

Kenya bring in Sheikh for ICC Intercon Cup

AFP, Nairobi

Left-arm spin bowler Mohammed Sheikh was Friday selected in a 13-man Kenyan squad for the semifinal of the ICC Intercontinental Cup against Bermuda in Namibia next month.

The Australian-based spinner is the only notable inclusion in the team that beat hosts Namibia in June in Windhoek to qualify for the October 23-25 semifinals.

The 25-year-old Sheikh last played for Kenya in the 1999 Cricket World Cup in England as an understudy to the then skipper Asif Karim before leaving for studies in Australia.

Despite the absence through injury of opening batsman Ravindu Shah, the selectors said the team was well balanced to face the challenge of Bermuda, the American regional champions who are coached by former West Indies batsman Gus Logie.

Dramatic Red

FROM PAGE 12
the better of the post, rebounding to safety.

Three minutes earlier, Emile Heskey had produced Birmingham's best effort of the opening period, although his low shot lacked real menace and Jose Reina was able to save relatively comfortably.

Bruce's side displayed far greater self-belief immediately after the interval but the increased tempo failed to deliver any clear-cut chances and it was Liverpool who brought the game to life by taking the lead after the introduction of Luis Garcia just after the hour mark.

Sami Hyypia's long ball was chested down by Peter Crouch to Gerrard, whose first time pass sent Luis Garcia clear of the flat-footed Birmingham back-four.

The Spaniard finished with aplomb with a low left-foot shot from the edge of the area.

Birmingham were staring a fourth straight home defeat in the face, only for two extraordinary blunders from Liverpool to hand the initiative back to the home team.

First Warnock, seeking to intercept Julian Gray's cross from the right of the box, deflected the ball inside Reina at his near post and into the net.

Then, three minutes later, the Spanish goalkeeper spilled an Emile Heskey header that was directed straight at him. Kilkenny was first to the rebound and although his attempt was blocked by Reina, substitute Pandiani was on hand to bundle the ball into the net.

At that stage it looked like being a dream debut for Kilkenny. But it all went sour for the youngster with eight minutes left. Carragher's header cannoned off the bar and was bound for the back of the net via Reina's heel when Kilkenny, standing on the line, instinctively palmed the ball away.

Referee Steve Bennett had no option but to pull out his red card and Cisse sent Taylor the wrong way from the resulting penalty.

Crouch will have been frustrated not to have taken his late chance but a draw was probably just about the right result.

Injury forces

FROM PAGE 12
The 20-year-old from Nordhorn reached her first singles final in Pattaya in February but lost to Spain's Conchita Martinez.

Groenefeld reached the women's doubles semifinals at Wimbledon and the US Open with Navratilova this year.



PHOTO: AFP

Liverpool's Steven Gerard (R) and Birmingham's Damien Johnson are in pursuit of the ball during their Premiership encounter at Birmingham on Saturday.

LEAGUE CUP

Chelsea face Charlton

Football

AFP, London

Chelsea face a tough first hurdle in their bid to retain the League Cup after being drawn to face Charlton in the third round of the competition.

The clash between the Premiership leaders and their London rivals is the pick of the matches in the third round, which sees teams involved in European competition enter.

In total, there are five all-Premiership ties, with Arsenal drawn away to bottom side Sunderland, Everton at home to Middlesbrough, Fulham hosting West Brom and West Ham travelling to the Reebok Stadium to face Bolton.

Bolton.

Grimsbey were rewarded for their giant-killing exploits in the last round with a home tie against Newcastle.

Russell Slade's men beat Tottenham 1-0 at Blundell Park on Tuesday and will now host the Magpies in the last week of October.

"It's a great draw for us, a fantastic draw," the Mariners boss told Sky Sports News.

"We're on the same side of the country and for them to come to Blundell Park, as with Spurs, is fantastic for our supporters.

"It will be another packed house again, we look forward to it and hopefully we can repeat the evening."

Fellow League Two side Barnet got a plum tie, drawn away to Manchester United. The north Londoners booked their place in the third round with a 2-1 home win over Championship side Plymouth at Underhill.

League Cup 3rd round draw (ties to be played week starting October 24)
Doncaster v Gillingham, Bolton v West Ham, Crystal Palace v Liverpool, Manchester Utd v Barnet, Chelsea v Charlton, Reading v Sheffield Utd, Fulham v West Brom, Mansfield v Millwall, Sunderland v Arsenal, Everton v Middlesbrough, Wigan v Watford, Grimsby v Newcastle, Aston Villa v Burnley, Blackburn v Leeds, Cardiff v Leicester, Birmingham v Norwich.

Federer up for Thai defence

Tennis

AFP, Bangkok

US Open champion Roger Federer returns to ATP tennis action as he topped at next week's 550,000-dollar Thailand Open with his pride on the line in Asia.

The world number one will be flying in straight from Geneva, where Switzerland faced Britain for a place in next year's Davis Cup World Group at the end of the year.

But a chance to become a repeat champion at the Impact arena is only part of the puzzle the 24-year-old wants to solve starting Monday. The current dominator of the game is also under pressure from Spain's Rafael Nadal, his hot rival this season.

The teenager from Mallorca upped the stakes a week ago as he won his tenth title of the season to level alongside the Swiss.

With Nadal idle this week, it's the perfect opportunity for Federer to up the ante.

The world-beater is coming off his 23rd straight victory in a final with his four-set triumph over Andre Agassi in the US Open final a fortnight ago.

The six-time Grand Slam champion brings a 71-3 record to Bangkok, where he crushed Andy Roddick for the title a year ago.

This year's second seed is instead, Lleyton Hewitt. So far Federer has a huge psychological edge in their career stats, winning their last nine matches including an Open semifinal two weekends ago.

Federer begins mid-week in Bangkok against Brazilian Daniel Marcos, the world number 145. And there is just no mistaking the Federer confidence.

"I'm happy I have some records because it makes it more fun for me, not only to play against the other guys, sometimes to play against history occasionally," he said.

"I still cannot believe how well I've been playing over the last few years and that it just keeps on going. It's incredible."

Chasing Federer will be the overriding task of Hewitt, fifth in the world, who entered on a wild card. The Australian will begin with unknown Czech Lukas Dlouhy, 87th in the standings.

American Robby Ginepri, the US

Open semifinalist overlooked for a spot on the Davis Cup squad against Belgium, will take his hardcourt game to Asia for the first time, playing as third seed with a tough opening encounter against Thai Danai Udomchoke.

Fourth-seeded German Tommy Haas will fly in from the Davis Cup in Europe to start against Irakli Labadze of Georgia.

Swede Robin Soderling takes the fifth seeding while Finn Jarkko Nieminen, a US Open quarter-finalist is on sixth.

For the tenth time this season, Mark Philippoussis will be living on his reputation, with organisers awarding him a wild card entry to compensate for a 203 ranking. Since reaching a semifinal on grass the week before Wimbledon, the 28-year-old Aussie has won just two matches out of six played.

SEEDS

Roger Federer (SUI x1)
Lleyton Hewitt (AUS x2)
Robby Ginepri (USA x3)
Tommy Haas (GER x4)
Robin Soderling (SWE x5)
Jarkko Nieminen (FIN x6)
Paradorn Srichaphan (THA x7)

Jadeja captain and coach of Rajasthan

CRICINFO, undated

Ajay Jadeja will take on a double role as captain and coach of Rajasthan, which has been on a downward slide, in the coming Ranji season.

The team was demoted from the Elite to the Plate division after a disastrous season last year. This comes in the wake of the recent appointment of Bob Simpson as cricket adviser of the side.

"Officials and players of the Rajasthan team felt that I had something to give to this team, which makes you feel important, gives you a challenge and makes you feel that you still have something to give back," said Jadeja.

Speaking to NDTV, he said that the would push for better infrastructure for his team. "Why should Rajasthan cricketers not get the best facilities? I've seen and played cricket over the years and I feel that there are certain requirements. Cricketers should be looked after whether it's the ground or practice facilities or physical training. Cricketers here must get better treatment."

Earlier this year, Lalit Modi became the president of Rajasthan Cricket Association, ending the four-year monopoly of Rungta. The new management hopes that the move to draft in Jadeja will help to reverse the continuing decline of the team.

Hanuman Singh, chairman of the Rajasthan Selection Committee, said: "He will give a lot of solidity and experience to the batting. He will lead from the front, players will look up to him."

Eight Zim booters stay back in England

AFP, Harare

Eight Zimbabwean soccer players and two officials have failed to return to Zimbabwe after a trip to Britain, the state-run Herald newspaper reported Saturday, with football insiders saying the men may have stayed behind to flee economic and political hardships in their own country.

Six players from the Harare-based CAPS United club and two from Highlanders, based in Bulawayo, failed to "catch a flight" from London's Heathrow airport while two officials also remained behind.

"Zimbabwean football is counting the cost after eight players deserted... and remained behind in England in one of the biggest crises to hit the country's battered national sporting discipline," the paper said.

The Herald named the missing CAPS United players as vice-captain Artwell Mabhiza, Silent Katumba, David Sengu, Raymond Urdi, Elton Chimedza and Tichaona Nyenda.

Highlander players, reserve goalkeeper Luckson Mutanga and defender Dalisizwe Dhlamini have also disappeared, the paper said, adding that CAPS official Valentine Gwaze "is believed to have deserted the club."

The two Highlander players, Mutanga and Dhlamini, "only checked in their luggage but disappeared into the crowd," the Herald said.

"This caused a delay in the British Airways flight back home as flight attendants were forced to pull their luggage from the plane," it said.

CAPS United boss Twine Phiri said however he instructed Makuvire "at the last minute to stay behind and resolve the issue of the players that did not report for the flight back home."

One Zimbabwean soccer player who did not want to be named said it was "a bit early" to say exactly why the players remained put but that "some players went to Britain and then start to think what exactly it is that they are going back to in Zimbabwe."

Zimbabwe has in recent years seen at least four leading soccer players leave the crisis-hit country for Britain in the face of severe criticism from local authorities.

The southern African country has been hit by its worst economic crisis ever characterised by triple-digit inflation and chronic fuel and food shortages.

New exec body of Swadheenata Krira Sangha

SPORTS REPORTER

A 32-member executive committee of Swadheenata Krira Sangha was elected unopposed in a general meeting at its office in Khilgaon on Friday.

M Jashimuddin Khan was elected president and Syed Saifur Rahman the general secretary of the new body which will run for the next two years.

Other office-bearers included four vice-presidents -- Ashraf Iqbal Hossain, Shahid Hossain, Mosharaf Hossain and Mamunur Rashid Akand -- three assistant general secretaries -- Mahbubul Hasan Khan, Zakir Hossain and Kabir Uddin Sarkar.

Henry going nowhere

Football

REUTERS, London

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger believes Thierry Henry will stay at the Premier League club and dismissed reports that his France striker was heading for Barcelona as "fantasy".

Henry who faces six weeks out with a groin injury, had been linked with a move to the Catalan club at a time when Arsenal are planning to discuss a contract extension with him.

"We want Thierry to be here," Wenger told reporters on Friday at the Club's training ground.

"We are very ambitious, we want to win the European Cup, like Barcelona and Juventus do."

"Our desire and motivation to keep Thierry here is 100 per cent strong."

"I think he wants to stay but that's me saying that and I'm not pretentious enough to come out (and speak) for Thierry Henry."

"I want him to stay and want him to be the leader of the club in the next few years but in the end Thierry has the key."

As for a report that Barca were closing in on Henry, Wenger said "Thierry has been committed here for six years... for me that (the report) is not information, that is fantasy."

However, Wenger believes FIFA regulations on players mean he cannot guarantee that Henry, under contract until 2007, will not move at the end of the season.

"I cannot say that for certain for one simple reason, because under the new FIFA rules a player can move without the permission of any club," he said.

Henry, who joined Arsenal in 1999 after a difficult spell at Juventus, was converted by Wenger from a winger to one of the world's leading strikers, topping the Premier League scoring charts in three of the last four seasons.

"If Thierry is who he is today it is because we have shown faith in him and believe in him," said Wenger.

The Frenchman also played down comments on Friday from his former captain Patrick Vieira, now at Juventus, who said the key to keeping players like Henry was bringing in new players.

Wenger appeared to rule out a splash when the transfer market

window opens in January, saying: "I feel we have a squad with big potential. I'm convinced I'm right to believe in this team and this squad and that they will prove me right."

The Frenchman has equal confidence in his team's chances of challenging Chelsea for the league title, despite the holders' sparkling start to the season with six consecutive wins.

"We're growing from game to game," he said.

"We lost two games, but only just, and I am convinced that we have the quality to win the championship."

"I'm convinced there is enough quality to come back at Chelsea."

"They were a bit lucky at the start (of the season) because they won at Wigan in the last minute and they won against us with a mis-controlled ball."

But the Frenchman added: "Their difficulties will come later. Football is not as predictable as it looks at the moment for Chelsea, Arsenal or anybody else. When you're on a roll... it just goes on. Even if you don't play well you win."

"But it is not as straightforward as it looks. Suddenly you lose a game you don't deserve to lose at all and you wonder how it happened."

FOOTBALL SHORTS

LONDON

Chelsea, criticised for making fans pay too much money to attend last week's Champions League game with Anderlecht, have apologised and say they will offer retrospective discounts worth 187,500 pounds (335,200 dollars).

"Those 12,500 season-ticket holders who purchased for Anderlecht, and also buy for Real Betis and Liverpool, will receive a retrospective discount of five pounds per ticket, 15 pounds in total," said chief executive Peter Kenyon.

Chelsea, who defeated Anderlecht 1-0 at Stamford Bridge, play hosts to Champions League Group G rivals Betis on October 19 and Liverpool on December 6.

"We are still working out the logistics on the discount but it is likely to come off the cost of the Liverpool ticket," said Kenyon in a statement on the club's website.

Kenyan said that two discounted ticket policies that were in place for the previous campaign were inadvertently dropped by the Premier League champions this season.

"On these two issues the board

has to make a straightforward apology to our fans," he added.

"These were overlooked in the recent overhaul of our ticketing policy."

"A lot has been written about the size of the crowd against Anderlecht and the debate that followed."

"From the board's point of view we want to stress we recognise the sensitivities over ticket prices and know that our prices are at the higher end of the market."

Fans and media criticised the high prices against Anderlecht and the game attracted a crowd of 29,575, well short of the 42,522 capacity.

The cheapest ticket for Chelsea's opening Champions League match of this season was 35 pounds.

--REUTERS

FIFA SUSPENDS STOICHKOV

LONDON

Bulgaria coach Hristo Stoichkov has been suspended for four matches after making what FIFA has described as "defamatory remarks" following the World Cup qualifier

with Sweden in Stockholm earlier this month.

Soccer's world governing body announced on Friday that its disciplinary committee had also fined Stoichkov, Bulgaria's most successful player, 20,000 Swiss francs (15,610 dollars).

It said the punishment was handed down after "remarks made by Stoichkov to the media in which he attacked the integrity of the UEFA president and FIFA vice-president Lennart Johansson."

The 39-year-old coach made his remarks to reporters about Swede Johansson, who left the stadium when the score was 2-0.

"According to the committee's report, Stoichkov was quoted by the media as stating that Lennart Johansson had manipulated the above mentioned match," the FIFA statement added.

The Bulgarian Football Union (BFU) has already apologised to UEFA and Johansson over Stoichkov's behaviour at the Group Eight qualifier, which his team lost 3-0 ending any hopes they still had of reaching the 2006 finals in Germany.

--REUTERS

Things can only get better

Football

AFP, Madrid

Jonathan Woodgate endured a nightmare debut for Real Madrid, scoring an own goal and being sent off, but the England defender said he was just happy to have made his debut after his 17-month injury-enforced layoff.

"I felt very bad scoring an own goal," Woodgate told Marca sports daily.

"But what's important is that the team won and it's a very important win," the former Newcastle United player said.

"I'm very happy to have made my debut," he said.

"I've returned to play and I feel very happy because to get to this stage I've had to put in a lot of work and go through some very tough times."

Despite putting the ball in his own net and then being sent off, Real

Madrid went on to beat Athletic Bilbao 3-1 late Thursday, thanks to second half goals from Robinho and a brace by Raul Gonzalez.

Woodgate's woeful night started when he intercepted a hard shot from out wide on the left by Athletic's Joseba Etxeberria and headed the ball past his own goalkeeper Iker Casillas to put the Basque visitors ahead after 24 minutes.

To add to his misery, Woodgate gained the dubious distinction of being the first Spanish first division player to put through his own net this season.

After the goal, several sections the crowd barracked Woodgate, adding insult to his injuries.

Woodgate was playing his first competitive game since April 2004.

His last game was as a Newcastle player, when limped out of an English Premiership match against Chelsea with a problem with his left thigh, a few months before Real paid 13.4 million pounds for him in August 2004.

Woodgate then got his marching orders for his second yellow card of the night, for obstructing Etxeberria with his forearm across his opponent's throat.

"I acknowledge that the first yellow was very fair, I made a very harsh challenge but the second was not worthy of a card. It was a shame," said Woodgate.

Woodgate's unhappy debut even brought his mother to tears.

"My mum, who had come to see the game, started to cry when she saw the own goal and again when she saw the reaction of the people to what happened. I made my own mum cry."

"It was really upsetting but the good thing is that my leg was perfect. I proved to all those people who has said that I would never come back that I could play again."

Real coach Wanderley Luxemburgo expressed his support for Woodgate, who misses this Sunday's match against Alaves after his two yellows.

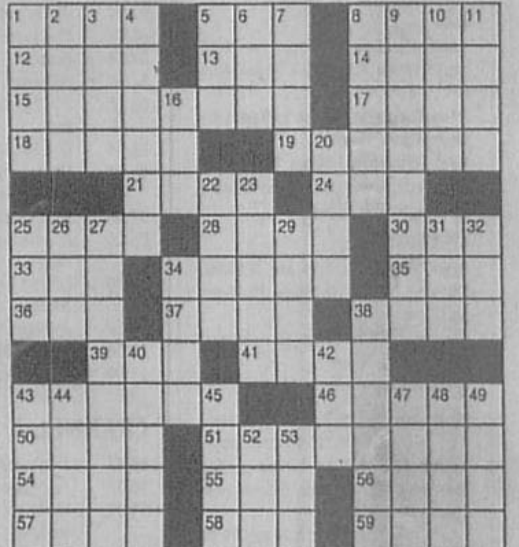
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 MP's quarry
5 Moocher
8 Raced
12 Timber
13 Gentle
14 Entreat
15 He's gonna get it
17 Got up
18 Goes on a quest
19 Sounds the hour
21 O.K.
24 Past figure
25 En-grossed
28 Count counter-part
30 Pinnacle
33 Mess up
34 Sticker
35 Lamb's dam
36 Story of a life-time
37 Coulurier
38 Cassini
39 Worry
39 Aykroyd or Rather

DOWN
1 Jungfrau et al.
2 Sported
3 Reed
4 Instrument
5 Picture pendant
6 Work with
7 Artist
8 Chagall
9 Don King, for one
10 Relaxation
11 Easter-egg
12 Relaxation
13 Favorite
14 Admonisher's word
15 Repairman's job
16 Part of N.A.
20 Corridor
22 Fishing rod
23 Wore a rut in the rug
25 CSA soldier
26 Onassis, family
27 Max Blalystock
28 Indian melody
31 Haven't paid yet
32 Favorite
34 Admonisher's word
38 Repairman's job
40 Bracelet site
42 Penta-teuch bk.
43 Succeeded as a gardener
44 Four-star review
45 Unwanted e-mail
47 Actress
48 Magritte or Descartes
49 Uno + dos
52 Play with robots
53 Approves

Solution time: 21 mins.

FEEDS BAIT CATS
OMIT TICH ATOP
RUMINATE ROMA
FAM SUMMER
EMILY FORE
CITE DOMINATE
ORE GERM BLIV
LAMINATE RATE
LADY LEMON
SVELTE GEE
KIDS NOMINATE
IDEA EVE EVIL
TINY DAIN REEK



CRYPTOQUIP

Y L R N R D J S N R D Y I Y R T

W P S O S T D O R P S I R W M L

O M N S D J Y T U, Y U X S O O

J S Y O O X N N Y T U X W

Yesterday's Cryptquip: NEW FILM ABOUT CROQUET PLAYERS WITHOUT THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT: "ABSENCE OF MALLET'S"

Today's Cryptquip Clue: O equals S

The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locate vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তার কার্যালয়

চট্টগ্রাম উত্তর বন বিভাগ।

তারিখঃ ২১/০৯/২০০৫ইং

পরামর্শকের সংক্ষিপ্ত তালিকা প্রণয়নের জন্য দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সদরপত্র নং-০৪

চট্টগ্রাম উত্তর বন বিভাগে ২০০৫-২০০৬ ও ২০০৬-২০০৭ আর্থিক সালের জন্য মূল্যায়ন অনুমোদন ও বায় মন্তব্যী এবং অর্থজ্ঞাত প্রাপ্তি ব্যপেক্ষে নিম্নোক্ত তফসিলে বর্ণিত প্রকল্প/সিপি/আর্থিক কর্ম/অন্যান্য ভবন ও স্থাপনা নির্মাণ কার্যের জন্য নির্মাণস্থলের মৃত্তিকা পরীক্ষা (Soil testing) মূল্যায়ন প্রকল্পের উপর ভিত্তি করিয়া প্রান, ডিজাইন, এন্ড/মেট ও টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্ট তৈরী, নির্মাণ কাজ সার্বক্ষণিক তদারকির (যেখানে প্রযোজ্য) নির্দিষ্ট পরামর্শক (Consultant) নিয়োগের জন্য যে কোন সরকারী, আধা-সরকারী কিংবা 'পারভিশালি' সংস্থায় প্রকল্প/সিপি/আর্থিক কর্ম/অন্যান্য ভবন ও স্থাপনা নির্মাণ কার্যের জন্য নির্মাণস্থলের মৃত্তিকা পরীক্ষা (Soil testing) মূল্যায়ন প্রকল্পের উপর ভিত্তি করিয়া প্র

ক্রমিক নং	প্রকল্পের নাম	কার্যের বিবরণ	কার্যের পরিমাণ	কার্যের অবস্থান	প্রাক্কণিত ব্যয়	কাজ সম্পাদনের সময়
১	২	৩	৪	৫	৬	৭
০১.	রামগড় সাঁতাকুত এলাকায় নতুন পাহাড় বনায়ন প্রকল্প	রেজ কর্মকর্তার অফিস কাম-বাসগৃহ নির্মাণ ১ (এক) টি	১২০.০ বর্গ মিঃ প্রতিটি	বগেরিয়াচালা রেজ সদর	১০,৮০,০০০/-	১৫ দিন
০২.	-এ-	ডেপুটি রেজার/ফরেস্টার এর অফিস কাম-বাসগৃহ নির্মাণ ও (তিনটি)	১০০.০ বর্গ মিঃ প্রতিটি	বারমাগিয়া বিট, বড়ভাকিয়া বিট ও মন্দাকিনী বিট	২৪,০০,০০০/-	-এ-
০৩.	-এ-	দৈত বন হস্তারি বাসগৃহ নির্মাণ ৩ (তিনটি) টি	১২০.০ বর্গ মিঃ প্রতিটি	বগেরিয়াচালা বিট, ইছামতি বিট ও মন্দাকিনী বিট (ফরহাবাদ)	১৮,০০,০০০/-	-এ-
০৪.	-এ-	দৈত বন হস্তারি বাসগৃহ নির্মাণ ১ (এক) টি	১০০.০ বর্গ মিঃ প্রতিটি	হাটহাজারী রেজ, হাটহাজারী বিট ও মন্দাকিনী বিট	৮,০০,০০০/-	-এ-
০৫.	-এ-	পানি সরবরাহ, বৈদ্যুতিকরুন, ভূমি উন্নয়ন, বাউজারী ওখাল নির্মাণ	-	বিভাগীয় কার্যালয় ও বারকুড় বিট	২,০০,০০০/-	-এ-
০৬.	-এ-	রেজ/বিট এলাকায় এক্ষেত্র রোড নির্মাণ (ব্রিজ/কাণ্ডহাট সহ)	২.০ কিঃ মিঃ	ফটিকছড়ি বিট, বারমাগিয়া বিট, মন্দাকিনী বিট, বড়ভাকিয়া বিট, শীতলপুর বিট	৮,৫০,০০০/-	-এ-
০৭.	-এ-	ফরেস্ট রোড ও কাণ্ডহাট নির্মাণ	২.০ কিঃ মিঃ	হাটহাজারী রেজ, বারমাগিয়া বিট	৬,০০,০০০/-	-এ-
০৮.	-এ-	ঘরবাড়ী রক্ষণাবেক্ষণ	-	ফটিকছড়ি বিট হাজারীবিলা বিট শোভনছড়ি বিট নাগিরহাট ডিপো শীতলপুর বিট গোয়ালিয়া বিট	২,৫০,০০০/-	-এ-

জিডি-১৫৩০

বোর্ড সামান্য আয়তন বিভাগীয় বন কর্মকর্তা চট্টগ্রাম উত্তর বন বিভাগ