

Franchises race for base

CRICINFO, undated

With just three weeks left for the IPL to begin in South Africa, the eight teams have begun a race against time to get their player combinations and practice bases in place.

Rajasthan Royals, the IPL champions, were the first off the blocks and have tied up with Cape Cobras and Western Province to use Newlands in Cape Town as their practice location. Kolkata Knight Riders are eyeing Bloemfontein, and Mumbai Indians are hoping to cash in on the Asian support base in Durban, which is hosting 16 IPL matches.

In fact, there was such a rush among the franchises to be based in prime locations like Durban and Pretoria, which also has a sizeable Asian fan base, that Lalit Modi, the IPL chairman, told a TV channel in South Africa: "The franchises are fighting with me to get a base to organise their camps and that is our priority."

Most of the teams have also confirmed that they will be holding preparatory camps in South Africa from the first week of April. Shaun Pollock, mentor to the Mumbai Indians, told Cricinfo the camp will begin on April 8 in Durban. But Chennai Super Kings and Delhi Daredevils are taking a different route. "We will have a 10-day camp starting March 31 or April 1 in Chennai," Rakesh Singh, the marketing head of India Cements, which owns

Chennai Super Kings, said. "We are having a preparatory camp for Indian players in Delhi from April 1 and we will leave for South Africa on April 7," T A Sekhar, who heads the Delhi Daredevils, said.

Franchise officials are looking through the tournament schedule that was officially released on Friday and also engaged in commercial meetings with the IPL in Mumbai and Delhi. Most of them are also approaching a final decision on how many players they can take to South Africa, 20-29 in many cases.

The franchises hope the event will be well worth the extra effort but they admitted that the absence of the home-and-away concept, which was such a success in India last time, might take some sheen off the contests.

"There is no option and we can't do much about it," Joy Bhattacharya, team director of Kolkata Knight Riders, said. "There is no concept of home-and-away games because the weather conditions don't permit it as in places like Port Elizabeth it gets colder during these months so that has to be factored in, too. And if given a choice, all eight teams would have liked to play at Durban and Cape Town (due to the strong Indian fan base)."

"It is an advantage to have a home base as you are playing seven matches on a particular surface and then you also have control over preparation (of the pitch)," Amrit Mathur, the chief operating officer of the Delhi franchise, said. "There is

a certain merit in the home-and-away concept as there is identity of your team along with your supporters who will rally behind your team. Now it becomes uncertain, but every team is affected by the same factor."

There is also considerable interest in how many matches the England players, who are making their IPL debut, can squeeze in, considering that they will be available only till May 1, after which they leave for the home series against West Indies. For instance, if Bangalore Royal Challengers get Kevin Pietersen, their captain, to stay on till May 1, they will be able to squeeze in seven matches for their star catch. Andrew Flintoff, the other England star, will get to play six matches for Chennai, while Paul Collingwood and Owais Shah play five games for Delhi.

The other significant decision that confronts the franchises is how many players they will fly across to South Africa, because they have been informed by the IPL that the league would bear the ticket costs of only a specific number of players - the number still being finalised.

Jennings has asked the Bangalore franchise to send 20-25 players for his team training camp that starts on April 5. "We are taking almost 24 to 25 players to the camp," Kolkata's Bhattacharya said. "We will arrive initially with 11-12 players and then four players will join us in two subsequent batches and later on some of the guys on inter-

national duty will join us eventually. Before the tournament begins we may cut it down to 20, not including the support staff."

Chennai's Singh said MS Dhoni, the team's captain, and Stephen Fleming, the coach, will decide on a final number. "We have announced 29 players and if they want all of them we have no issues with that," he said. Mumbai Indians have already sent a bunch of their Indian domestic players to South Africa to train under Pollock in Durban.

"We intend to take 22 players," Delhi's Sekhar said. "In any case there will be seven Indians and four foreigners. There will be six other foreigners as back-up so you need that for the Indians also."

Gambhir ton

FROM PAGE 17 While his primary responsibility was to save the game for India, Tendulkar was not prepared to divert from his innate instinct to attack as he hooked, cut, and drove off the front and back foot with exquisite timing.

When he entered the arena with India 163-2 and Gambhir on 75, Tendulkar wasted no time taking command.

He brought up his 52nd Test half-century off 89 balls in the same Daniel Vettori over in which Gambhir completed his 100 in a more sedate 265 deliveries.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close on the fourth day of the second Test between New Zealand and India at McLean Park in Napier on Sunday:
NEW ZEALAND: First innings 619-9 decl (Ryder 201, Taylor 151, McCullum 112, Vettori 55, Franklin 52, Sharma 3-95, Zaheer 3-129)
INDIA: First innings 305 (Dravid 83, Laxman 76, Martin 3-89)
INDIA: Second innings (over-night 47-1)
Gambhir not out 102
Sehwag/lbw Patel 22
Dravid/c How/v Vettori 62
Tendulkar not out 58
Extras: (b-5, lb-1, nb-2) 8
Total: (For 2 wks in 107 overs) 252
Fall of wickets: 1-30, 2-163.
To bat: Laxman, Yuvraj, Karthik, Harbhajan, Zaheer, Sharma, Patel.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Martin	18	5	47	0
O'Brien	21	6	50	0
Franklin	11	3	23	0
Patel	28	6	73	1
Ryder	4	3	5	0
Vettori	24	7	48	1
Taylor	1	1	0	0

BD-Eng D/N

FROM PAGE 17 Last year the MCC trialed pink balls with a view to replace them with the less durable white ones in one-day cricket. The experiment had some success but reached a dead end when the England board rejected the use of pink balls in the 2009 domestic season, saying they were "little better than white balls".

The MCC received permission to install floodlights at Lord's in January this year, and there have been reports earlier as well that the venue would host the first Test under lights next season.

Cricket Australia has also backed the idea of night Tests, with chief executive James Sutherland going as far as to say that day-night Test matches could be the only way for the five-day format to survive amid the growing interest in Twenty20 cricket.

LOCAL SNIPPETS

FROM PAGE 17 Bhuiyan drew with Shahnaz Mohammad Faruque.

The sixth round of games will start today from 3:30 pm at the same venue.

DIV-III CRICKET
Tongi CA beat Mirpur by 65 runs in the Third Division Cricket League at the City Club Ground yesterday.

In other matches, Lalbagh Anwar defeated Orient CA by 49 runs at the Uttara Friends Club Ground while Udit Club won narrowly against Dilkusha by one wicket.

INDEPENDENCE DAY BASKETBALL
Flame boys defeated Bangladesh Air Force (BAF) 61-52 in the Independence Day Basketball Tournament at the Dhanmondi Basketball

Gymnasium yesterday. Group A champions Bangladesh Navy and Group C champions Flame boys will now play the first semifinal of the tournament today while Group B champions Europa Youth will play Group D winners Dhumketu Club in the second semifinal.

PABNA KABADDI
Osman Enterprise beat MSC club 50-40 in the Magic Tooth powder Kabaddi Tournament at the Pabna town hall premises.

Director of Square Pharmaceuticals Golam Rabbani inaugurated the event, which will be contested by 10 local teams. Pabna District Sports Association has organized the tournament sponsored by the Square group.

Astounding

FROM PAGE 17 Maximiliano Rodriguez and Sergio Agüero, father of Maradona's grandson, added two more to Argentina's tally in their 16th win in as many meetings with Venezuela.

Atletico Madrid striker Diego Forlan set Uruguay on their way in Montevideo when he scored into an empty net after being cleverly set up by Luis Suarez in the 28th minute. Firebrand captain Diego Lugano headed the second for the hosts in the 58th minute of a full-blooded encounter on a hot afternoon.

Paraguay, attempting to reach their fourth successive finals, dominated the early stages and the result, only their second defeat in the group, left coach Gerardo Martino frustrated.

Lippi expects

FROM PAGE 20 From Fiorentina in January, And the 21-year-old admits he is enjoying a new lease of life.

"It's a really beautiful period for me," he said. "In two months my life has changed, tonight is the crowning achievement of a dream."

Brawn 1-2

FROM PAGE 20 Formula One late last year citing the global economic crisis.

The team, owned by former Ferrari engineer Ross Brawn, took a maximum 18 constructors' points out of the Australian opener and raised hopes of an unexpected title challenge this season against champions Ferrari and McLaren.

Trulli finished third but later was relegated to 12th place on a time penalty by stewards for overtaking during the second safety car period, handing the minor podium finish to Hamilton.

Hamilton drove a clever race from 18th on the grid to take third.

False start

FROM PAGE 17 coach got what he wanted and the team had a fitness training session at the BUET ground.

Bangladesh will play Myanmar, Cambodia and Mongolia/Macau in the Group A qualifiers for a spot in the eight-team finals of the third AFC Challenge Cup. Four group winners and the best runners-up will join defending champions India, runners-up Tajikistan and North Korea in the final round.

The AFC Cup champions will also qualify for the 2001 Asian Cup finals in Qatar.

Getting into IPL

FROM PAGE 17 Riders will play their first match on the following day against Deccan Chargers.

Mashrafe has already got the call to join his team but is yet to fix the date to fly to India and sign the contract. "Hopefully within three-four days I will leave Dhaka to join the team in India," Mashrafe informed.

He was however disappointed with the IPL being moved to South Africa from India.

"I have lots of friends and fans in India and that's why I was so excited with the IPL deal. I loved the atmosphere in Kolkata and the people who

loved a Bangladeshi cricketer. But unfortunately it's not happening this time," he said adding that he never liked a trip to South Africa where he suffered his first major knee injury during the 2003 World Cup.

"I never felt comfortable in South Africa during my visits with the national team. Still I have the self-belief that I can overcome all odds this time," he hoped.

Captain Mohammad Ashraful is the other Bangladeshi player who is all set to play this season's IPL but it was yet to be confirmed when the Tigers skipper would join his team Mumbai Indians.

"There is a chance to fly to India in the first week of April but it's yet to be confirmed. I have talked with my team manager (Rahul Sangvi) recently and he said that they will let me know the schedule soon," said Ashraful.

Golden

FROM PAGE 20 England were only 1-0 up, through Emile Heskey, when he arrived on the pitch but he soon set up a crucial second for Wayne Rooney and England went on to complete a comfortable victory when Frank Lampard and then man of the match Rooney again added to the score.

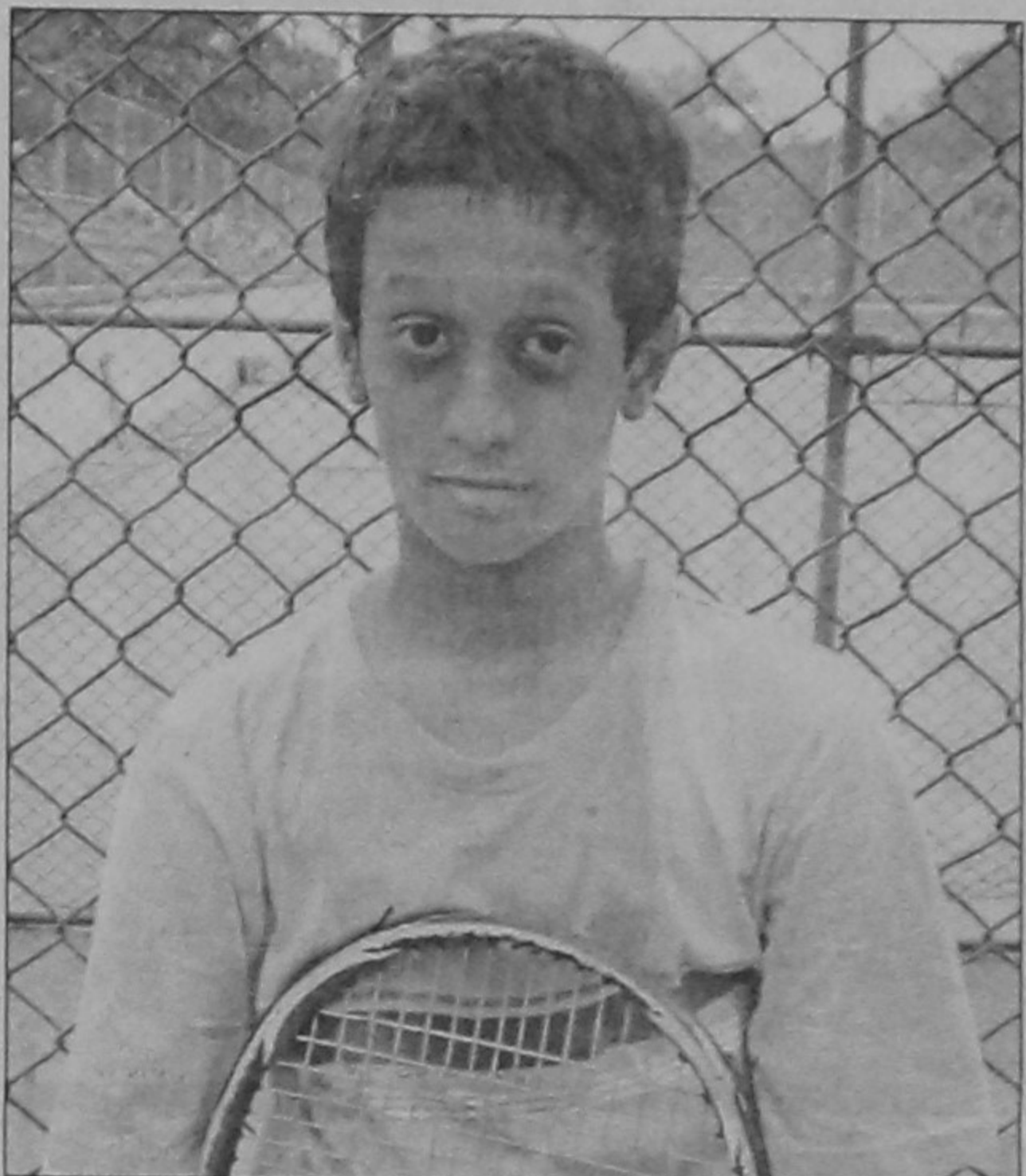


PHOTO: COURTESY

Zuhayer Sami Laskar has promised a lot in the recently held Independence Day tennis tournament at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna. The tiny tot won the Under-10 and the Under-12 years' titles in the meet.

Joy for Ansar

FROM PAGE 17 A right-side midfielder, Nuby who hails from Rangamat, scored five goals in the meet including a hat-trick.

"Still, education is my top priority. Then I look after football," said Nuby who adding that she does not earn much for the family but the salary from Ansar is enough for her. "I have been playing football for a few years now and want to be a real footballer to serve the country," said Nuby, who has one brother and a sister.

VDP's Priti Rani Sarker, top scorer with eight goals including a double hat-trick, also received Tk 5,000.

The winner's purse was Tk 40,000 and the runners-up's Tk 20,000.

Commerce Minister Lt Col (ret'd) Faruque Khan distributed trophies as the chief guest. Bangladesh Football Federation president Kazi Salahuddin, tournament committee chairman and BFF member Shirajul Islam Bachchu, other BFF officials and sponsor Citycell's Head of Marketing Anand Rajasingham were also present.

Fight for top

FROM PAGE 17 At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (DCS) Indira Road beat Jatrabari KC by 27 runs to increase their tally of points to 16 from 12 games.

On what was a fatigued and deteriorating DCS wicket, Indira battled first and struggled to gather any momentum as they were all out for 153 runs in 44.4 overs. Indira then bowled beautifully to restrict the opponents to 126 in 37.3 overs as Kibria picked up 5-46 and Isam 3-12 in their respective ten overs.

In other matches, Bangladesh Boys defeated Eskaton SS by 54 runs at the Dhaka University Ground and Kalabagan KC won against Azad SC by nine wickets at BKSP.

Kalabagan are currently leading the points table with 18 points from 12 games while Baridhara tailgate closely behind with 17 from an equal number of matches.

Four teams namely Indira Road, Jatrabari, Khelaghar and Eskaton are giving the top two teams a run for their money as all are positioned on 16 points from the same number of games.

NOTICE

Due to severe space limitation, today's CROSSWORD could not be accommodated. We regret the inconvenience.

Sports Editor



পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ POWER GRID COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LTD.

(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Institution of Engineers Bangladesh, New Bhaban (4th floor) 8/A Ramna, Dhaka-1000.

INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR

DESIGN, SUPPLY, ERECTION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING
OF TWO 132/33 kV GAS INSULATED SWITCHGEAR (GIS) SUBSTATIONS
AT CANTONMENT & DHAKA UNIVERSITY ON TURNKEY BASIS
UNDER ADB'S SUSTAINABLE POWER SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

PGCB Memo No.: 01/PGCB/Sec(Design)/2009/1173

Date: March 24, 2009

Loan No. 2332-BAN: Sustainable Power Sector Development Project

Contract No.: PGCB/SPSDP/SS/04

Contract Title.: DESIGN, SUPPLY, ERECTION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF TWO 132/33 kV GAS INSULATED SWITCHGEAR (GIS) SUBSTATIONS AT CANTONMENT & DHAKA UNIVERSITY ON TURNKEY BASIS UNDER ADB'S SUSTAINABLE POWER SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Dead Line for Bids: 11.00 am BST on June 16, 2009

1. The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan under Sustainable Power Sector Development Project from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the Contract No. PGCB/SPSDP/SS/04 for Design, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of two 132/33 kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) Substations at Cantonment & Dhaka Univ. on Turnkey basis.

2. The Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd. ("the Employer") invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Design, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of two 132/33 kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) Substations at Cantonment & Dhaka University on Turnkey basis as defined in the bidding document (hereinafter referred to as "the Works"). The Works are as follows:

- Indoor type 132/33 kV GIS substation at Cantonment with power transformer, switchgear, control, protection, communication and associated equipment and civil works.
- Indoor type 132/33 kV GIS substation at Dhaka University with power transformer, switchgear, control, protection, communication and associated equipment and civil works.

Details of the scope of work are specified in the bidding document.

3. International Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB's Single-Stage: Two-Envelope bidding procedure and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries.

4. Bidders shall meet, the following minimum requirements along with other requirements as mentioned in the bidding documents:

- (a) Bidders (partner in charge in case of Joint Venture) must have successfully completed on turnkey basis, at least three (3) comparable project (i.e. Design, supply, installation and commissioning of GIS substation of at least two (2) bays of 110 kV or higher voltage level with 40 MVA or higher capacity transformer) within the last ten (10) years as on the date of opening of technical proposals of which at least one installation shall be in successful operation for minimum of three years.

Bidders must also have project management experience (experience of partner in charge in case of Joint Venture) to demonstrate their management capability in at least one turnkey project (contract amount should not be less than US\$ 4.0 million) outside their own country or in the case of Bangladeshi Bidder, in Bangladesh or elsewhere within the last ten (10) years as on the date of opening of technical proposals.

Each Partner of the Joint Venture other than the partner in charge must have successfully completed at least one Contract including design, supply erection, testing & commissioning of 33 kV or higher voltage level GIS/AIS substation as contractor or subcontractor within the last ten (10) years as on the date of opening of technical proposals.

- (b) Bidders shall provide Audited Financial statements or other forms of Financial Statements such as Balance Sheets/Financial Statements certified by a registered accountant and supported by copies of tax returns for the last three (3) years as documentary evidence regarding Liquid Assets and Annual Turnover with their Bids. The minimum Liquid Assets & Annual Turnover for the Bidder's organization or Joint Venture shall not be less than the following:
- Liquid Assets: US\$ 2.0 million, for the last year
 - Annual Turnover: US\$ 12.0 million, average of last three (3) years

The partner in charge in case of Joint Venture shall meet not less than 50% and each partner of the Joint Venture shall meet not less than 25% of the minimum criteria given above item (b)(i) & (ii).

- The Works under this turnkey contract shall be completed within 18 (Eighteen) months from the date of Contract effective date.
- Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect and purchase the bidding documents at the following address:
Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd. (PGCB),
Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) Bhaban (4th floor),
Ramna, Dhaka-1000
Tel No.: 880-2-9555475, 9550514, 9558054
Fax No.: 880-2-7171833
- To purchase the Bidding Document, Bidders should:
 - Submit a written application to the Company Secretary, PGCB at the above address.
 - pay a nonrefundable fee of USD 250.00 (United States Dollar two hundred fifty only) or Tk. 17,500.00 (Taka seventeen thousand, five hundred only) in the form of Pay Order/ Demand Draft in favor of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd
 - Bidding Document may also be sent through courier for an additional fee of Taka 500.00 (for local delivery) or US\$ 50.00 (for overseas delivery).
- Bidders are to submit simultaneously two sealed envelopes, one containing the technical bid and another containing the price bid. Initially only the technical bids will be opened. The price bids will remain un-opened and will be kept in the custody of the Employer until the time of opening of the price bids.
- Deliver your Bids to:
 - The office of the Company Secretary at the above mentioned address.
 - On or before 11:00am Bangladesh Standard Time (BST) on June 16, 2009.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of US\$ 225,000 (United States Dollar two hundred twenty five thousand only) or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. The bid security must be included with the technical bid.
- The technical bids will be opened immediately at 11.05 am BST at the above address in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- The price bids will be opened in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the time and date and at the address to be advised by the Employer after approval of the ADB of the evaluation of the technical bids.
- In the comparison of bids, ADB's Domestic Preference Scheme will be applied in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the Bidding Document.
- PGCB will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids including costs and expenses related to visits to the sites of installation of the Works.

Md. Ashraf Hossain
Company Secretary