

Sport

Asian youth hockey Bangladesh squad leaves for KL tomorrow

The national youth team will leave the city on Monday night for Kuala Lumpur to take part in the 4th Asian hockey tournament, reports UNB.

The 12-team meet will begin in the Malaysian capital on May 3.

Bangladesh finished 4th in the first Asian meet in New Delhi in 1988, placed 5th in the second meet in Malaysia in 1992 and became 6th in the last meet in Singapore in 1996.

The national youth team will play a warm-up match with South Korea on May 2 (Tuesday) before starting their Asian campaign with India on May 3 at the Bukit Jalil Stadium.

Team leader M Shamsul Bari, also general secretary of the Hockey Federation, set a target to enhance their position and expressed optimism to play good games also against Uzbekistan, China, Japan and Iran.

Bangladesh have been placed in Pool B with India, Uzbekistan, China, Iran and Japan while Group A comprises South Korea, Pakistan, Oman, Singapore and host Malaysia.

In the other group matches, Bangladesh will meet Uzbekistan on May 4, Iran on May 6, Japan on May 8 and China on May 9.

Pakistan power

From page 13

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Runs/Wickets. Includes names like Inam-ul-Haq, Saqlain, and others.

Result: International XI won by 5 wickets.

Tourists

From page 13

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Runs/Wickets. Includes names like Hinds, Mushtaq, and others.

Lucky Lions

From page 13

Group A with no obvious threat to the 'Indomitable Lions'.

Angola are rebuilding under new coach Carlos Alhinho.

Zambia are in the doldrums. Libya lack experience after a long, self-imposed exile and Togo are lightweights.

The biggest challenge to Nigeria in Group B should come from arch-rivals Ghana, who have never reached the finals despite producing stars like Abedi Pele and Tony Yeboah.

Libya, Sierra Leone and Sudan complete the line-up.

Tunisia can expect tough opposition from Ivory Coast and the Democratic Republic of Congo in Group D with Congo and Madagascar capable of causing surprises at home.

Mini-league matches begin over the weekend of June 16-18 and finish on July 29 2001 with group winners qualifying for the first finals to be staged in Asia and the first to be co-hosted.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer

Public Works E/M Division-6 2nd 12-storey Govt Building Segunbagicha, Dhaka

Memo No 14-4/1649 Dated: 18-4-2000 5-1-1407

Tender Invitation Notice No 87 (1999-2000)

Tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 under sealed cover are invited from Public Works Directorate's special first class & combined first class, E/M works enlisted first class/second class contractors for the undermentioned work.

Tenders will be received in tender box kept at Public Works E/M Division-4/5/6 & Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka offices during office hours up to 12:00 Noon of 10-5-2000 and opened on the same day at 12:30 PM in presence (if any) of the tenderers or their nominated representatives.

Terms & conditions etc can be purchased at usual price Tk 425/= (four hundred twenty-five) only (non-refundable) from Public Works E/M Division-4/5/6 & Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka offices during office hours latest up to 9-5-2000.

Earnest money at the rate 2% (two per cent) of estimated cost must be submitted with each tender in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of Executive Engineer, Public Works E/M Division-6, Dhaka. This office authority reserves the right to accept any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason.

Contractor himself or his attested letter bearer representative may purchase the tender form on production of registration book with requisite papers. Participant in the tender must submit TIN certificate & original receipt of purchasing tender document with the tender.

Table with 4 columns: S/N, Name of work, Estimated cost, Earnest money, Time allowed.

Super Eagles still happy

LAGOS, Apr 29: A cross section of Nigerians are optimistic that despite being grouped alongside arch rivals Ghana in the same 2002 World Cup qualifying pool, the Super Eagles will reach the soccer finals in Japan and South Korea, reports AFP.

"It's a good draw for Nigeria", said Paul Bassey, publisher of the daily sports paper TodaySports.

"The luck of this draw has to do with the fixtures. Nigeria will begin their campaign at home against a relatively weak team in Sierra Leone. A good

any way better than our Super Eagles. All we need is to put our house in order and not repeat the type of mistake we made in the Sydney Olympic qualifiers that saw us struggling against little football countries like Uganda, Angola and Zimbabwe," the sports analyst said.

But local newspapers here reflect the fear in the minds of some Nigerians by pegging their stories of the draw on the clash between the Eagles and the Black Stars of Ghana.

"Nigeria draw Ghana" (The Champion), "It's Nigeria

Against Ghana!" (Nigerian Tribune), "Rivalry comes alive again, as Nigeria, Ghana draw same World Cup group" (The Guardian).

Nigeria, who have qualified for the last two World Cups, are pitched against Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Sudan in Group B of the African zone of the qualifying series for the 2002 finals to be co-hosted by South Korea and Japan.

The winner of this group will qualify alongside the winners of the four other five-team groups for the World Cup.

QUALIFYING DRAW

- Group A: Angola, Zambia, Libya, Cameroon, Togo
Group B: Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Liberia, Ghana
Group C: Algeria, Senegal, Namibia, Morocco, Egypt
Group D: Madagascar, Congo DR, Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), Tunisia, Congo
Group E: Guinea, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Burkina Faso, South Africa

QUALIFYING FIXTURES

- 16-18 June, 2000 - Angola-Zambia, Libya-Cameroon, Nigeria-Sierra Leone, Sudan-Liberia, Algeria-Senegal, Namibia-Morocco, Madagascar-Congo DR, Cote d'Ivoire-Tunisia, Guinea-Zimbabwe, Malawi-Burkina Faso
7-9 July, 2000 - Zambia-Togo, Cameroon-Angola, Sierra Leone-Ghana, Liberia-Nigeria, Senegal-Egypt, Morocco-Algeria, Congo DR-Congo, Tunisia-Madagascar, Zimbabwe-South Africa, Burkina Faso-Guinea
26-28 Jan, 2001 - Angola-Libya, Togo-Cameroon, Nigeria-Sudan, Ghana-Liberia, Algeria-Namibia, Egypt-Morocco, Madagascar-Cote d'Ivoire, Congo-Tunisia, Guinea-Zimbabwe, South Africa-Burkina Faso
23-25 Feb, 2001 - Libya-Togo, Cameroon-Zambia, Sudan-Ghana, Liberia-Sierra Leone, Namibia-Egypt, Morocco-Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire-Congo, Tunisia-Congo DR, Malawi-South Africa, Burkina Faso-Zimbabwe
9-11 March, 2001 - Togo-Angola, Zambia-Libya, Ghana-Nigeria, Sierra Leone-Sudan, Egypt-Algeria, Senegal-Namibia, Congo-Madagascar, Congo DR-Cote d'Ivoire, South Africa-Guinea, Zimbabwe-Malawi
20-22 Apr, 2001 - Zambia-Angola, Cameroon-Libya, Sierra Leone-Nigeria, Liberia-Sudan, Senegal-Algeria, Morocco-Namibia, Congo DR-Madagascar, Tunisia-Cote d'Ivoire, Zimbabwe-Guinea, Burkina Faso-Malawi
4-6 May, 2001 - Togo-Zambia, Angola-Cameroon, Ghana-Sierra Leone, Nigeria-Liberia, Egypt-Senegal, Algeria-Morocco, Congo-Congo DR, Madagascar-Tunisia, South Africa-Zimbabwe, Guinea-Burkina Faso
29-30 Jun, 2001 - Libya-Angola, Cameroon-Togo, Sudan-Nigeria, Liberia-Ghana, Namibia-Algeria, Morocco-Egypt, Cote d'Ivoire-Madagascar, Tunisia-Congo, Malawi-Guinea, Burkina Faso-South Africa
13-15 Jul, 2001 - Togo-Libya, Zambia-Cameroon, Ghana-Sudan, Sierra Leone-Liberia, Egypt-Namibia, Senegal-Morocco, Congo-Cote d'Ivoire, Congo DR-Tunisia, South Africa-Malawi, Zimbabwe-Burkina Faso
27-29 Jul, 2001 - Angola-Togo, Libya-Zambia, Nigeria-Ghana, Sudan-Sierra Leone, Algeria-Egypt, Namibia-Senegal, Madagascar-Congo, Cote d'Ivoire-Congo DR, Guinea-South Africa, Malawi-Zimbabwe



Pakistan power

win in this game will shore up the confidence of the Eagles," said Bassey, a Nigerian member of CAF media committee.

"But more importantly, Nigeria will play against the Black Stars first in Ghana while the return leg match will be the final game of the qualifiers which could be decisive if both teams play to form."

"It has always been difficult for Nigeria against a fluid playing side like the Ghanaians but if we need a result against them in the final match in Lagos, we will get it, he added."

Nnamdi Anazia, sports manager of Rhythm FM, a local private radio station, said that Ghana should not pose any problem to Nigeria "if we are able to get our bearings right from the very first game in the preliminaries."

"The Black Stars are not in

DPRK idea gains support

ZURICH, Switzerland, Apr 29: Plans for North Korea to play a role in the 2002 World Cup being co-hosted by South Korea and Japan were backed by FIFA president Sepp Blatter here on Friday, reports AFP.

The head of football's world governing body confirmed that North Korea's involvement in the first ever World Cup finals in Asia was still a possibility.

"The door is still open but it is up to the politicians to make the first move," said Blatter.

Already there are plans to have a joint North-South Korean team compete in the Asian Cup in Lebanon later this year.

South Korea's FIFA vice-president Chung Mong-Joon has called for the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) to agree to a joint team when it meets next month in Kuala Lumpur.

"There is no reason why they should not agree," said Chung, who has been the driving force in the bid to use sport to help unify the divided country.

He has gained the support of AFC general secretary Peter Velappan.

"It will not be an easy task but anything the AFC can do to help lead to unification we will," said Velappan.

"Football has already helped the goal of peace in our region. We have seen Iran play Iraq, Kuwait play Iraq, Pakistan play India. If North and South Korea were to come together we would be delighted. Football will be the winner," he added.

"The only time they were together was during their match when they took to the field," he added.

However, the success of getting the North to join with the South will depend on the success of the meeting between South Korean President Kim Dae-Jung and North Korea's supreme leader Kim Jong-Il in an unprecedented summit in Pyongyang in June.

FIFA's executive committee will receive a report on the summit and will then decide on whether or not to give their support to North Korea being involved in the 2002 World Cup.

Chung has been trying to persuade the North to compete in the 2002 World Cup by staging two of the event's 32 matches.

But if the joint team plays in the Asian Cup then it may be carried over to the 2002 World Cup.

Chung said that when he visited Pyongyang last November, North Korean sports lead-



But Asian sources said they are determined to stop a repeat of the last time the North and South put forward a joint team.

"While they might have been joint in name, the under-20

Good news for Anelka

MADRID, Apr 29 (Reuters/AFP): Real Madrid's troubled striker Nicolas Anelka is set to start his first match on Saturday since he staged a strike at the beginning of March.

Injuries and the need to rest players before Wednesday's Champions' League semifinal first leg against Bayern Munich has prompted Real Madrid coach Vicente Del Bosque to call the French international against Espanyol.

However, Del Bosque has indicated that Anelka, formerly of England's Arsenal, is likely to be back on the bench for Bayern match. He last started a game nearly two months ago.

Anelka missed training for three days shortly after a Primera Liga match with Oviedo and criticised Del Bosque, his teammates and the club.

The club suspended him from all activities for 45 days, although the sentence was later commuted after he apologised, and he forfeited wages of about 60 million pesetas (328,000 dollars).

Del Bosque was left with little choice but to bring back Anelka after Fernando Morientes and Savio picked up injuries in last Wednesday's Spanish Cup semifinal, which was also against Espanyol in the Montjuic Olympic Stadium.

In the past few days Anelka has been linked in the Spanish media with a summer move to Paris St Germain.

Anelka said Friday that he wanted to return to play for his first professional club St Germain.

The 21-year-old told French television that he would be interested if the Paris-based club approached him to return to his hometown.

A record 23 million pound (37 million dollars) close-season signing from Arsenal last August, the striker has failed to fit into the Spanish side this season. He played for PSG from 1995-1997.

Espanyol have named Yugoslav international defender Branko Brnovic among their substitutes to face Real Madrid.

Brnovic, who played in the 1998 World Cup finals, has been out since April 1999 with various injuries.

Quazi Abdul Malek Executive Engineer Public Works E/M Division-6 Dhaka. Phone No 9351012

Reefat's solo lead persists

Sports Reporter

International Master Reefat Bin-Sattar of Bangladesh Biman maintained his solo lead at the end of the fifth round at the Professor Abdur Razzak 26th National Chess Championship at the conference room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

Reefat beat Sheikh Nasir Ahmed of Bangladesh Ansars. Playing with black pieces Reefat adopted the Sicilian Defence against Closed variation of Nasir and won after 48 moves. It was his fifth straight victory.

Ziara Rahman was closely following his Biman teammate with 4.5 points. Zia beat Fide Master Enamul Hossain Razib of Titas Club in the round. Razib also lost his fourth round match to Nasir. Zia played with white in English Opening and won at the 71st move.

Abu Sufian Shakil of Ansars drew with Monir Hossain of Leonine Chess Club. Shakil, playing with black pieces, opted for Dutch Defence and drew in 20 moves.

International Master Abdullah Al Rakib of Biman beat Arifuzzaman Shikder. Rakib played with white against Old Indian Defence of Arif and won at the 56th move. Sakwat Hossain Pallab of Ansars beat Dewan Shahidul Amin of Kamalapur Samaj Kalyan Sangha. Pallab played with white against Sicilian Defence of Tipu in Rozolimo Variation and won after 25 moves. Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiplu of Titas beat Mainuddin Ahmed of Chittagong. Aminul Islam of Leonine beat Saifuddin Lovlu of Titas.

Abul Kasem Bhuiyan of Titas beat Taibur Rahman Sumon of BUET. Kasem played with white against Sicilian Defence of Sumon and won at 60th move.

Points: 5: Reefat; 4.5: Zia; 3.5: Rakib, Sakil; 3: Mainu, Monir; 2.5: Shiplu, Sumon, Amin; 2: Razib, Pallab, Tipu; 1: Lovlu, Arif, Nasir, Kasem.

The sixth round matches will start at 2:30 pm today at same venue. The matches are Reefat vs Sumon, Tipu vs Kasem, Shiplu vs Pallab, Sakil vs Mainu, Arif vs Monir, Lovlu vs Rakib, Razib vs Amin and Nasir vs Zia.

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Dream turns nightmare

EINDHOVEN, Netherlands, Apr 29: Ruud van Nistelrooy will be out of action for up to eight months after rupturing an anterior cruciate ligament in his troublesome right knee during his comeback training session Friday, his club PSV Eindhoven said, reports AFP.

Van Nistelrooy, whose potentially record-breaking move to Manchester United was put on hold Thursday, was taken to hospital for a check-up

face with his hands. "When I hit the ground, I felt a heavy pain that lasted two minutes," said in a statement on his club's website.

The pain subsided and I was able to walk off the field. But in the locker room we decided to go to the hospital anyway."

PSV Eindhoven spokesman Pedro Salazar-Hewitt said that the club still had to decide on an operation but admitted the star striker could be out for up to eight months.

"After an examination in hospital an arthroscopy was

performed which shows a new tear," he said.

"Because of this a new injury has occurred, which has caused a rupture of the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee."

"In the next few weeks a decision will be made on when an operation will take place."

"After the operation you have to wait a minimum of eight months before you can fit again."

"Euro 2000 is gone and it could be a year before he is back again."

Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson said he felt sorry for Van Nistelrooy.

Ferguson, however, refused to say if the deal with PSV Eindhoven was now totally dead.

"Although we don't know the full extent of the injury this morning, it's a terrible blow for the lad," said Ferguson.

"We just hope that it's not too serious. What started as a bright week for Ruud has turned into a nightmare for him."

"Everybody at Manchester United wishes him a speedy recovery from this latest setback. "We will continue to monitor the situation."

The latest twist in the van Nistelrooy saga came 24 hours after English Premiership champions Manchester United issued a statement saying the Dutch striker's record 18.5 million pound (29.6m dollar) transfer deal "could not proceed at the present time."

Van Nistelrooy failed a fitness test at Old Trafford on Tuesday and United wanted to wait until he had made his comeback from the medial ligament injury.

The latest injury completely rules out his chances of playing in Euro 2000 championships this summer.

"This is a blow for Ruud. We're all shocked," PSV Eindhoven team official Frank Arnesen.

Club president Harry van Raaij said: "It's a nightmare for Ruud. Luckily he has a strong character."

Salazar-Hewitt said transfer talk would have to take a back seat while van Nistelrooy recovered.

"We've been in contact with Manchester, but the transfer is not the big question anymore," he said.

"We're using all our energies at PSV to help and support Ruud at this difficult moment."

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