports Reporter



Prolific Pakistani batsman Saeed Anwar blasted his thirteenth century in one-day cricket during the quadrangular tournament match against West Indies at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore yesterday.

The stylish left-hander, who was going through a lean patch recently, returned to the form with an unbeaten 123-ball 108.

which included 12 fours.

Anwar, who also holds the world one-day record for the highest score of 194 runs, became the second man to score more than twelve centuries in one-day internationals. Former West Indian opener Desmond Haynes leads the list of centuries with an enviable seventeen hundreds. Indian skipper Sachin Tendulkar remains on the third place with twelve centuries.

Runs	Against	Venue	Date
126	Sri Lanka	Adelaide	Feb 17, 1990
101	New Zealand	Lahore	Nov 2, 1990
110	Sri Lanka	Sharjah	Feb 4, 1993
107	Sri Lanka	Sharjah	Oct 30, 1993
131	West Indies	Sharjah	Nov 1, 1993
111	Sri Lanka	Sharjah	Nov 2, 1993
104*	Australia	Rawalpindi	Oct 22, 1994
103*	Zimbabwe	Harare	Feb 22, 1995
115	Sri Lanka	Nairobi	Oct 4, 1996
104*	New Zealand	Sharjah	Nov 11, 1996
112	Sri Lanka	Sharjah	Nov 12, 1996
194	India	Madras	May 21, 1997
108*	West Indies	Lahore	Nov 4, 1997

PAKISTAN
Afridi b Walsh 17
Anwar not out 108
Ijaz lbw b Bishop 5
Sohail not out 71
Extras: (lb-3, w-6, nb-9) 18
Total: (for 2 wickets in 40.4 overs) 219
Fall of wickets: 1-34; 2-55
Did not bat: Inzamamul Haq, Azhar Mahmood, Moin

Result: Pakistan won by eight wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Saeed Anwar (Pakistan).

STANDINGS

Teams	P	W	L	Pts
South Africa	2	2	0	4
Sri Lanka	1	1	0	2
West Indies	3	0	3	0
Pakistan	2	1	1	2



West Indies opener Stuart Williams sweeps Pakistan left-arm spinner Aamir Sohail (not in picture) for a boundary during their yesterday's quadrangular cricket tournament clash at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore. The West Indian scored his side's highest 75.

— AP/UNB photo

Warne's warning to NZ



BRISBANE, Nov 4: New Zealand's cricketers have been told to dig deeper after a disastrous start to their Australian tour, while star Australian spinner Shane Warne says he is ready to dig their graves, reports AP.

New Zealand have suffered two embarrassing defeats by an innings against Queensland and New South Wales heading into the first of three Tests, starting at the Gabba on Friday.

The Kiwis have crumbled to Queensland off-spinner Paul Jackson and NSW leg-spinner Stuart MacGill in their two losses, an ominous pointer to their chances against one of the world's top spin bowlers.

Warne was upbeat about his form ahead of the Test, despite a below par return in the Sheffield Shield match against Queensland which ended Monday.

Warne had the unflattering figures of 1-106 off 34 overs in Queensland's second innings as the match ended in a draw, but declared himself ready to find form against New Zealand.

"Leading up to the first Test, I

think I'm in pretty good condition," he said.

New Zealand are due to choose their team on Wednesday or Thursday but poor form of the team has clouded the issue — although the options are limited.

Coach Steve Rixon admitted his credibility had probably been harmed by his team's efforts on tour.

"I'm sure it has, but I don't care," Rixon said Wednesday. "I

know I can achieve things with this team but I need them to dig deeper."

Captain Stephen Fleming said the team had been overwhelmed by the thought of playing a team whose record suggests it is the best in the world.

"There is a lack of confidence associated with making the step up to play the world champions," Fleming said.

"The guys have felt the intensity — some of them to the point where it's putting them off their game."

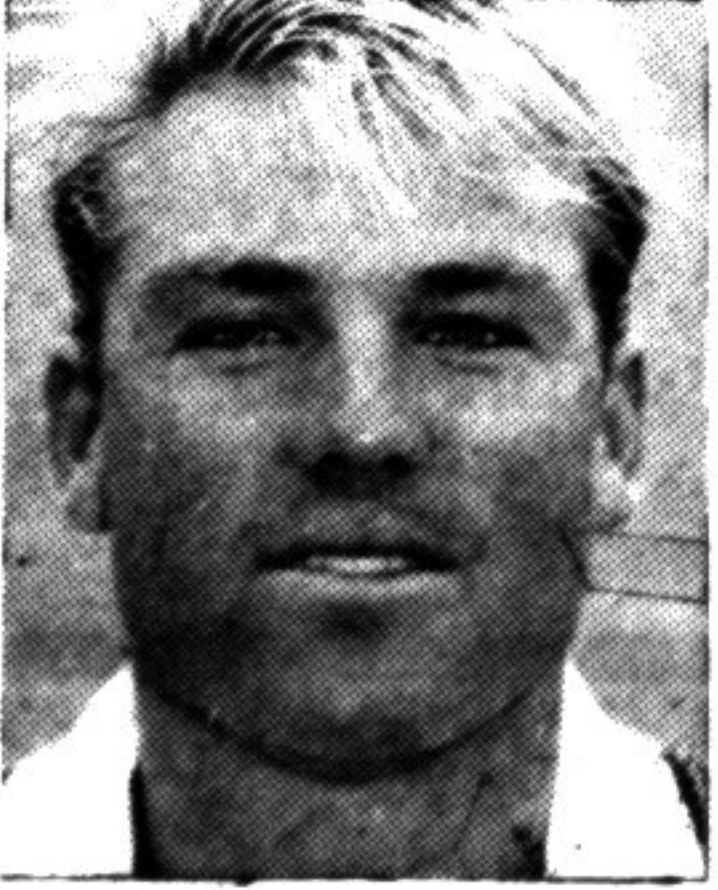
Australia named a no-surprises line-up Monday.

There are still some places in doubt for New Zealand, with Nathan Astle, Matt Horne and Craig McMillan vying for the No 3 and No 6 batting spots.

Spinner Daniel Vettori, seamer Simon Doull and pacer Shane O'Connor and Geoff Allott are likely to make up the bowling attack.

The rest of the team picks itself with Blair Pocock and Bryan Yong opening, Fleming at No 4, Chris Cairns at No 5 and wicketkeeper Adam Parore.

Fleming said he was confident the Kiwis could overcome their woes in time for the Test.



SHANE WARNE

Damal Smriti cricket AKC-Agrani first

semi today

Sports Reporter

After a day's rest the knock-out phase of the 18th Damal Smriti cricket tournament begins today at the Dhaka Stadium with holders Abahani Krira Chakra facing last year's runners-up Agrani Bank in the first semifinal.

The match will kick off at 9 am. Bangladesh Betar will provide ball-to-ball commentary from the big bowl.

When the crucial encounter between the two finalists of the yesteryear's edition of the season's curtain-raiser gets underway Abahani, undoubtedly the best bet among the two, will chiefly rely on their Pakistani duo of Monirul Haq and Test discard Basit Ali for a smooth passage into the final. On the other hand, the bankers, a surprise package in the last four, will be looking for yet another disciplined bowling backed by some adrenaline-pumping fielding from a constellation of upcoming youngsters to upset the applecart of the popular Dhamond outfit after their sensational 41-run win over a high-flying Kalabagan on Monday.

AB Bank TT

Mariner Youngs get promotion

Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club emerged unbeaten champions in the AB Bank First Division table tennis league to earn promotion to Senior Division beating Uttara Club by 3-0 sets in the last league tie at the NSC woodenfloor gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.

Mariners topped the list with full 20 points from 10 matches while Uttara Club finished runners-up having 16 points from same number of outings. Bangladesh Bank Club also collected 16 points but were placed third in the tie breaker.

The title deciding match of the Premier Division league between Armanitola JS and Bangladesh Biman will be held today.

Div II handball

West Jatrabari KC earned a huge 34-3 goal victory over Purbachal Parishad in the Ashraf Real Estate Second Division League at the handball court near Dhaka Stadium, reports UNB.

The winners dominated the first half 17-1.

Earlier in the day's first match, Bangladesh Boys Club defeated Pratyasha Club 19-11 after leading the first half 8-5.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Baniganagar Sports Club vs VDP Handball at 2:30 pm.
Mansoor Sporting Club vs Surjo Sena Sports Club at 3:30 pm.

Swiss Timing to sponsor Thai Asiad

BANGKOK, Nov 4: The Swiss Timing company has agreed to sponsor the Asian Games in Thailand late next year and will finalise the 7.0 million dollars deal in Bangkok this week, reports said today, says AFP.

Some 3.5 million dollars will be for a scoreboard in Bangkok's main Hua Mark Stadium. The rest will be used for timing apparatus for swimming, athletics, cycling, rowing and canoeing events, the Bangkok Post said.

Santiparb Tejavaniya, marketing director of the Bangkok Asian Games Organising Committee (BAGOC) was quoted as saying Swiss Timing had sent a statement assuring they would sponsor the Games.

Bickering among the Asiad organisers this year had threatened Thailand's staging of Asiad's biggest sports event. But the Olympic Committee of Asia last week announced it was satisfied by preparations.

A representative of Swiss Timing was due in Thailand on Thursday to negotiate technical conditions of the contract, but it was uncertain when it would be signed, a BAGOC official told AFP.

Kuerten advances

MOSCOW, Nov 4: French Open winner Gustavo Kuerten hung on to beat Sjeng Schalken of the Netherlands in a three-set tie-breaker match in the first day of play in the 1.125 dollars million Kremlin Cup tennis tournament Monday, reports AP.

Kuerten of Brazil, the fourth seed and ranked 14th in the world, won 6-7 (7-3), 7-6 (7-3), 7-6 (7-3).

But three other seeded players were upset Monday.

Jan Krosnak of Slovakia, who is 17, eliminated fifth-seeded Felix Mantilla of Spain, 7-5, 7-6 (7-3).

Sargis Sargsian of Armenia downed the only Frenchman in the tournament, seventh-seeded Fabrice Santoro, 7-3, 2-6, 6-3.

Alex O'Brien of the United States defeated eighth-seeded Nicolas Kiefer of Germany, 7-5, 6-3.

Martin Damm of the Czech Republic ousted Albert Portas of Spain, 6-7 (7-3), 6-2.

Daniel Vacek, also of the Czech Republic, beat David Prinosil of Germany 6-0, 6-2.

The tournament is being played on a supreme surface. The winner will get dirr 157,400.

Steve's pep talk to mates



BRISBANE, Nov 4: Australia's premier batsman Steve Waugh said today his teammates must ensure they blot out the distraction of strike speculation going into Friday's first Test against New Zealand here, reports AFP.

Waugh said the top-rated Australian team had not been diverted by the dispute over pay and conditions between the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) and the Australian Cricketers' Association (ACA) over the past month.

"You should be man enough to handle a few distractions," said Waugh as the Australian team assembled here to prepare for the opening game of the three-Test series against out of form New Zealand.

As secretary of the ACA, Waugh is more heavily involved in the dispute than his teammates but he said the team focus would be firmly on beating the Kiwis.

"It's not a perfect world out there, you don't go into a Test match with nothing on your mind at the best of times. That's all part of life and you've got to be able to overcome it," he said.

The woeful form of New Zealand has been cited as a cause for likely Australian

complacency, just months after the successful Ashes defence in England, but the flinty Waugh disagreed.

New Zealand had been flogged in innings defeats by Queensland and New South Wales in their only two tour first-class games.

"We expect to win, we'd be

disappointed if we didn't win the series," Waugh said. "I don't care who I'm playing, whether they are the top ranked or bottom ranked side. It's a Test

match, so if you take it lightly I'm sure someone else would like to be there."

The English side got written off about seven or eight years ago — the press said they couldn't bat, bowl or field — and they beat us pretty easy in the first Test.

"Players tend to fire up for Test matches."

Waugh, who withdrew from the New South Wales match against the Kiwis with a hand injury, thought the New Zealanders could easily improve.

"Discipline looks their main problem at the moment," he said.

"The bowlers have got to look for more consistent line and length and batsmen have got to occupy the crease."

TEAMS

AUSTRALIA: Mark Taylor (captain), Matthew Elliott, Greg Blewett, Mark Waugh, Steve Waugh, Ricky Ponting, Ian Healy, Paul Reiffel, Shane Warne, Michael Kassarowicz, Glenn McGrath, Andy Bichel (12th man to be named).

NEW ZEALAND (possible): Bryan Young, Blair Pocock, Matt Horne, Stephen Fleming (captain), Nathan Astle, Chris Cairns, Adam Parore, Daniel Vettori, Simon Doull, Heath Davis, Shayne O'Connor.

STEVE WAUGH

action of strike speculation going into Friday's first Test against New Zealand here, reports AFP.

The athletes would also be subject to the doping policy of their sport's international governing body.

The pair's coach was not being investigated, Coates said.

"We have received no allegations that the coach has been involved in aiding and abetting," Coates told ABC.

The two bobsledders tested positive in their primary (A) urine sample and the results were confirmed by further testing of secondary (B) samples on October 24.

The news comes just days after Coates publicly warned some outspoken Australian officials against attacking China over claims it had renewed its drug programme particularly for swimmers and track and field athletes.

The Australian swimming coaches association said in a statement on Monday China should be excluded from the world titles in Perth in January, if adequate testing was not done. Leading Australian swimming coach and anti-

drugs campaigner Forbes Carlie denied today the positive tests would undermine Australia's credibility as an international anti-doping campaigner.

Carlie said there was a huge difference between two Australian bobsledders testing positive for steroids and the systematic doping he believed was going on in several Chinese sports.

"There will always be isolated, unilateral cases of athletes taking drug of their own free will," said Carlie.

"We know that will happen, there will always be a percentage."

"But there's a huge difference between that and systemised doping."

The winter Olympics begin in Nagano, Japan, in February.

An Australian bobsleigh team has yet to qualify for selection but five members of the national squad are in Calgary, Canada, to contest their opening qualifying event this weekend.

Last year, Australian sprinter Dean Capobianco tested positive for steroids at a European meeting in the lead-up to the Atlanta Olympics.

Aussie pride at stake

SYDNEY, Nov 4: Australia's reputation as a nation largely free from drug use in sport was in jeopardy today after it emerged that two candidates for its Winter Olympic bobsleigh team had failed dope tests, reports AFP.

Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) president John Coates confirmed the two bobsleigh competitors had tested positive for the steroid stanozolol.

The tests were taken at a shadow Olympic team assembly in Sydney in September but Coates refused to name the pair.

He said the AOC was maintaining confidentiality under its anti-doping policy until it had decided what action to take.

Under that policy we have requested the national sports disputes centre set up a panel, usually of three lawyers, to provide a hearing for these athletes," he told Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) radio.

"They have the opportunity to defend the allegations and give any explanations they want."

He said the panel would then determine whether there had

been an infringement which would warrant punishments.

The pair could face possible two-year bans for a first offence if the hearing found against them, he said.

The athletes would also be subject to the doping policy of their sport's international governing body.

The pair's coach was not being investigated, Coates said.

"We have received no allegations that the coach has been involved in aiding and abetting," Coates told ABC.

The two bobsledders tested positive in their primary (A) urine sample and the results were confirmed by further testing of secondary (B) samples on October 24.

The news comes just days after Coates publicly warned some outspoken Australian officials against attacking China over claims it had renewed its drug programme particularly for swimmers and track and field athletes.</