

Pak players hurt

CRICINFO, undated

Pakistan's players have reacted with anger and disappointment to being cold-shouldered at the Indian Premier League (IPL) auction in Mumbai on Tuesday. Proven Twenty20 performers like Shahid Afridi, Sohail Tanvir and Umar Gul were among the 11 Pakistan players on the auction list but none received a bid -- largely due to concerns over their availability, though some franchises cited strategic reasons.

Though the players had been given the go-ahead from the Pakistan government, franchises were wary over whether the strained relations with India would affect their ability to get visas.

Afridi, Pakistan's Twenty20 captain, was the first player up for sale on Tuesday but fetched no bids. He called it a snub to his country. "The way I see it, the IPL and India have made fun of us and our country," he said. "We are the Twenty20 world champions and for me the attitude of the franchises was disappointing. I feel bad for the Indian people who, I am sure, wanted to see us play in the IPL this year."

Abdul Razzaq, the all-rounder, said politics and sports should be kept separate. "They have basically tried to hurt our cricket and image and this is most disappointing because I believe there should be no politics in sports," Razzaq was quoted as saying by PTI. "In the end it is the IPL which has lost out because the fact is our players have star value and are the best in T20 cricket."

The Pakistan government had not permitted its players to participate in last year's tournament due to security fears after the

Mumbai attacks. Later, when the Pakistan players failed to procure the NOCs, the IPL shut its doors on them for missing out on the December 7 deadline, but relented when Pakistan's interior ministry cleared the players for participation in the IPL.

Tanvir, the best bowler in the inaugural IPL and an instrumental part of the Rajasthan Royals' title win, wondered why so much effort was put into getting the clearance from his country's board and government if none of the franchises wanted to buy Pakistan players. "They mean to say none of our players are good enough to be in the IPL," Tanvir said. "I am sorry to say the franchises have taken a decision not based on cricketering sense but on political grounds which is a shame and has hurt the image of the sport."

Lalit Modi, the IPL commissioner, said the apprehension over the availability of Pakistan players was the main reason for them being unsold. "Franchises are no more ready to spend USD seven or eight million for someone who would not be available for the tournament," he said. "It not only exhausted their purse but also wasted slots. They want only those players who would be available for the tournament. They are spending money and they want to get the results."

However, Ijaz Butt, the PCB chairman, was relatively unfazed. "It really does not bother us; what difference does it make to us if our players don't play in the IPL this season? They didn't play in the last season as well," he said.

Shilpa Shetty, the co-owner of Rajasthan, echoed Modi's words. "We were not convinced about their availability and that's why we did not want to take any risk," she said. "If someone is not going to be available, why bid for him." She also said that though they had watched Tanvir over the past year, they were looking for a batsman.

Hockey team to practice against Nepal

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh national hockey team will play four practice matches against Nepal and Pakistan before the South Asian Games kicks off on January 29 in Bangladesh.

Nepal, which is now in India, is expected to arrive in Bangladesh on January 24 and play two practice matches against hosts on January 25 and 26, said Bangladesh Hockey Federation member Anvir Adel.

Pakistan will arrive in Dhaka on January 26 and take on the hosts on January 27 and 28. Meanwhile, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh will vie in the 11th edition of the regional extravaganza.

Zia wins Rd 8

SPORTS REPORTER

GM Ziaur Rahman won his eighth round game in the 8th Parsvnath International Open Chess Tournament in Delhi yesterday.

Zia beat GM Manik Milulas of Slovakia to raise points to 6.5 and shared the third position along with other players. GM Niaz Morshed has now 4.5 points from seven matches as he was playing his eighth round against FM Sai Krishna till the report was filed.

ICC hopes for best

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

The International Cricket Council (ICC) remains hopeful that bilateral contests between Pakistan and India can be resumed in the near future. Ties between the two governments have been rocky since the Mumbai terror attacks in November 2008, which the Indian government blamed on elements based within Pakistan.

Soon after, an Indian tour to Pakistan was cancelled, bringing yet another halt to a brief period of cricketing detente; between 2003-04 and 2007-08, each country visited the other twice for full tours in addition to facing off in a number of ICC and offshore bilateral contests. Since the attacks, however, the two sides have only played one international match, a group game in the 2009 ICC Champions Trophy.

Subsequently the relationship between the two boards has become strained during the period of impasse. A nadir was reached in the aftermath of the terror attacks in Lahore on the Sri Lankan team, with

many officials in the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) believing the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had somehow engineered the removal of Pakistan as a venue for the 2011 World Cup.

But David Morgan, the ICC president, believes he can broker a resolution between the two. "One of the things I am working on is trying to persuade the BCCI that they should play bilaterally as opposed to in ICC events with Pakistan," Morgan told Cricinfo. "India versus Pakistan, Pakistan versus India is the equivalent of the Ashes in Test match cricket parlance. It is very important for both countries that they renew their rivalries on the field in the five-day game. I am very hopeful they will."

A revival of the rivalry is crucial especially for the PCB, currently battling a financial crunch after the banishment of the country as an international venue. According to Ijaz Butt, chairman PCB, the board lost 40 million dollars as a result of India's cancellation last year; a fair portion of the 140 million dollars broadcast deal the board has with Ten Sports is believed to have been based on the series against

India.

The PCB has suffered losses of up to 125 million dollars over the last year or so, as a result of series and events being postponed, relocated or cancelled in light of the security situation in Pakistan. The ICC has set up a task force to work with the PCB and examine ways in which the financial impact of no international cricket can be lessened. One of the ideas emanating from their first and only meeting in December was to organise a series of fund-raising games between a World XI and Pakistan.

Morgan said he wasn't aware of the idea, but was awaiting a report from the task force of that meeting. "We'll be having a report from the task-force chairman Giles Clarke on the ninth of February when we meet in Dubai," Morgan said. "I am very pleased in the way the task force and the PCB interfaced really very well together."

At one stage last year the relationship between the PCB and the ICC also suffered; the PCB launched legal action against the world governing body following the decision not to stage matches of the 2011 World Cup in Pakistan, as

was the original plan. But the dispute was resolved out of court and Morgan said that the situation had never got out of hand.

"There was an uneasiness, but never was it a difficult situation," Morgan said. "Mr Butt and I maintained good and decent relationships throughout. It was a very difficult time for them. At first there was a belief that they were being relieved as hosts. That was never the case. The decision that the board took was that we couldn't actually stage any of the 14 matches in Pakistan but that the hosting rights were still Pakistan's."

"The ICC is determined that Pakistan should not be isolated. Pakistan is an extremely important cricketing nation, a very important part of the ICC. If you look back at the last two decades, Pakistan has produced some of the most stylish, some of the most achieving cricketers. It's important from world cricket's point of view that Pakistan is not isolated and that cricket continues to thrive there. It's obviously particularly difficult when cricketers cannot play on their home turf," Morgan said.

Brawn sees Schumi as a winner

AFP, Berlin

Seven-time Formula One world champion Michael Schumacher will add an eighth title to his name this season, according to Mercedes GP team boss Ross Brawn.

Brawn said, however, that the return of 41-year-old Schumacher to Grand Prix racing after a four-year hiatus would necessitate a period of acclimatisation.

"I don't think that Michael Schumacher can win the first race" in Bahrain on March 14, Brawn told the Bild daily newspaper.

After 1,239 days without competition, Schumacher "will need some races to get used to the other cars and the numerous new drivers", he said.

Zaheer smells

FROM PAGE 17 played initially but as the play went on it got better and better.

Zaheer also praised the two other pacemen Ishant Sharma and Sreesanth, both of whom claimed two wickets each.

"It is good to see him (Ishant) bowl the way he did in the Test match. He has definitely gained some confidence and he's looking good. On the other hand, Sreesanth is also getting his rhythm back," said Zaheer.

The ace left-armers also said that the joining of bowling coach Eric Simmons will help the team.

"It is a good thing that we will be playing four Test matches in a row and we have the bowling coach with the team," said Zaheer.

The opportunity is lost

FROM PAGE 17 pass the second session of play.

Mahmudullah, who continued his recent good form by hitting his first Test half-century, also admitted that they had lost a good chance of keeping the pressure on the world's number one team.

"Yes, we missed a very good chance to take a first innings lead as well as continue the pressure on our opponents," said the right-hander, who played sensibly to make 69 off 108 balls.

The all-rounder however expressed his optimism and said the game was not still over for them and they were looking for something positive.

"They are leading by 120 odd runs but if we can take early wickets, we can get a positive result. We'll try to restrict them to as low a total as possible. There will be dew in the morning because of fog and hope our pace bowlers can take the advantage and there is Shakib also. There is not much turn in the wicket as it was on the first day, so in this wicket, 270-280 and even 300 is chaseable," said a confident Mahmudullah, who is an ardent follower of India's skipper MS Dhoni's batting style.

Booters will give

FROM PAGE 17 mental toughness and rectifying the mistakes we made during the SAFF Championship."

Bangladesh have been drawn in Group A along with the Maldives, Nepal and Bhutan while Group B includes Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan.

Bangladesh were eliminated from the group stage in the last two editions though they played in the final four times and had to be content with runners-up trophy before emerging champions in the eighth edition in Nepal in 1999.

Bangladesh women's squad was also announced yesterday.

Head coach Shahidur Rahman Shantoo hoped his side will play the final as the women have been training for the last seven months.

Assistant coach Golam Rabbani Chhontoa believed the girls have improved a lot technically and tactically and the girls will not face problem playing the 90-minute game.

SQUADS
MEN: Aminul Haque,

But one cannot be hopeful after the way the top-order batsmen were dismissed yesterday. It will also be hard work for the bowlers to take another nine India wickets in a relatively easy batting condition.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the first Test between India and Bangladesh at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chattagong on Tuesday:

INDIA: First innings 243 (Tendulkar 105 not out, Sehagw 52; Shahadat 5-71, Shakib 5-62)

BANGLADESH: First innings (overnight 59-3)

Iqbal b Zaheer 31
Kaysal b Zaheer 23
Nafees c Laxman b Sharma 4
Ashraful c Dravid b Sharma 2
Rokibul c Karthik b Sreesanth 17
Shakib c Sehagw b Zaheer 17
Mushfiqur c Sehagw b Mishra 14
Mahmudullah c Karthik b Sreesanth 69
Shahadat c Yuvraj b Mishra 11
Shafiqul c Yuvraj b Mishra 6
Rubel not out 0
Extras: (b-4, lb-1, nb-12, w-1) 18
Total: (All out in 65.2 overs) 242
Fall of wickets: 1-53, 2-58, 3-58, 4-68, 5-89, 6-98, 7-206, 8-228, 9-235.

Bowler O M R W

Zaheer 20 4 54 3
Sreesanth 11 1 55 2
Sharma 13 3 47 2
Mishra 16.2 2 65 3
Yuvraj 5 1 16 0

INDIA: Second innings

Gambhir not out 47
Sehagw c Rokibul b Shakib 45
Mishra not out 24
Extras: (lb-5, nb-1) 6
Total: (For-56, in 22.2 overs) 122
To bat: Dravid, Tendulkar, Laxman, Yuvraj, Karthik, Sharma, Zaheer, Sreesanth.

Fall of wicket: 1-90.

Bowler O M R W

Shafiqul 6 0 35 0
Shahadat 5 0 13 0
Rubel 2 0 20 0
Shakib 6.2 0 28 1
Mahmudullah 2 0 12 0
Ashraful 1 0 9 0

Bangladesh eye

FROM PAGE 17 were expecting at least two gold out of 10 events to be held.

"We have good preparation in all weight categories," said Rana. "Mizanur Rahman, Raisul Islam, Shammie Akter and Sharmin Farzana Rumi have a chance to win gold medal."

SA Games gold medalist Mizanur Rahman said he would win gold medals in the Korean Open Tournament last year and Rana believed the success of the pair had boosted their morale to do well on home soil.

Korean coach Le Ju Sang said, "The players have toiled hard during the year-long training and I believe the players will present you a good results in the games though they have a few injury problems."

"It is a game of fighting and no one can assure a gold medal, but I believe the players will give their full effort to win gold," said the Korean coach.

Squad: Shah Alam, Anwar Hossain, Saiful Islam, Arman Hossain, Mizanur Rahman, Raisul Islam, Sharmin Farzana Rumi, Shammie Akter, Shahnaz Khatun, Shraboni Biswas.

U-19s must

FROM PAGE 17 and west Indies will be tied on four points. The top two will advance on better net run rate.

Bangladesh had a very good run to the build up to the tournament as they beat both New Zealand and Australia in their warm up matches. They also got the campaign to a flying start beating Papua New Guinea by 5 wickets in a rain-curtailed match, but lost their second match against West Indies by a single run.

IPL shuns

FROM PAGE 17 across India from March 12 to April 25.

From 2011 onwards, when the number of teams will be increased from eight to 10, a fresh auction will be held for all cricketers for a three-year term.

Other star players who were ignored at the auction were Australian Test wicketkeeper Brad Haddin, England spinner Graeme Swann, West Indian Ramnaresh Sarwan and Bangladesh captain Shakib Al Hasan.

AUCTIONED PLAYERS

Mumbai Pollard (WIS) to Kings XI Punjab for 750,000 dollars
Shane Bond (NZL) to Kolkata Knight Riders for 750,000 dollars
Kemar Roach (WIS) to Deccan Chargers for 720,000 dollars
Wayne Parnell (RSA) to Delhi Daredevils for 610,000 dollars
Mohammad Kaif (IND) to Kings XI Punjab for 250,000 dollars
Eoin Morgan (ENG) to Bangalore Royal Challengers for 220,000 dollars
Damien Martyn (AUS) to Rajasthan Royals for 100,000 dollars
Justin Kemp (RSA) to Chennai Super Kings for 100,000 dollars
Thissara Perera (SRI) to Chennai Super Kings for 50,000 dollars
Adam Voges (AUS) to Rajasthan Royals for 50,000 dollars
Yusuf Abdulla (RSA) to Kings XI Punjab for 50,000 dollars

NZ reach qtrs

AFP, Wellington

Home team New Zealand secured a quarterfinal spot in the ICC Under 19 Cricket World Cup Tuesday with an easy seven wicket win over Zimbabwe at Lincoln, near Christchurch.

They will join defending champions India, England, Australia, South Africa and Sri Lanka, who have clinched places in the quarterfinals to be played over the weekend.

In Group D, Bangladesh, Pakistan and the West Indies are vying for the two remaining qualifying spots.

New Zealand needed to chase down just 136 to win in 25 overs on Tuesday, after running through the Zimbabwe batting line-up in 42.2 overs in their Group C match.

New Zealand opener Tom Latham hit an unbeaten 57 to lead his country home.

The West Indies tumbled to 43 for four chasing Papua New Guinea's modest total of 187 but eventually got through by five wickets with more than 14 overs to spare.

In Group A, Afghanistan posted their first win of the tournament, beating Hong Kong by eight wickets.

Leg-spinner Zakiullah Zak took 5-34 from little more than seven overs as Hong Kong crashed to 137 all out, and Afghanistan's opening batsman Javed Ahmadi scored an undefeated 90 to clinch victory.

Ireland beat the United States by five wickets in Group B, after chasing down the target of 218 with more than six overs to spare.

Number three batsman Paul Stirling scored 114 for Ireland to set up the win.

BRIEF SCORES

GROUP A
Hong Kong 137 all out in 35.1 overs (Ashish Gadhia 46; Zakiullah Zak 5-34, Noor-ul-Haq 2-7, Yamin Ahmadza 2-18)
Afghanistan 141-2 in 31.0 overs (Javed Ahmadi 90 no, Ashish Gadhia 2-26)
Result: Afghanistan won by 8 wickets.

GROUP B
United States 217 all out in 48.1 overs (Saqib Saleem 62, Steven Taylor 57, Ryan Corns 31, Gregory Sewdall 30; Lee Nelson 3-3, Craig Young 3-50)
Ireland 218-5 in 43.5 overs (Paul Stirling 114, Graham McDonnell 35 no; Ryan Corns 3-46)
Result: Ireland won by 5 wickets.

GROUP C
Zimbabwe 135 all out in 42.2 overs (Tinotenda Mutombodzi 28; Tim Johnston 3-37, Ben Wheeler 2-10, Bevan Small 2-20, Doug Bracewell 2-26)
New Zealand 140-3 in 25.3 overs (Harry Boam 58, Tom Latham 57 no; Calum Price 2-33)
Result: New Zealand won by 7 wickets.

GROUP D
Papua New Guinea 187 all out in 50 overs (Sese Bau 50, Jason Kila 30; Yannick Cariah 4-37, Yannick Otrley 2-14)
West Indies 188-5 in 35.4 overs (Shane Dornich 84 no, Kraigg Brathwaite 82; Raymond Haoda 3-37)
Result: West Indies won by 5 wickets.

Shakib

FROM PAGE 17 Mumbai Indians, though at a much lower price.

Those two players said that they have informed their respective franchises of their busy schedule with the national side and may not be able to participate in this season's league for a substantial portion.

Bangladesh are on a very hectic cricketing schedule in 2010. It is thought that the busy cricketing schedule of Bangladesh and Shakib's own commitment to the English county side Worcestershire worked for the franchise owners not getting interested in him.

The franchisees were more circumspect in buying players this time and the availability of a player throughout the league has been a factor among others considered for buying a player.

Torch

FROM PAGE 17 torch for the first time in the history of games and the best athletes of Sri Lanka will take part in the five-hour long programme. After lighting up the torch, it will be taken to Colombo where also another programme takes place.

The torch of the games will reach Dhaka on January 24 and Bangladesh Olympic Association president and army chief General Abdul Mubeen will receive the torch at the airport. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will start the activities of the torch at Meghna Ghat on January 28, one day before the opening ceremony at Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Legendary footballer Kaz Salahuddin, also president of Bangladesh Football Federation, will finally carry the torch and light it up at the BNS.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

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50 Spacecraft compartment
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Solution time: 21 mins.

FLAT	CAPS	HEM
GOLA	AGUE	OVA
CUBBY	HOLE	BIT
KING	SABLE	
OFTEN	CARY	
DRAY	BROWSING	
DAB	BEADS	SEA
SUBPOENA	STARY	
YOUR	DUSTY	
PACER	CARP	
ETA	BOBBYPINS	
POT	OREL	LOOK
EMS	NARY	ENVY

CRYPTOQUIP

K U A D K A C A Z N A X D V
E I Z N A E I Z K W K I M X M W A
K M J X Y E A V H P Z N I Z N K P J I C Y X K Z A
R H I J J K P P R H I Y A - Y X X Z U A A Y

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE I THINK VERY SENSIBLY ABOUT ETHNIC BACKGROUNDS, DO I HAVE NATIONALITY RATIONALITY?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals T

Essential Drugs Company Limited

395-397, Tejgaon I/A., Dhaka-1208.

Notice

Ref. No.: EDCL/Pro-mfg/EOI/469 Date: 18/01/2010.

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Toll Manufacturing of Pharmaceutical Products.

Essential Drugs Company Limited, 395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 is hereby requesting for Expression of Interest from renowned national pharmaceutical manufacturing organizations those have 4-5 (four to five) years experience in manufacturing of pharmaceutical products maintaining cGMP and WHO guideline. The competent company should have dedicated production area for producing Penicillin and Cephalosporin products separately. Preference will be given to those company having toll manufacturing agreements with multinational pharmaceutical company. Interested manufacturers are requested to submit their production cost as per design of following products.

Sl. No.	Size of Products	Dosage form	Pack-size	Unit	Manufacturing cost	Remarks
1.	100 ml	Liquid Syp./Susp.	10's & 30's Carton			
2.	60 ml	Liquid Syp./Susp.	20's & 50's Carton			
3.	5.5 mm	Tablet	10's x 10 Blister & 10's x 50 Blister			
4.	12.7 mm	Tablet	10's x 10 Blister & 10's x 50 Blister			
5.	8.7 mm	Tablet	10's x 10 Blister & 10's x 50 Blister			
6.	15.8 mm	Tablet	10's x 10 Blister & 10's x 50 Blister			

Expression of Interest (EOI) is to be submitted to the undersigned within 14 (fourteen) working days from the date of publication of this notice.

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOI's without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Managing Director
Essential Drugs Company Limited
395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area
Dhaka-1208.