

India call back Ishant, Karthik

INTERNET, undated

India selectors have called up paceman Ishant Sharma and wicketkeeper-batsman Dinesh Karthik for the next two matches in the one-day series against Sri Lanka.

Ishant, who was picked for the Twenty20 games but overlooked for the ODI series, replaces Shanthakumaran Sreesanth, who missed the first two games after contracting swine flu.

Karthik comes in for skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who has been banned for two ODIs because India maintained a slow over-rate in the second game in Nagpur. Virender Sehwag has been named stand-in skipper.

SQUAD

Virender Sehwag, Sachin Tendulkar, Dinesh Karthik, Gautam Gambhir, Yuvraj Singh, Suresh Raina, Ravindra Jadeja, Harbhajan Singh, Zaheer Khan, Praveen Kumar, Ashish Nehra, Ishant Sharma, Pragyan Ojha, Sudeep Tyagi, Virat Kohli.

Sheikh Russel

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16th minute when Samir carried ball dodging two defenders and entered into the D-box before passing it to Hafan Albarka who placed the ball into the post nicely.

Samir and Hafan's combined efforts kept the opponents under pressure from the very beginning but Biplob did well to rescue his side twice blocking two attacks.

Samir failed to score when he was found one-on-one with Biplob in the 71st minute and got a yellow card instead for appealing for penalty after falling down losing control over the ball.

Abahani failed to score any goal despite having created two or three good chances.

With this result, Sheikh Russel have ten points in four matches while Chittagong Abahani five points from same number of matches.

TEAMS

SHEIKH RUSSEL

Mamun, Kamal, Zahirul, Aminul, Abass, Abdullah, Rajon, Maruf, Mobarak, Samir, Hafan.

CHITTAGONG ABAHANI

Saidul, Jahangir, Zamir, Shaymal, Sohel, Biplob, Suman, Rony, Soleman, Fiansis, Peter.

Torun avoid

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Left-handed Zunaed, who is struggling to keep his place in the national side, hit 57 off 91 balls that featured four boundaries while Imtiaz added 32 off 46 deliveries with the help of five fours.

Monowar Hossain claimed three wickets conceding 50 runs while Monirul Islam took three for 32.

SCORES IN BRIEF

SURJO TORUN V

KHELAGHAR

Venue: SBNCs

SURJO TORUN: 211-8 in 50 overs (Imtiaz 32, Zunaed 57, Mysukur 26, Rajin 22, Dhiman 25, extras 13; Monowar 3-50, Monirul 3-32)

KHELAGHAR: 147 all out in 45.5 overs (Shafiq 31, Ashraf 43, Zakir 27, extras 5; Monirul 4-20, Sanjamul 2-22, Imtiaz 2-21)

Result: Surjo Torun won by 64 runs.

Reds hit

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Piquionne wasted a guilt-edged chance to wrap up the points 15 minutes from time as he was picked out by Boateng's centre but failed to make contact with an attempted header.

Piquionne though made amends seven minutes later, brilliantly flicking up Boateng's cross before firing past Reina at the near post to leave Liverpool five points outside the top four and in danger of falling further behind.

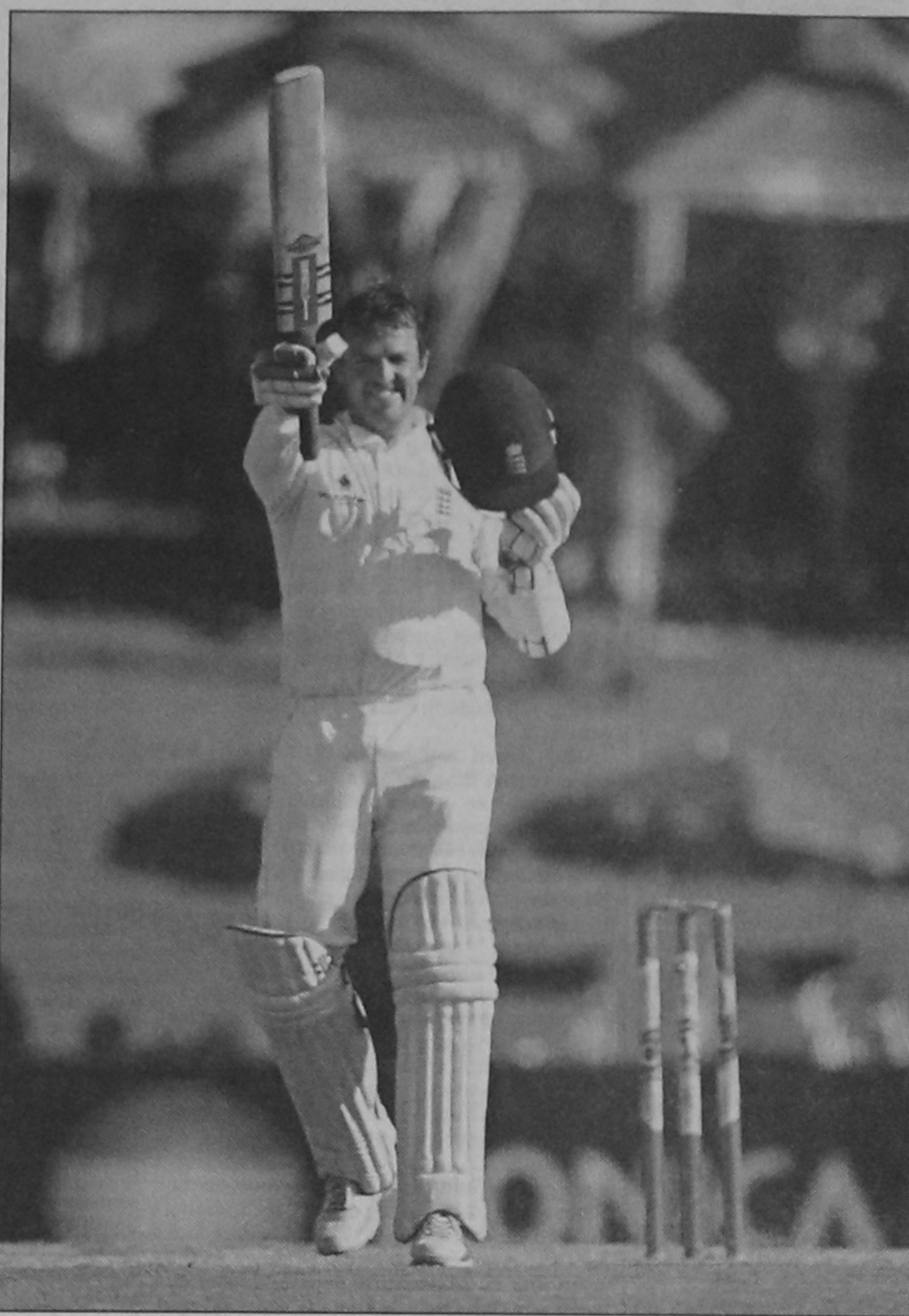
No hate

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Chelsea from 1996 to 2003 after being sold by Ancelotti when he was in charge at Parma, said: "The last two games were painful, but this is the situation. They belong to the past and if you keep switching your mind to the past, it doesn't help."

"At West Ham, they want to play football in a certain way. They're not interested in playing differently, and that's why I was appointed and what I try to do."

"I try to keep that plan and to get results as well. I don't see why you shouldn't play good football and get results as well."



England lower-order batsman Graeme Swann raises his bat as he celebrates his half-century on the third day of the first Test against South Africa at Supersport Stadium in Centurion on Friday.

Amla boosts Proteas

Cricket

AFP, Centurion

Hashim Amla and AB de Villiers shared a century partnership and regained the initiative for South Africa on the fourth day of the first Test against England at SuperSport Park on Saturday. South Africa were 182 for five at tea, an overall lead of 244.

Each of England's fast bowlers claimed a wicket as South Africa lost three wickets for 37 runs at the start of the day after resuming on nine for one.

But Amla (76 not out) and De Villiers (64) put on 119 for the fifth wicket with some enterprising batting.

James Anderson struck in the third over of the day when nightwatchman Paul Harris was bowled off his thigh pad for 11.

South African captain Graeme Smith never looked comfortable against accurate

bowling by Anderson and Graham Onions on a pitch of unpredictable bounce and he fell to Onions five overs later when he pushed forward defensively and was bowled off an inside edge for 12.

First innings century maker Jacques Kallis made only four before he pulled Stuart Broad to Alastair Cook on the square leg boundary.

Amla and De Villiers both survived unsuccessful calls for review by the television umpire after leg before wicket appeals by off-spinner Graeme Swann and Onions were turned down. It meant that England had used up both their options for reviews during the innings.

De Villiers in particular made light of tricky batting conditions as the pair posted a century partnership off 164 balls.

De Villiers made his runs off 101 balls with six fours and a six before he was caught by a diving Ian Bell at short cover when he drove uppishly at Broad.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the fourth day of the first Test between South Africa and England at SuperSport Park in Centurion on Saturday:

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 418

ENGLAND: First innings 356

SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings (overnight 9-1)

Prince Anderson 0

Smith b Onions 12

Harris b Anderson 11

Amla not out 76

Kallis c Cook b Broad 4

De Villiers c Bell b Broad 64

Duminy not out 5

Extras: (lb-6, w-4) 10

Total: (For 5 wks in 61 overs) 182

Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-20, 3-34, 4-46, 5-165

To bat: Boucher, Morkel, De Wet, Ntini

Bowler O M R W

Anderson 14 1 48 2

Onions 12 3 34 1

Broad 13 5 29 2

Swann 18 2 53 0

Collingwood 4 1 12 0

Aussies a wicket away

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substitute fielder, made up for his earlier miss at mid-on, and Rampaul went in the same Johnson over. Then the last pair showed similar determination as Deonarine and Nash to hold out.

Until his 183rd delivery Nash was an immovable object, but Doug Bollinger took the new ball and delivered an off-cutter that hit off stump without the batsman playing a shot. It was a sad end for such a gutsy display in which Nash was the side's brick wall, deflecting the ball and insults from the fielders during his 65. Deonarine more than doubled his previous best score with 82, his first Test half-century, as the aggressor in the stand that lasted more than three hours.

The combination was slow at the start, but West Indies didn't need to rush and preventing any further damage was key. As the partnership went on the Australians increased their appealing, especially when the spinners were on, and Marcus North could have had an lbw if a not-out decision for Deonarine, on 65, had been referred to the third umpire.

Further resistance came after tea, with Nash becalmed for 70 minutes on 48, as the Australians worked on suffocating the pair. Neither left-hander made a fatal mistake until Deonarine played back to Shane Watson, who was working from around the wicket, and the ball deflected from pad on the stumps. The Australians roared in relief and were jubilant again a run later when Bravo lashed at Johnson and was caught in the gully by Michael Hussey.

Johnson spent time off the field and on taking the wicket bent over in exhaustion as his teammates patted his back. Nathan Hauritz was also unwell but the burst of wickets

after tea ended the queasy feeling for the team.

Nash was unflustered throughout, and deserved the applause when he moved from 48 to his half-century with a glide for four off Watson. Even the bowler, the most chirpy of the Australians, clapped his former Queensland teammate. Watson's 2 for 24 off 12 was an impressive return blighted only by his antics when he removed Chris Gayle to a catch behind on 21.

Travis Dowlin (22) had already departed, finding one of two men in the deep with a hook shot, and when Watson captured Gayle the bowler cheered like a gorilla within a couple of metres of the batsman. Watson was immediately summoned by the umpires, but the Australians weren't too worried as they thought they had the crucial wicket and the rest would be easy.

At the beginning of the day the tourists' bowling surge continued as Australia were dismissed for 150, their lowest completed innings since 93 in a dead rubber against India in 2004. They lost their final two wickets in the first 27 balls of the morning, adding 13 valuable runs to their overnight advantage of 345.

Bravo's three wickets had kept his side in the game on the third day and he collected 4 for 42, finishing the innings with Hauritz's edge to slip. West Indies arrived with most predictions of a cleansweep but they have ruffled the hosts since they were battered in Brisbane. They had a chance in the morning but by stumps they needed a miracle.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the fourth day of the third Test between Australia and West Indies at the WACA on Saturday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings 520

for 7 declared (Watson 89, Katich 99, Hussey 82, Haddin 88, North 68; Roach 2-104)

WEST INDIES: First innings 312 (Gayle 102, Dowlin 55, Nash 44, Sarwan 42; Bollinger 5-70, Hauritz 3-66, Johnson 2-92)

AUSTRALIA: Second innings (overnight 137-8)

Watson lbw b Tonge 30

Katich b Rampaul 10

Clarke c Ramdin b Bravo 25

Hussey c Dowlin b Benn 17

North c Ramdin b Bravo 23

Haddin c Bravo b Benn 5

Johnson c Nash b Bravo 5

Hauritz c Sarwan b Bravo 11

Ponting c Dowlin b Roach 2

McKay c Deonarine b Benn 10

Bollinger not out 2

Extras: (lb-9, lb-2, w-1, nb-2) 14

Total: (For 8 wickets in 47 overs) 150

Fall of wickets: 1-15, 2-66, 3-81, 4-89, 5-109, 6-117, 7-125, 8-134, 9-146

Bowler O M R W

Roach 6 0 18 1

Rampaul 6 1 21 1

Tonge 10 2 28 1

Deonarine 1 0 1 0

Bravo 17.3 6 42 4

Benn 11 2 29 3

WEST INDIES: Second innings

Gayle c Haddin b Watson 21

Dowlin c Clarke b Bollinger 22

Sarwan c Haddin b Hauritz 11

Deonarine b Watson 82

Nash b Bollinger 65

Bravo c Hussey b Johnson 1

Ramdin b McKay 14

Benn c sub (Doropoulos) b Johnson 33

Rampaul c McKay b Johnson 10

Roach not out 13

Tonge not out 12

Extras: (lb-9, lb-9, w-1, nb-5) 24

Total: (For 9 wks in 91 overs) 308

Fall of wickets: 1-35, 2-52, 3-68, 4-196, 5-197, 6-231, 7-245, 8-279, 9-279

Bowler O M R W

Bollinger 19 3 62 2

Johnson 16 5 67 3

McKay 14 2 56 1

Watson 12 4 24 2

Hauritz 23 7 61 1

North 7 1 20 0

Biman win Div I chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Biman became champions of the Dutch-Bangla Bank 1st Division Chess League-2009. With this success, Biman have won 14 times, dethroning last year's champions Destiny Limited.

Meanwhile, BNP leaders and workers in Netrakona, Babar's home district, welcomed the decision to bring the former state minister back to the fold. They brought out a procession to celebrate the news yesterday afternoon.

Babar was expelled from the party on December 26 last year for refusing to pull out of the December 29 general election as an independent candidate.

The controversial ex-state minister had been a close aide to Tarique Rahman, son of former prime minister Khaleda Zia.

During the state of emergency, the joint forces recovered four firearms from his Gulshan residence and arrested him on May 28, 2007.

A Dhaka court on October 30 that year sentenced Babar to 17 years' rigorous imprisonment for possessing illegal arms and ammunition.

The High Court on October 16 last year granted him a six-month bail on health grounds.

The Supreme Court on October 23 curtailed the bail period by three months.

Later, he was arrested in a murder case filed in connection with the August 21 grenade blasts at an Awami League rally in 2004.

2-match ban

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kept informed throughout the match by the on-field umpires of where his team was with its over-rate," Crowe said. "Under the revised code of conduct, Sri Lanka was very close to being three overs behind and charged for a Serious Over Rate Offence which would have resulted in its captain being suspended in the next two ODIs." Within the next 12 months, Sri Lanka can afford to repeat this minor offence once. Third strike, and Sangakkara will be out for a game.

PHOTO: AFP

Enamul

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After resumption, the match turned even duller with both sides showing no urgency though both sides brought a couple of changes in a bid to speed up the game and Abahani were deprived of a certain goal in the 65th minute when Ibrahim again saw his shot at the top of the box come off the crossbar.

Muktijoddha captain Firoz Mahmud Titu, who seemed reluctant throughout the game and missed a couple of good chances, should have levelled the margin in the 76th minute, but the winger drove a shot on the edge of the 8-yard box miles of the target when composure was needed to beat Biplob in a one-on-one situation.

TEAMS

MUKTIJODDHA SANGSAD: Nizam Majumder, Ashraf Hossain, Amit Khan Shuvo, Prodeep Kumar Podder (Russel Ansari), Mahmudul Hasan, Firoj Mahmud Titu, Jalal (Saifur Rahman Moni), Azmol Hossain Biddut, Arup Kumar Baidya, Fuard Ali and Eugene Jiah Gray.

ABAHANI: Biplob Bhattacharjee, Mohiuddin Ibnu Siraji (Obidur Rahman), Samad Yousuf, M Sujan, Atiqur Rahman Mishu, Mehdi Hasan Ujjal, Pranotosh Kumar Das, Shahedul Alam (Motiur Munna), Enamul Haque, Sheriff Din Mohammad, Awudu Ibrahim (Zahed Parvez Chowdhury).

Yellow cards: Ujjal and Sheriff (Abahani).

Referee: Azad Rahman.

BNP takes

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order against you have been withdrawn in line with clause 5 (c) of the party charter and on instructions from the honourable chairperson."

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Minister

FROM PAGE 16

Following the announcement by the Mauritius government, Bangladesh started communicating with Mauritius with a view to having the contracts extended that are to expire by December 31 this year.

An official of the expatriates' welfare ministry said Bangladesh tried to convince Mauritius saying that it was one of the African countries that recognised Bangladesh after the independence.

Bangladesh also said sending back so many workers can tarnish the image of the new government that came to power early this year.

"We have already done some groundwork through our mission in Kenya and our consul general in Mauritius. We hope that Mauritius will give a positive response to our request," said an official of the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment.

There are over 13,000 Bangladeshi workers in Mauritius. They mainly work in textile sector and fish processing factories.

Though Mauritius wants to send back male workers, it has a welcome message for female workers. Presently, they have a demand for 700 female workers for industries in Mauritius, the expatriates' welfare ministry official told The Daily Star.

Upon rejection of the petition, the DoF moved to the Court of District Judge, Chittagong where the petition remains pending.

The two sons of lawmaker Kashem -- SM Al-Mamun and SM Al-Noman -- were accused of land grabbing and an attack on journalists in Sitakunda on October 7.

A journalist filed the case against 20 people including Mamun and Noman on charge of the attack with Sitakunda police the next day.

A massive plundering of trees took place in Sonachhari coastal green forest under the upazila on the night of November 29.

The DoF the following day filed a case with Sitakunda police accusing 14 FIR-named and over 1,100 others in this connection. The DoF also filed two other cases later.

Investigation officer Sub-inspector Shawkat Hossain told The Daily Star yesterday they arrested seven people in connection with the November 29 incident.

He added many of the accused have already obtained anticipatory bail from the court to avoid arrest.

Lanka equalise

FROM PAGE 17

Nehra after hitting two sixes and 12 fours in his 113-ball knock.

Wicketkeeper-batsman Dhoni earlier added 126 for the fifth wicket with Suresh Raina, the duo dominating the Sri Lankan attack with a wide range of strokes to help their team recover from a shaky start.

The Indian captain, let off twice on 49 by wicketkeeper Kumar Sangakkara off balls by unorthodox spinner Ajantha Mendis and then on 94, cracked two sixes and eight fours in his 111-ball knock for his sixth one-day hundred.

Raina hit three sixes and four boundaries in his 55-ball innings as India plundered 102 runs in the last 10 overs.

The hosts were struggling at 19-2 on an easy-paced track, but Virat Kohli (54) and Sachin Tendulkar (43) added 62 for the third wicket to steady the innings before Dhoni and

Raina consolidated their team's position.

Tendulkar, who made his debut on December 18, 1989 in Pakistan, completed 20 years in one-day cricket with a solid knock after the early dismissals of Sehwag (four) and Gautam Gambhir (two).

Tendulkar fell in a bid to step up the run-rate, stumped by Sangakkara while trying a big shot off Mendis.

Kohli fell after completing his third half-century in 13 one-dayers, trapped leg-before by debutant off-spinner Suraj Randiv (3-51) after hitting seven fours in his 65-ball knock.