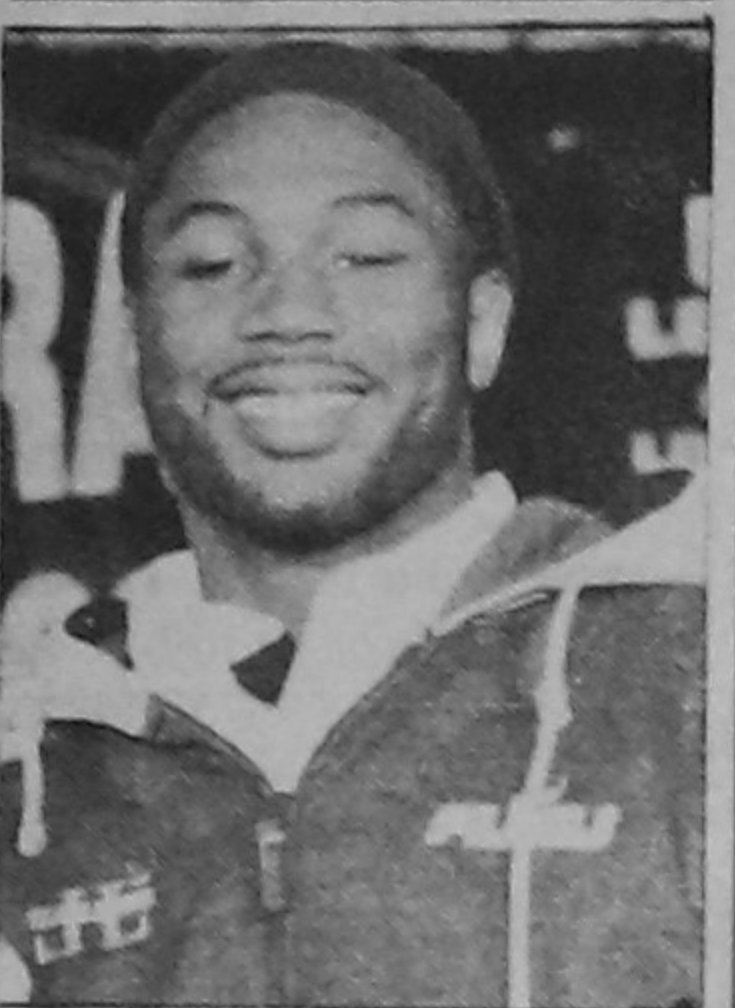


# Star Sport

DHAKA WEDNESDAY MAY 3, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

## Column One

### SPORTS TALK



**Lennox Lewis**  
(World heavyweight champion)  
"Mike Tyson's name is synonymous with money. If we get in the ring and have a fight, he'll want to pull my hair or something."

### BOOST sports WHIZZ KID

**Competition-129**  
Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
May 12, 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who won the 2000 Trophy in West Indies?  
Windsies Pakistan Zimbabwe
- Who was the man-of-the-series in 2000 Trophy?  
Inzamam King Ambrose
- Who is South Africa's cricket captain?  
Kirsten Gibbs Pollock
- Who was the man-of-the-match in the Asia vs World Eleven cricket match?  
Tendulkar Bena DeSilva
- Who is the fastest man in the country now?  
Mahbob Sattar Mizan

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

### Barlow could be sent to Singapore

Bangladesh cricket coach Eddie Barlow, who suffered cerebral artery blockage at the weekend, is likely to be sent to Singapore for further check-up soon on way to his Cape Town home in South Africa, his wife said here yesterday.

"Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is sending my husband to Singapore for further check-up. After that he will be flown home as he desired," Cally Barlow told BSS.

Cally said her husband could speak, but his left side was paralysed.

Sources at the Combined Military Hospital (CMH), where he is being treated, said Barlow's condition was stable.

However, BCB general secretary Syed Ashraful Huq didn't admit that the board would send him to Singapore right now.

"The doctors have different opinions. One said he (Barlow) should be sent to Singapore and the other opposed that saying he could be treated at the CMH," Huq told.

Huq said, "It will take him time to recover and Barlow's sickness cost us a lot as the Asian Cup is knocking at the door."

"It is very difficult for us to look for another coach in a short time."

**Rajshahi soccer**  
From Staff Correspondent  
RAJSHAHI, May 2: Kajirgonj Sporting Club defeated Alide Club 3-1 in the lone match of the Rajshahi First Division Football Super League at the Rajshahi Stadium today.

Johurul opened the account in the 10th minute. Nizam produced next goal in the 26th minute. Johurul again scored the last goal in the 57th minute for the winners. Tara reduced one goal for the vanquished in the 59th minute.

Abahani Krira Chakra will take on Diganita Proshari in tomorrow's match.

## India hold Bangladesh

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh failed to retain a first half lead as India came from behind to hold them 1-1 in their opening match of the four-nation Golden Jubilee Football Tournament at the Male National Stadium in Maldives yesterday afternoon.

Midfielder Zulfiqar Mahmud Mintu put SAF champions Bangladesh ahead in the fifth minute with a brilliant header. Indian forward Abbas Ali Rizvi equalised with a powerful right footer seven minutes into the second half.

The new-look Bangladesh team under the coaching of British coach Mark Harrison were off to good start against their arch rivals despite they missed the services of captain and marksman Alfaz Ahmed.

The dapper national captain is suffering from fever since he reached Male on April 29. Midfielder Iqbal donned the captain's armband in place of Alfaz.

The green and whites of Bangladesh dominated the blue and whites in the first session.

They were so enterprising at the onset that they forced three corners in the first five minutes. The third corner almost proved futile as it bounced back off the Indian wall. But Sourav Raju galloped down the vacant left side and floated the ball deep inside the Indian box where a lurking Mintu made no mistake to head the ball home past the near post.

Bangladesh's attack acquired more bite with the introduction of Saidur Rahman Moni, Rokonzaman Kanchan and Asadur Rahman in the front and Harrison's boys at least tried to play positively. But Bangladesh had to be content with the slender lead in the face of some brilliant keeping from Indian custodian Prasanna Dora.

The match however saw a see of change after the lemon break and a run-off-of-gas Bangladesh went on the defensive against an all-out India attack.

It was only a matter of time before Bangladesh defence buckled under pressure in the 52nd minute when Abbas shot the ball home past an out-

stretched Aminul from the top of the box.

But apart from that Aminul kept India at bay with some spectacular saves in the last quarter of the game.

It was the second successive draw between the two neighboring nations since SAF Games semifinal in Kathmandu last October where Bangladesh won 1-0.

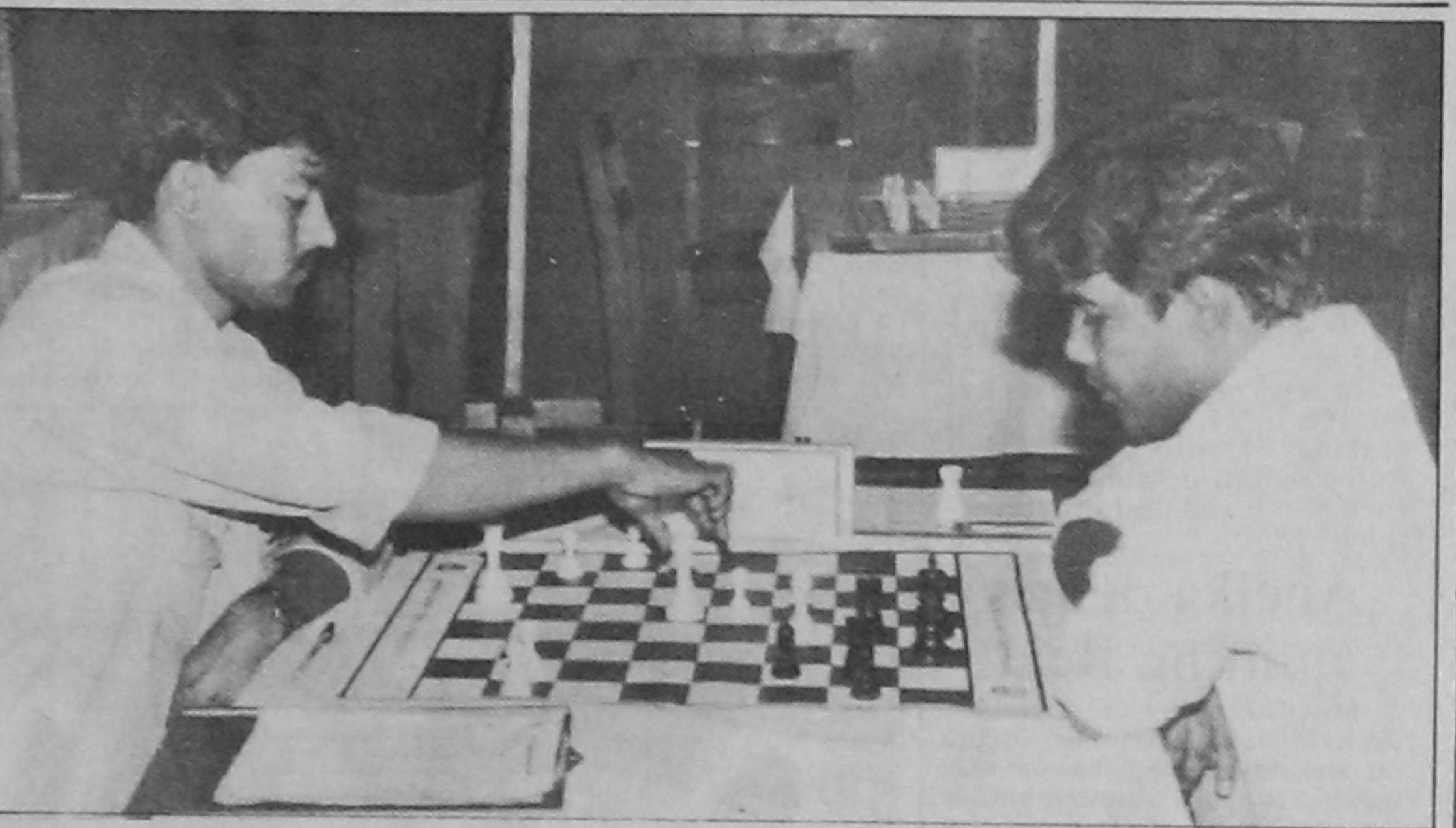
The result of the previous meeting in the Asian Cup qualifiers in Abu Dhabi last November, was 2-2.

Bangladesh will take on hosts Maldives in their next match at the same venue tomorrow. Earlier on Monday, the first match between Maldives and Sri Lanka also ended in a 1-1 draw.

### TEAMS

**BANGLADESH:** Aminul, Sourav, Faisal, Rajani, Matin Munnna, Monwar Hossain, Iqbal, Mintu, Moni, Kanchan and Asadur Rahman.

**INDIA:** P Dora, Falguni Dutt, Mahesh, Roberto, Jules Albarto, Khalid, Najeb, Daljit Singh, Vijen Singh, RP Singh and Abbas Ali Rizvi.



Monir Hossain (L) makes a move against Saifuddin Lovlu during their seventh round engagement in the 26th Professor Abdur Razzak National Chess Championship at the NSC yesterday. —Star photo

## Biman exact revenge

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Biman turned the rain tables on the rain rule when the defending champions defeated Surjo Tarun Club by virtue of better run-rate in a rain-interrupted Janakantha Premier Division Super League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

With this win Biman returned to winning ways after three successive defeats.

The national airlines outfit, responding to Tarun's impressive total of 195 for eight in 36 overs, were 131 for two in 25.5 overs when umpires called off the match due to bad light. The ruling was more than satisfying for Biman since their Dhanmondi-based opponents were 116 for four at the same stage.

The win exacted a sweet revenge for Biman against the new force of domestic cricket after their stinging first round defeat in yet another rain-interrupted match on April 14.

Although Biman felt they had been robbed of victory on April 14, forcing the authorities

to summon an emergency meeting, they however made no complaint yesterday.

As persistent rain continued to play foul, the match got off to a delayed start. Initially it was fixed as a 38-over-a-side contest but bad light later reduced two more overs from Tarun's innings.

Sent into bat, Surjo Tarun failed to cope with the dump conditions and could only manage 54 runs in 12.4 overs at the cost of three wickets.

Al-Shahriar with a matured 47 off 65 balls that included three fours and in-form Khaled Masood, who hammered a breezy 35-ball 45 did well to make up the disappointing start on way to a fighting total at the end.

But Biman flourished where Tarun faltered. The opening duo of Javed Omar and Imran Farhad produced 78 runs in 14.5 overs to lay the foundations of victory. Pakistani Farhad slammed a superb 64 off 72 balls.

The southpaw hammered a quartet of fours and a couple of sweetly timed sixes in his fluent knock.

Farhad was the last Biman casualty on the day. But by the time he was out Biman posted 122 and needed only nine more deliveries to complete 25 overs, the minimum mark of deciding a match.

It was Biman's ninth win from 12 games. They are now trailing league leaders Abahani by six points and sharing second-place with Kalabagan.

On the other hand Surjo Tarun's fourth defeat from 12 games meant they are virtually out of the title race.

### TODAY'S MATCHES

- Super League**  
Abahani KC v Brothers Union  
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium
- Relegation League**  
Agrani Bank v Victoria SC  
Venue: Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Janakantha — See page 14

## Bagan keep hopes alive

Sports Reporter

Kalabagan Krira Chakra kept their hopes of a runners-up spot alive in the Janakantha Premier Division cricket league after defeating Brothers Union Club by 25 runs in their opening Super League clash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Monday.

Opener Harunur Rashid scored a whirlwind 75 to help Kalabagan score a competitive 251 after electing to bat first. In reply, off-spinner Fahim Muntasir took four wickets for 43 runs to bowl out the Gopibagh outfit for 226 in 47.4 overs.

Harun, the balding former national opener, and his opening partner Rafiqul Islam took only 12.2 overs to steer Kalabagan to victory.

The partnership was broken on 106 when Harun, who took 37 balls to reach his second fifty of the Premier league, was caught by Farhan Adil at long-on.

In his 52-ball vigil, Harun smote a six and 13 boundaries. One-down Selim Elahi joined Rafiqul and shared a 46-run for the second wicket before the latter was caught behind off left-arm spinner Imran.

Rafiqul scored 40 off 49 balls with five fours.

Kalabagan suffered a mini-collapse midway through their innings when they lost four wickets for three runs in the space of 11 balls.

Sri Lankan slow bowler Samarasekera snapped up three wickets in five balls to rattle the ship.

At one stage a score in the region of 220-230 was Kalabagan's fate, that is, until last man Bikash Ranjan Das decided to open his shoulders.

The plucky tallender hammered a quickfire 23 off 15 balls. His two sixes and a four enabled Kalabagan exceed their projected total by 20 runs.

In reply, Brothers Union opens Shahrir Hossain and Ehsanul Haque cautiously raised 50 runs in 14 overs.

Their slow and steady approach caused the asking run rate to climb which Brothers never bring down.

Pakistani middle-order batsman Farhan Adil fought valiantly for Brothers with a patient 50 off 66 balls followed by captain Khaled Mahmud who added 33 off 34 balls. Jahangir Alam, batting at uncustomary number eight, was unbeaten on 30.

Fahim Muntasir was backed up by left-arm spinner Mustadir and Pakistani Tareq Mehmod who took two wickets each.



Victorious Indian women's handball team members pose with the trophy after the prize-giving ceremony at the National Indoor Stadium in Mirpur yesterday. —Star photo

## Asian youth hockey Bangladesh take on India today

Bangladesh will take on India in one of the four opening day matches in the 4th Asia Cup Youth Hockey tournament in Kuala Lumpur at 4.05 pm today, reports UNB.

Eleven Asian countries will take part in the meet to be held at Bukit Jalil Stadium from May 3-14.

The other three opening matches are: Oman vs Malaysia, Pakistan vs Singapore and Japan vs Iran.

Bangladesh, placed in Pool B, will face Uzbekistan on May 4, meet Iran on May 6, take on Japan on May 8 and play China on May 9.

The 22-member Bangladesh team comprising 18 players and four officials, led by Shamsul Bari, reached Kuala Lumpur Monday night.

## Reefat still the leader

Sports Reporter

International Master Reefat bin-Sattar maintained his solo lead in the 26th Professor Abdur Razzak National Chess Championship after he drew with fellow IM Ziaur Rahman in the seventh round held at the NSC chess room yesterday.

The match, in which Reefat played with black pieces against Queen's Gambit opening of Zia, ended in a draw after 16 moves.

With the draw, Reefat raised his tally to six and a half points from seven matches and retained the half a point lead over defending champion Zia who earned six points so far.

Monir Hossain of Leonine Chess Club was in the third position with 5 points.

Playing with whites against the English Defence of Lovlu, Monir won the board after 27 moves.

In the other matches of the day, Sawkat Hossain Pallab of Ansars beat teammate Abu Sufian Sakil. Arifuzzaman Shikder beat Mainuddin Ahmed of Chittagong, Taibur Rahman Sumon of BUET beat Dewan Shahidul Amin Tipu of Kamalapur Samaj Kalyan Sangha, Khandkar Aminul Islam of Leonine beat Sheikh Nasir Ahmed of Ansars while Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiplu of Titab beat teammate Abul Kashem Bhuiyan.

The other match between IM Abdullah Al Rakib and FIDE Master Enamul Hossain Rajib ended in a draw.

The eighth round will start today from 2:30 p.m. at the same venue.

## Partisan Viewpoint

(Depending on which side you are on) by Nizamuddin Ahmed

## Bacher owes us an apology

I would like to begin with a prayer for the quick recovery of the Bangladesh coach, Eddie Barlow. Just when things were beginning to look ripe for Bangladesh cricket, the news of the South African falling ill at his Dhaka home was a rude bolt from the blue.

I have spoken to the great South African Test cricketer only once, and that too, when he rang my cell phone to clarify a point I had mentioned in one of my articles. That was the 25th of March this year. He sounded a thorough gentleman, a true rep of the game itself. He seemed to know what he was talking about. His words were the utterances of one who did not want to shrug his responsibility. He spoke with authority mixed with refinement.

Mr. Barlow, or may I call you Eddie, we are all praying for you. You will be all right you can be sure of that.

Now I have also met another big name in South African cricket, Ali Bacher, when he and Majid Khan visited Bangladesh in 1997 to give audience to Bangladesh's application for ODI status. Having had the opportunity to present the Bangladesh case, I found Mr. Bacher a self-assured and well-poised person, genuinely interested in lifting Bangladesh higher up the cricket ladder.

That is why it was hard for me to believe the press when it was reported a fortnight ago from down under that Bacher, of all the persons, had said that the World Cup match in which Bangladesh trounced Pakistan was 'fixed'.

I still don't believe he said what the papers said he said. But a press report a few days back claiming that Bacher has apologised to the Pakistan Cricket Board for hurting their feelings, etc. made me sit up on my couch.

If he did not anything that's fine with me. But if he apologises to only one party, here Pakistan, whose name was mentioned in the Aussie news item on a 'fixed match' for one strongly believe that he has not done justice to Bangladesh. For the other party mentioned in the so-called 'fixed match' was Bangladesh, and Bacher knows that from the Internet and the print media, radio and television.

So, if he has apologised to Pakistan, as per press reports then he should immediately send a similarly worded letter of apology to the Bangladesh Cricket Board.

I can understand why BCB kept mum when the Australian report first came to light, hopefully more about that on another day. But, I am surprised the Bangladesh board chooses to keep silent on the Bacher 'blunder' till today even after it was reported that he has apologized.



South African cricket chief Ali Bacher during the special meeting of the ICC at Lord's in London yesterday. England and Wales Cricket Board chairman Lord MacLaurin (2nd from L) is also seen. —AFP photo

## ICC meeting begins

LONDON, May 2: The International Cricket Council opened a two-day emergency meeting Tuesday to deal with the match-fixing crisis which has rocked the sport, reports AP.

"We need strong leadership to work out a strategy to wipe out once and for all the cancer from the game," said Ali Bacher, managing director of South Africa's cricket board, as he arrived at Lord's for the talks.

Bacher has alleged that two matches were fixed and at least one umpire was bribed during last year's World Cup. He has promised to produce evidence of his allegations at the meeting.

The assembly was called in the aftermath of the scandal involving former South African cricket captain Hansie Cronje, who admitted last month that he received cash from an Indian bookmaker. He said he took the money for "forecasting" and denied fixing matches.

Since then, several other leading figures have claimed to have been approached by illegal betting syndicates operating in India and Pakistan.

One of the items on the agenda for the meeting is a controversial proposal to offer amnesty to any players or officials who come forward with information about their roles in corrupt activities. The Australians, among others, are opposed to the proposal.

Questions have been raised about how much can be achieved at the meeting. The summit has been restricted to the 18 ICC delegates, who are mostly figureheads, while the chief executives of the nine Test-playing nations are absent.

Also, the ICC is still awaiting the findings of Justice Malik Mohammad Gayam's report into match-fixing in Pakistan. ICC president Jagmohan Dalmiya of India has asked the Pakistan Cricket Board to release the findings to the meeting, but the report is unlikely to make public until June at the earliest.

Lord MacLaurin, chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board, said on the eve of the London meeting that he fears corruption in the sport is rife.

"If it is, and we are ferretting it all out now, so be it," he said. "This game of cricket is a very great game and it cannot be tainted by people destroying it in the ways that have been alleged in recent times."

"The ICC have got to grab this one," he said. "They have got to show leadership of the game, they have got to show their teeth. If they don't the great game of cricket will be seen to be leaderless."

Meanwhile, the International Cricketers' Association, called for the ICC to conduct a "thorough investigation" into corruption.

"It's critical to the future well-being of the game that corruption is identified and removed as soon as possible," chief executive David Graveney said. "To this end, it's important that cricket boards make available any information at the earliest opportunity to the investigating body."

Tim May, chief executive of the Australian Cricketers' Association, added: "The position of FICA is clear — under no circumstances will we tolerate corruption or impropriety at any level of the game. We actively strive to seek out and extinguish any such activities that we deem to be putting in doubt the credibility and good name of the game of cricket."

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

The 18 members of the International Cricket Council Executive Board attending an emergency meeting at Lord's:

Jagmohan Dalmiya (president-elect), Denis Rogers (Australia), Lord MacLaurin (England), John Anderson (New Zealand), Raj Singh Duggar (India), Yawar Saeed (Pakistan), Siddhat Wettimuny (Sri Lanka), Percy Sonn (South Africa), Patrick Rousseau (West Indies), Peter Chingoka (Zimbabwe), Jimmy Rayani (Kenya), Saber Chowdhury (Bangladesh), Jorgen Holmen (Denmark), Clyde Walcott (chairman of ICC cricket committee), Ali Bacher (Chairman of ICC development committee), Ehsan Mani (chairman finance committee), David Richards (chief executive).

## South Asian handball India retain titles

India retained both men's and women's titles of the second South Asian Handball Championships beating hosts Bangladesh in the finals at the Shaheed Suhrawardy National Indoor Stadium in Mirpur yesterday, reports UNB.

India won the men's crown for the second consecutive time beating Bangladesh by 22-14 goals.

Indian women also lifted the title for the second time in a row beating their traditional rivals Bangladesh by 19-14 goals.

In the men's final, the hosts dominated the first half 10-9. In the women's final defending champions India led the first session by 11-7.

Indian skipper Usha Nandani scored 10, Mini 6, Dama Devi 2 and Bineta one for the winners while Shahida netted seven, Jahanara, Erina and Nazmun Nahar two each and Swapna Dewan one for the losers.

Jose P John and Usha Nandani of India were adjudged the best man and woman players of the five-day meet for their outstanding performances.

State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed witnessed both the finals and later he distributed the trophies.

Vice-President of Bangladesh Olympic Association Lt Col (ret'd) Faruk Khan, MP, Vice-President of Indian Olympic Committee Dr Anand, President of Bangladesh Handball Federation Lt Col (ret'd) MA Hamid also distributed the individual prizes.