

Shakil Kasem: Retired hurt

Cricket

BISHWAJIT ROY

Wickets in the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) front seem to be falling fast. Two crucial exponents in the board have resigned inside three days. First to go was Rabeed Imam, who started his assignment in the board as the chief of it's official website tigercricket.com and later inherited the role of media manager. Rabeed attributed personal reasons for his resignation. But the

truth, most suspect, lies somewhere else. Second and more importantly Shakil Kasem tendered his resignation from his post as head of the GP-BCB National Cricket Academy on Saturday. Shakil decided to call it quits 'out of frustration'.

The effervescent Shakil, whose first venture as development committee chairman came to an abrupt end with the return of 'democracy' in the board, said that he was 'retiring hurt' this time around following his role as a nighwatchman in the previous occasion.

"Perhaps I'm not good at playing googly's," said Shakil to the Daily Star last night.

He was talking about the administrative equivalent of the wrong 'un in cricketing terms. But this particular word has a significant meaning in the BCB where internal politics is increasingly taking an ugly shape and people running the show are apparently making every effort to eject the committed and professional minds.

It is not easy to get the right man for the right job.

And ask anybody. Everyone will say that these two recently departed were the 'best' in what they were assigned for.

BCB was fortunate to have got an enlightened man like the former cricketer Shakil Kasem to run the National Cricket Academy, a heartbeat for any cricketing nation. But it took only eight months before the man walked out due to 'frustration.'

Why this frustration? The answer is simple.

He was not allowed to do what he deemed to be good for cricket. Shakil, who possesses the rare quality to serve the game in any capacity, had first impressed many by his smart activities for the future cricketers as chairman of BCB's development committee two years ago.

But when it looked like he was putting things in order he was forced to leave. It was however refreshing to see him making a triumphant return in a different capacity.

But his latest departure only portrays the sordid state of affairs in the board, which is being run by the elected directors under the inept leadership of AHM Mustafa Kamal.

It was a noble gesture from cellular operators grameenphone, who came up with the financial assistance to build a two-storied building for the academy with all the necessary modern facilities in Mirpur. After a seemingly never-ending delay since the deal was done in March 2007, the dream finally came true last month and many termed the neat building just beside the home of cricket as a 'silver lining of the clouds'.

But what's the point to have a concrete structure if it is not furnished with all the components that will

make it functional.

Shakil was reportedly crying out for that for a long time to re-launch the development committee's activities that has remained stagnant and thus disrupted the pipeline through which the country produced future cricketers.

But the problem with this incumbent board is not the lack of ideas, but following through on its imple-

country's richest sport's body in September last year.

But how can one believe in his words when he still post that has been vacant for the last three years.

him to appoint a CEO. But it is certain that he will continue o lose more dedicated professionals sooner rather than later.



SA A win by innings

Bangladesh cricket captain Shakib Al Hasan speaks to reporters in Barbados on Sunday.

to make a second round berth in the third version of the competition.

109-ball knock consisted of four boundaries

and a six. Sahagir provided some good support

to Nazimuddin as the latter reached his fifty off

95 balls and the hosts went to lunch on 228 for

Nazimuddin departed, falling leg-before to

Dean Elgar, for 82 off 153 balls. There were 12

boundaries and two sixes in his exciting knock.

Since then it was all downhill for the hosts as

After adding 23 more runs to the total

four, with a big hope of drawing the match.

time.

Standard Time.

Bangladesh have been placed in a tough group with Pakistan and Australia.

Bangladesh

XI tonight

SPORTS REPORTER

face Barbados

Bangladesh will play their first

build-up game for the ICC

World Twenty20 against

Barbados XI at the Kensington

11.30pm Bangladesh

second warm-up game

against England at the same

venue tomorrow at the same

the country with high hopes of

beating champions Pakistan

Shakib Al Hasan's men left

The match will start at

The Tigers will play their

Oval, Bridgetown today.

The Tigers will play their first Group A match against Pakistan at the Beausejour Stadium, Gros Islet, St Lucia on May 1 while the second and final group match against Australia will be held at the

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Pak court summons Malik

PTI, Lahore

A Pakistani court yesterday summoned cricketer Shoaib Malik to appear before it on May 3 in connection with a petition that alleged he had "sold" invitation cards for a reception to celebrate his wedding to Indian tennis star Sania Mirza. Additional Sessions Judge Malik Rafiq of the court in Lahore admitted the petition filed by a man named Safdar Ali, who alleged the cricketer was selling invitation cards for his 'walima' on April 27 for 15,000 rupees (about 200 dollars) each.

The judge listed the matter for hearing on May 3 and directed Shoaib to appear before him on that date.

a fan of Shoaib, said he had taken leave from work on April 27 to witness the walima.

Ali, who described himself as

"But then I found out that Shoaib is selling invitation cards for the event for 15,000 rupees."

Salahuddin wants an end to match-fixing

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

After a season of packed international football including the SAFF Championship and the SA Games, local football scene was expected to bring crowds pouring to the stadia.

But deep into current Bangladesh League season when the title fight is racing towards a close, crowd enthusiasm is nowhere to be found.

The big teams play at the Bangabandhu National Stadium before almost empty stands. The picture is same for the other five venues across the country where the league is taking place. It is widely regarded that the unabated match-fixing culture is debilitating the attempt of regaining popularity.

There has been numerous occasions in the current season where the games turned into some sort of mockery, for the lack of competition and spirit amongst the teams, suggesting something unholy going beneath.

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) president Kazi Salahuddin is very concerned about the situation and is eager to take corrective measures to bring back fairness and popularity to the game. He was talking to reporters yesterday at the BFF House after returning home from a personal visit abroad.

"While abroad, I had been following what was going on in the league and I am very frustrated by the current situation. This cannot go on. We will have to go for some action to stop match-fixing. I am a disciplinarian and won't tolerate any indiscipline. What's the use of a Bangladesh League without spectators?" said country's star of the seventies and eighties.

"We are talking with the concerned authorities about how to curb this menace. We are looking to take assistance from CID and Police to stop match-fixing. We have video-tapes of all matches which can be provided to solve the crisis."

It may be mentioned here that BFF sent a letter to CID on March 29 requesting for their assistance to tract match-fixers.

The charismatic president of the football federation has other ideas as well to make the league more attractive. He is negotiating to lure a few more strong teams into the league to

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BKSP beat Pak club

SPORTS REPORTER

BKSP Under 19s won their fourth match of the Pakistan tour when they beat Southend Club by 81 runs at Southend Club ground on April 22.

Winning the toss, BKSP decided to bat and scored 288 for 8 in 50 overs. There were a couple of fifties in that total with Imamul Hussain making highest 58 from 55 balls while Tariqul Islam and Asif Ahmed both scoring 50 runs. Shoumya Sarkar and Ashiqul Alom each scored 36 runs to give BKSP a challenging total.

In reply, Southend Club were bowled out for 207 in 41.4 overs. Mohammad Furkan took 3 for 31 while Zakaria Masud and Habibullah Talukdar took two wickets each.

Karatekas win medals

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh karate team won three gold, four silver and two bronze medals in the Fifth International Goju Ryu Karate Championship at the Jamshedpur Fata Sports Complex in the Indian state of Jharkhand on April 23, said a press release from Bangladesh Goju Ryu Karate Association yesterday.

Among the medal winners, Syed Mohammad Zakir Hossain won gold in the under 60kg weight category, Kamrun Nahar Shathi won gold in women's under 60kg category while Shahnewaz Begum won gold in the women's under 70kg category. The karatekas returned home yesterday.

Chirayu IPL's interim chief

AFP, Mumbai

Businessman Chirayu Amin has been named the interim chief of the Indian Premier League (IPL) in place of the suspended Lalit Modi, officials said on Monday.

Amin, who runs a pharmaceutical business in the western city of Vadodara, is one of the five vicepresidents of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and a member of the IPL's governing council. "Chirayu Amin will be the

interim head of the IPL, which we consider to be a great property," BCCI president Shashank Manohar told a packed media conference at the board headquarters in Mumbai. Manohar said former

national captains Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi, Sunil Gavaskar and Ravi Shastri will decide how to organise future versions of the IPL.

All three are members of the tournament's governing council, whose strength has been reduced to 13 after Modi's suspension earlier on Monday.

Batting in the second innings in reply to the they kept losing wickets at regular intervals. Sahagir held one end, but when he departed as visitors' massive 676 for 9 declared, the hosts the ninth man after a 44-run innings, and the were bowled out for 326 just before tea on the injured batsman, Junaed Siddiqui, did not fourth and final day. Hard-hitting batsman appear, the game was won by the visitors by an Nazimuddin scored highest 82 runs while leftinnings and 4 runs. hander Faisal Hossain scored 51 runs and SCORES IN BRIEF wicketkeeper batsman Sahagir Hossain added

BANGLADESH A: First innings 346 all out (Nafees 45, Shamsur 84, Junaed 1, Nazimuddin 48, Faisal 23, Farhad 38, Sahagir 6, Nur 49, Shahadat 29, Enamul 7 not out, Rabiul 2, Extras 14; Der Wath 2-51, Tsotsobe 1-76, Philander 1-28, Tshabalala 0-80, Elgar 2-73, Van Zyl 4-37)

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'Suspension for free, fair probe'

AFP, Mumbai

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Mirpuryesterday.

44 for the hosts.

Visiting South Africa A team completed a com-

prehensive victory of an innings and 4 runs over

hosts Bangladesh A in their first unofficial Test

at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in

The day began well for the hosts as the two

overnight batsmen Faisal and Nazimuddin

negotiated the early hour nicely and took the

overnight total of 148 for 3 past 200. But soon

after Faisal reached his patient half-century, he

fell leg-before to Thandi Tshabalala for 51. His



in Mumbai.

The head of India's cricket body on Monday said that the suspension of

Indian League (IPL) boss Lalit Modi over tax evasion and matchfixing claims was required for a

"free and fair" investigation. "The suspension is necessary for a free and fair inquiry. It's not a punishment," the president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Shashank Manohar, told a packed news conference

Modi was suspended as chairman of the big-money IPL just hours after it concluded late on Sunday with an unexpected win for the Chennai Super Kings over the Mumbai Indians in Mumbai.

The BCCI, which owns the IPL, has accused Modi of "alleged acts of individual misdemeanours" and is scrutinising his financial dealings in relation to the tournament, which began in 2008.



in India (BCCI), addresses a news

conference at BCCI headquar-

ters in Mumbai yesterday.

Shashank Manohar (L), president of the Board of Control for Cricket

owned by film actresses Shilpa Shetty and Preity Zinta. "We are asking for an explanation" about the firms and the transfer of shares in them, he

Manohar said the investigation would

include checks on the companies involved in

bids for two teams, the Rajasthan Royals and

Kings XI Punjab, which are respectively part-

added. The probe, which could take up to six months and even a year, will also look at agree-

ments struck for broadcasting and Internet rights plus "the behavioural pattern of Modi", he said, referring to leaks from private board meetings. The inquiry will not look

into claims of illegal betting, Manohar added.

But the official said that some key documents relating to broadcasting rights demanded by India's tax authorities were missing from

ক্রমানা ফেরদৌস আঁথি ২০০৪-০৫ সেশনে জাতীয় মেধায়

the IPL office.

"We don't have them in our custody," he said. Manohar also sought to distance the BCCI **SEE PAGE 18 COL 1**

২০০৯-১০ সেশনে জাতীয় মেধায় ১ম ২০ জনে ১৪ জন ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজে ১৭৮ আসনে ১২১ জন স্যার সলিমুল্লাহ মেডিকেল কলেজে ১৭৮ আসনে ১১৬ জন

ফার্মগেট শাখায় ছেলে ও মেয়েদের সকাল ৮টা ও ১০টার ব্যাচে ভর্তি শেষ। শান্তিনগর শাখায় মেয়েদের সকাল ৮টা ও ১০টার ব্যাচে ভর্তি শেষ।



৩০ এপ্রিল পর্যন্ত ঢাকার শাখা সমূহে ১০০০/- ছাড়



শাহবাগ ঃ ৮৬১৮৯৪৯, ০১৮১৬৭৮১৭৭১, ফার্মগেট (অর্কিড) ঃ ৯১৩০৯৫১, ০১৮১৬৭৮১৭৭২, ফার্মগেট (কনকর্ড) ঃ ৮১১৫১১৩, ০১৮১৬৭৮১৭৭৩ শান্তিনগর ঃ ৯৩৫২১৫২, ০১৮১৬৭৮১৭৭৪, যাত্রাবাড়ী ঃ ৭৫৫৪১৯৭, ০১৮১৬৭৮১৭৭৫

চট্টগ্রাম শাখা ঃ ০১৭১১-৩৯৬২১২ রংপুর শাখাঃ ০১৭১৭৭৩৬৯২৮, ০১৭১২১৭১৮০৯ দিনাজপুর শাখা ঃ ০১৭১২-২৫৫৬৩৫ ময়মনসিংহ শাখা ঃ ০১৫৫৮-৪১৭৬৩৪ বরিশাল শাখা ঃ ০১৭১১-৯৫৬৭১৯ খুলনা শাখা ঃ ০১৬১২-৪৫০৫৪৪, ০১৬৭৮-১৫১৩১৪ রাজশাহী শাখা ঃ ০১৭১৪-০৪৯৪২৮, ০১৭২৭১৪৬০৬৫ কুমিল্লা শাখা ঃ ০১৭১৫-৪২৭২৯৩ ফরিদপুর শাখা ঃ ০১৫৫৮-৩৩০৪২২ সিলেট শাখা ঃ ০১৭১১-৩৪৩১৯৬, ০১৫৫৮-৩৪৭২৬৪ বগুড়া শাখা ঃ ০১৭১২-০৬৯২২৭ পাবনা শাখা ঃ ০১৯২৬-৬১৫১২৪

Bangladesh League Rahmatganj v Abahani Time: 4:00pm Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

DY Patil Stadium in Mumbai on Sunday.

ESPN

Sportscentre India Sports News Live at 8:30pm SuperSport3

UEFA Champions League SEMIFINAL Lyon v Bayern Munich Live from 12:45am (Wednesday)



Sachin enjoying IPL support staff, his teammates and the crowd for

PTI, Mumbai



Sachin Tendulkar may have voluntarily decided not to play Twenty20 internationals but the senior batsman assured that he would continue playing in the Indian Premier League (IPL).

Members of Chennai Super Kings pose with the trophy after beating Mumbai Indians by 22 runs in the Indian Premier League final in

us, barring today [Sunday]. Most likely I will be playing next year as well. It has been fun playing in the IPL. I have enjoyed a lot. I have always enjoyed playing cricket," Tendulkar said after his side lost by 22 runs to Chennai Super Kings in the IPL III summit clash.

Tendulkar said poor fielding has cost his side dear in the grand finale at the DY Patil Stadium here, although their slow beginning in the runchase was also to be blamed. "A couple of important catches cost us. There is a saying that catches win matches. The start in the run-chase also was not up to the mark. We could have accelerated a little bit more," he said. "Towards the end, Kieron Pollard came in

with a fine effort but it was a bit late. We tried hard to accelerate the run-rate but it was one of those days when things did not click," he added. Tendulkar also thanked the franchise owner,

their support. "I want to thank all the Mumbai Indians supporters. It's been a terrific journey. It's been an honour to be part of Mumbai Indians team. The support from team owners and staff has been tremendous," said Tendulkar. He also congratulated Chennai Super Kings

"It has been a very special tournament for on winning their maiden title. "Congratulations to Chennai for winning the tournament. They played better than us today," said the veteran batsman. Meanwhile, Chennai captain Mahendra

Singh Dhoni credited the team for playing as a unit and winning the title. "Credit goes to the team, we were under pressure in the middle of the tournament, excited to lift the trophy today," Dhoni said. "We were happy with the total, the Mumbai

wicket supports the seamers and [Doug] Bollinger did well early, [Ravichandran] Ashwin has been doing a superb job with new ball. We were able to create the kind of pressure to get wickets," he added.

Dhoni also feels that inclusion of two more sides in the tournament will only make the

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mentation; they decided nearly five months back to reinstate the High Performance program through which Bangladesh reaped cricketers like Shakib Al Hasan and Mushfigur Rahim. Practically speaking though, nothing has happened in this regard. Shakil wanted everything including HP under one umbrella and he wanted a set of professionals to carry out the activities. But the board seemed to have developed an allergy whenever there is a talk about professionals. And the recent activities of the board only gives an indication that they love to track back to those day when a few people talked about cricket over a cup of tea. Mustafa Kamal, who holds a lot of other important post as a lawmaker of the ruling Awami League, had promised that he would ensure professionalism at BCB during his tenure when he took the helm of the

> failed to appoint a chief executive officer (CEO), the It's not sure how many more years it will take for