

Away victory India's goal

Cricket

AFP, Sydney

India are desperate to bury their unwanted tag of being poor travellers as they bid to win their first series in Australia starting on Monday at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

The Indians, ranked second in Test cricket, two places above Australia, have failed to win a series Down Under in nine previous tours over 64 years but face a home team in the throes of a painful transition.

India will be playing their first away Test series since losing all four matches in England in July-August in a whitewash that cost M.S. Dhoni's men their number one ranking.

India have developed an unwelcome reputation as poor travellers and a win in the four-Test series against Michael Clarke's Australians represents a career-defining goal for many of the team's ageing stars.

Sachin Tendulkar, bidding for his 100th international century, Rahul Dravid, Virender Sehwag and V.V.S. Laxman are all unlikely to get the opportunity again in their cricket careers and are motivated to succeed.

The Boxing Day Test is

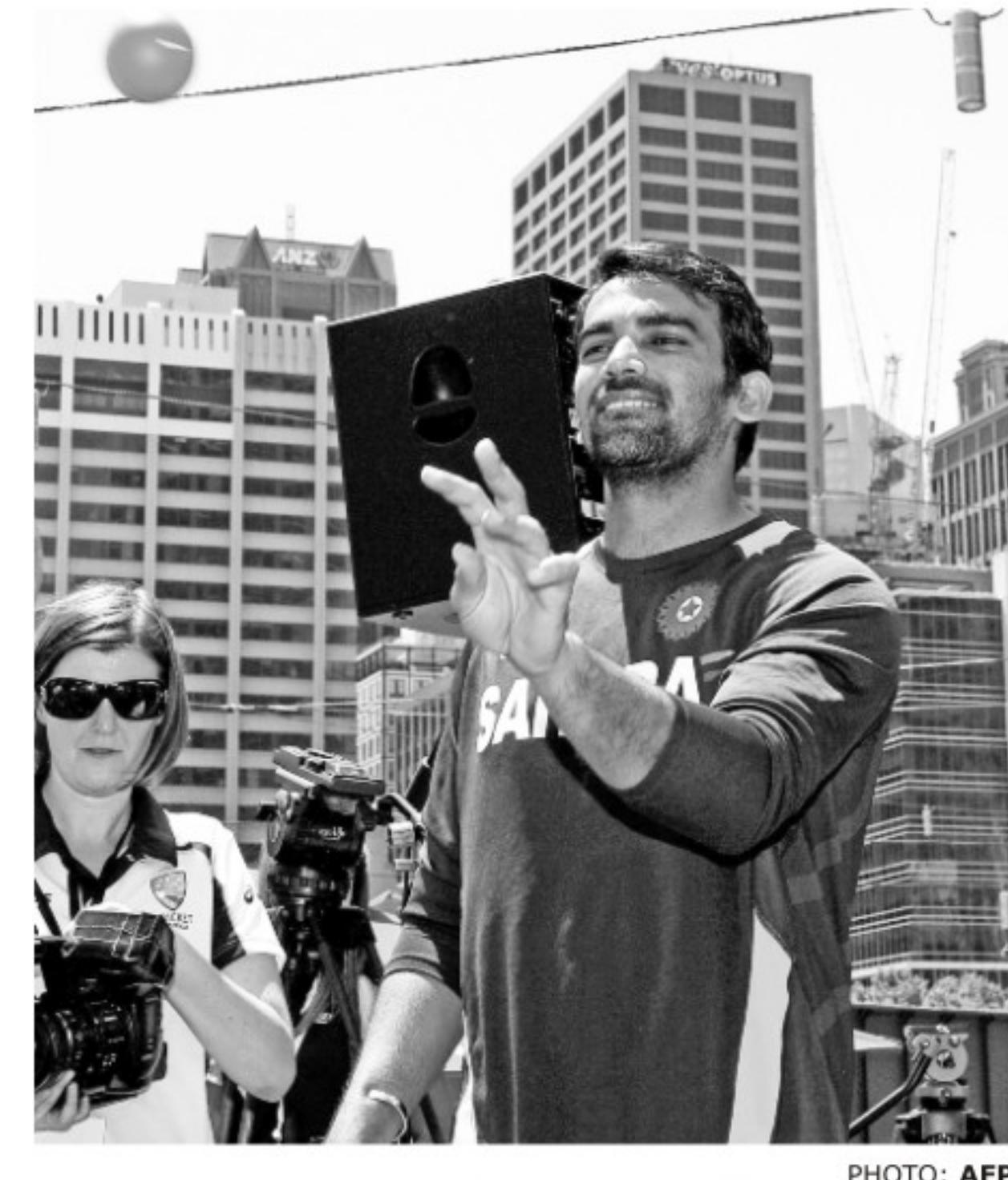


PHOTO: AFP

India paceman Zaheer Khan throws the ball to a young fan as members of the Indian and Australian teams meet a large crowd at a public event in Melbourne Friday. The two sides meet in the first Test which starts on December 26 at the MCG.

one for the purists with the rarity of Test cricket's three greatest runscorers -- Tendulkar (15,183), Dravid (13,094) and Australia's Ricky Ponting (12,656) -- all featuring in the same match.

Dravid, turning 39 next month and padding up for his fourth series in Australia, has had one of his best years, scoring 1,067 runs and five centuries.

"I wouldn't have minded scoring five hundreds (fewer) or 1,000 runs less if we could win a series in Australia," Dravid said.

"The greatest memory for me now is not necessarily statistical. It's not the number of runs, it's those magi-

cal moments. The series wins in Tests stay with you.

"I think that's what you play for at this stage. I don't have anything in terms of my own numbers or statistics that I want to achieve in Australia, but I want to win a Test series (here) and help the team win in Australia.

"It is something that we have never done. So every time you tour here you want to get that goal. It's not going to be easy, it never is, but I think the team's goal is to try to win a series."

While India are top heavy with batting experience, it will come down to the ability of front-line bowlers Zaheer Khan and Ishant Sharma to bowl out Australia for India to retain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy they have held since 2008.

Australian bowling legends Shane Warne and Glenn McGrath have needled the Indians this week, saying India will struggle if Zaheer and Sharma are not fully fit for the gruelling series.

But the Australians are nowhere near as formidable as they once were and this month crashed to a humiliating defeat to lowly New Zealand in Hobart.

Shakib, a cut above

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the only force. Though six catches were dropped and one stumping missed, he led the way with excellent control. Three out of his six wickets were tail-enders but those around him often struggle to close the deal.

He didn't score many in Bangladesh's second innings, guiding a ball to the gully fieldsman but by then he had to be totally spent. Apart from batting for almost six hours, he bowled 40-plus overs and was immediately asked to save the team from another collapse. If he did bring them out, it would have put him in a league of his own but for now, Shakib must keep some energy for future battles. More importantly, Shakib's

exploits have spoiled others into comfort.

While Kallis adds balance to an already excellent team, Shakib is a one-man team.

Cavendish wins BBC gong

AFP, London

World road race champion Mark Cavendish claimed Britain's BBC Sports Personality of the Year award on Thursday, beating off competition in a public vote from golfer Darren Clarke and athlete Mo Farah.

The 26-year-old, also the Tour de France's green jersey winner, became only the second road cyclist to take the award, following the late Tommy Simpson's win in 1965.

National kabaddi

SPORTS REPORTER

Barisal, Bagura, Khulna and Tangail emerged zonal champions in the Meizan National Kabaddi Championship beating their respective opponents in the zonal finals yesterday.

Barisal beat Patuakhali 43-40 with two creditable 'lona' in a keenly contested final at the Barisal venue. Bogra beat Rajshahi 46-37 at the Dinajpur venue, Khulna beat Jessore 26-23 at the Jessore venue while Tangail beat Mymensingh 40-36 at the Tangail venue to make it to the final stage. The zonal champions and runnersup will take part in the final round in Dhaka starting from December 28.

Corporate T20 takes off

SPORTS REPORTER

Walton and International Leasing and Finance Limited won their respective matches on the opening day of the LankaBangla T20 Corporate Cricket tournament at the Udaychyal Club ground in Mohammadpur yesterday.

In the first match of the day, ILFL beat Union Capital Limited by 12 runs. Nasirudin Babu's 109 was enough to win his side the game after they made 179-9. UCL replied with 167-9 in their 20s.

Walton rode on Shohan's all-round performance to win the game over Multi-Securities by 16 runs. Apart from stroking 74, Shohan also took two wickets.

Earlier, State Minister for LGRD Advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak inaugurated the tournament as the chief guest.

Zia slips up

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman dropped point again as he drew his 11th round match of the 37th Walton National Chess Championship against Debraj Chatterjee at the BOA Media Hall yesterday.

Zia, who is still leading the table with 10 points, lead by a single point from Grand Master Niaz Murshed, whom he will take on today in the 12th round.

If Zia wins this match, the 11-time national champions will ensure his title with a game in hand. However, Niaz will be looking for a win in today's match and one more against Javed Mohammad in the last round to wrestle back the title from Zia.

In the other matches of the day, Minhazuddin beat Sohel Chowdhury, Abu Sufian beat Mahfuzur Rahman, Mehdi Hasan beat Mahtab Uddin, Shafik Ahmed beat Golam Mostafa and Monir Hossain defeated Mohammad Javed.

Cox's City

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paid dividends when, after being set up by Jakir Hossain, Shahinur sealed the match with a left-footed grounder.

'Bring on England'

Cricket

AFP, Lahore

Pakistani skipper Misbahul Haq said Friday his high-flying team can beat England -- world's leading Test side -- when they meet next year, believing his side are unstoppable on current form.

Pakistan returned home Friday after routing Bangladesh in two Twenty20s, three one-day internationals and two Tests, ending the year with five Test wins and without losing a series, both in five-day matches and limited-overs.

They now take on England over three Tests, four one-days and three Twenty20 matches in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in a series starting next month.

Misbah said England will be a real test for his side, who are now fifth in Test rankings.

"The series against England is important as well as very tough," Misbah told reporters.

"England is the world's best Test team but in current form we can beat any team if we keep the good form and co-ordination which we showed this year."

Since taking over as Test captain in 2010 following a spot-fixing scandal, which resulted in jail terms for players Salman Butt, Mohammad Asif and Mohammad Aamer, Misbah has led Pakistan in 13 Tests.

Misbah, who has guided Pakistan to six wins, six draws and a single loss, said his team needs to improve to beat England.

"Despite achieving some good results we still need to overcome some of the mistakes which we committed and the management as well as the players are determined to overcome them because England will be really tough," said Misbah.

"Our targets on the Bangladesh tour were to keep consistency in our performance, overcome some of the mistakes and improve our rankings and that we achieved," said Misbah.

Pakistan also beat the higher-ranked Sri Lanka 1-0 in Tests and 4-1 in one-days in the UAE in October-November.

Misbah said his team has gelled over the last year.

"The best part about this team is that we have good coordination among the seniors and juniors, the support staff is helping players and each and every player realises his duty and that will help us against England," said Misbah.

Pakistan will have to once again rely on interim coach Mohsin Khan after failing to find a permanent replacement for Waqar Younis who stepped down in September citing health problems.

"Now wins over Sri Lanka and Bangladesh are part of history," Khan said. "We have to start afresh against England and need to raise our game because the next opponents are very strong and ranked number one in the world."

The first Test between Pakistan and England starts in Dubai on January 17.

NCL matches

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preparation as the Premier Division Cricket League is all set to start from December 28.

It's not however sure whether the national players will get the chance to play two longer-version matches after the suspension as the Asia Cup is scheduled for mid-March next year.

Rahin, Shila

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but we have to keep all of them in training," said National Shooting Federation general secretary Ishtiaque Ahmed adding that they have picked 30 shooters for further training.

The pistol events of the senior section begins today.

Bookies back

Melbourne 100

Cricket

AFP, Sydney

Indian cricketing superstar Sachin Tendulkar is favoured to bring up his 100th international century in the first Test against Australia in Melbourne, according to one Australian bookmaker.

Online bookmaker sportsbet.com.au has installed the Boxing Day Test as the most likely venue for the historic milestone at odds of 9/4.

Poised on 99 international centuries across Test and one-day matches, Tendulkar retired on 92 in the tourists' final day of a two-day tour match against the Chairman's XI in Canberra last week.

"He is in good form with a 90-odd against the Chairman's XI already under his belt since arriving in Australia and he's a very good chance to achieve the phenomenal milestone during the Boxing Day Test," the firm's Ben Hawes said.

"And if not, he can take some respite in the fact that the next game is at the SCG where he has pummelled Australia on several occasions."

ঢাকা পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড

DHAKA POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD.

(An Enterprise of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)

Date: 21/12/2011

Memo No : PD/Project-2/M-1/DPDC/2011/620

INVITATION FOR LOCAL TENDER



1. Agency	Dhaka Power Distribution Company Ltd. (DPDC)		
2. Procuring Entity Name	Project Director, Project-2, DPDC, Biddut Bhaban (2 nd Floor), 1, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000. Phone: +88029513820, Fax: +88029513821, Email: dgmp2@dpdc.org		
3. Procuring Entity District	Dhaka.		
4. Invitation for	Group (A): Installation of 11KV U/G cable due to change the existing faulty source cable of New Rahmatganj & Chaudhut 11KV O/H feeder under NOCS Lalbagh. Group (B): Construction of 11KV U/G line for split-up of Nawabganj Park 11KV O/H feeder from Kamrangirchar 33/11 KV S/S under NOCS Azimpur.		
5. Invitation Ref. no.	PD/Project-2/M-1/DPDC/2011/620		
6. Date	21/12/2011		

Key Information :

7. Procuring Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)
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Funding Information

8. Source of Funds	Revenue(DPDC)
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Particular Information

9. Last Selling Date of Tender, with Bid submission and Bid Opening Date & Time	11/01/2012 5:00 P.M	Up to 12/01/2012 12:00 Noon	12/01/2012 2:30 P.M.
10. Name & Address of the Office for selling, receiving and Opening of Tender Document	Selling (i) Company Secretary, DPDC, Biddut Bhaban (2 nd Floor), 1 No Abdul Goni Road, Dhaka 1000. (ii) Project Director, Project-2, DPDC, Biddut Bhaban (2 nd Floor) 1 No Abdul Goni Road, Dhaka 1000. (iii) Project Director-1, DPDC, House# 47 Rd# 135, Gulshan, Dhaka. Receiving (i) Company Secretary, DPDC, Biddut Bhaban (2 nd Floor), 1 No Abdul Goni Road, Dhaka 1000. (ii) Project Director, Project-2, DPDC, Biddut Bhaban (2 nd Floor) 1 No Abdul Goni Road, Dhaka 1000. (iii) Project Director-1, DPDC, House# 47 Rd# 135, Gulshan, Dhaka.	Receiving (i) Company Secretary, DPDC, Biddut Bhaban (2 nd Floor), 1 No Abdul Goni Road, Dhaka 1000. (ii) Project Director, Project-2, DPDC, Biddut Bhaban (2 nd Floor) 1 No Abdul Goni Road, Dhaka 1000. (iii) Project Director-1, DPDC, House# 47 Rd# 135, Gulshan, Dhaka.	Opening Project Director, Project-2,