

India keep Sachin for third Test

BBC ONLINE, Mumbai

Sachin Tendulkar has kept his place in India's 15-man squad for the third Test against England in Kolkata despite criticism of his form.

The batsman was twice dismissed cheaply by Monty Panesar as England won the second Test in Mumbai by 10 wickets to level the four-match series at 1-1.

That continued a run of low scores for the 39-year-old, who averages 54.60 in 192 Tests but has compiled only one half-century in 12 innings in 2012.

The third Test starts at the Eden Gardens on December 5.

Tendulkar last scored a

Test century in January

2011, 146 against South Africa.

Since then, though, he has become the first batsman to score 100 international centuries, reaching the milestone in a one-day game against Bangladesh in March.

That innings also meant Tendulkar has scored centuries in both Test and one-day internationals against all of the Test-playing nations.

However, his form in 2012 has been patchy and he has scored just 29 runs in three innings against England in the current series.

He has amassed 274 runs in 12 Test innings in 2012 at an average of 22.83, with a highest score of 80 against Australia in Sydney in January.

India fast bowler Umesh Yadav, who impressed in the first Test in Ahmedabad but missed the second with a back injury, is again unavailable after being advised to rest for 10 days.

**SQUAD**

Mahendra Singh Dhoni (captain), Gautam Gambhir, Virender Sehwag, Sachin Tendulkar, Virat Kohli, Yuvraj Singh, Cheteshwar Pujara, Ravichandran Ashwin, Ashok Dinda, Pragyan Ojha, Ajinkya Rahane, Harbhajan Singh, Ishant Sharma, Murali Vijay, Zaheer Khan.

**BCB goes**

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committee which brought major changes to ignite widespread controversy in cricket arena. But NSC salvaged the blushes for BCB by reinstating the councillorship of former national cricketers, though in a modified version, in an approved constitution where the NSC staked a bigger claim in the directorship of the country's most affluent federation. NSC wanted the post of three directors instead of the existing one in the board, which has now 24 directors apart from a government-appointed president.

The new constitution of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) paved the way for an elected president as per advised by the International Cricket Council (ICC), which also instructed all the member countries to have elected executive committee by June next year.

**Siddikur**

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ties at the end of the fourth round have qualified for the final two rounds of the qualification process. The top 25 and ties from the final to days of qualifying will earn a European Tour card for 2013.

# Lanka avoid follow on

## Cricket

AFP, Colombo

Thilan Samaraweera hit a half-century under pressure to lead Sri Lanka's recovery on the third day of the second and final Test against New Zealand at the P Sara Oval in Colombo on Tuesday.

Sri Lanka were in big trouble on 103-5 before finishing the day on 225-6 in reply to New Zealand's first-innings 412, thanks to the middle-order batsman's defiant 76 not out of 156 deliveries.

Samaraweera, who had injured his finger while fielding, received valuable support from lower-order batsman Suraj Randiv, who made a resolute 102-ball 34 not out, his highest score in 12 Tests.

The pair have so far added 97 and helped their team avoid the follow-on. But the tourists were in control when bad light stopped play with 25.4 overs remaining in the day.

Sri Lanka, leading the

series 1-0 following their 10-wicket win in the opening Test, are still 187 behind with four wickets in hand.

Fast bowler Tim Southee, who took two wickets in an over on Monday, had Sri Lanka -- resuming on 43-3 -- in trouble in the morning when he struck twice before Samaraweera and Randiv steered the innings.

Angelo Mathews and opener Tharanga Paranavita put on 90 after three wickets had fallen for just 12 on Monday but Southee dismissed them in successive overs.

Paranavita (40) edged the paceman to wicket-keeper Kruger van Wyk while Mathews (47) fell to a superb one-handed catch by Martin Guptill, who held the ball low to his right in the slips.

New Zealand had wasted

an earlier chance to break

the fourth-wicket stand

when skipper Ross Taylor

dropped Paranavita at

first slip off fast bowler

Trent Boult when the

discussed by selectors.

"We unanimously back Ricky Ponting to get us some runs. By his own admission Perth is a big test for him, but Ricky has prepared brilliantly, he's really given us everything we could probably have asked," Arthur said.

"He'll leave no stone unturned in his preparation for Perth and I'm backing him for a big score in Perth, no doubt about that."

"Inside the dressing room and privately we've all backed Ricky Ponting," he added. "If Ricky's scoring runs then we definitely want him around for the next six months. We want Ricky Ponting to go to the Ashes, there's no doubt about that."

Ponting has spoken in the past about his burning motivation to keep on playing after leading Australia to back-to-back Ashes series defeats before Michael Clarke took over

the captaincy.

Skipper Clarke has called for calm heads about the future of Australia's top Test run-scorer, who is behind only India's Sachin Tendulkar on the all-time Test list, with 13,366 runs.

"The one thing we need to keep in mind was he was the leading run-scorer in Sheffield Shield cricket leading up to the start of this [Test] summer, so he is batting well," Clarke said.

Arthur also hinted that unpredictable paceman Mitchell Johnson is in line to bowl in Perth after he was one of three fresh fast bowlers named in a 14-man squad amid doubts over pace pair Peter Siddle and Ben Hilfenhaus following Monday's bowling exertions in the draining Adelaide Test.

Gagunashvili, GM Ziaur Rahman and IM Minhazuddin Ahmed beat Siddique Rahman, Saiful Islam Chowdhury and Abdul Momin of Farashganj respectively while FM Abdul Malek drew against Mohammad Fahad Rahman.

Titas Chess Club and

Duronto Rajshahi shared the second position with eight match points each as Titas beat Bangladesh Biman 3.5-5 and Duronto Rajshahi checkmated Faith Chess Club by straight 4-0 points.

Access Group Chess Club was in the third position with 6 match points.

**BFF names**

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and then face Sri Lanka and

Maldives on December 5

and 7 respectively.

**SQUAD**

**Goalkeepers:** Maksudur Rahman Mostaque, Shahidul Alam Sohel and Sultan Ahmed Shakil,

**Defenders:** Raihan Hasan, Sohel Rana, Kesto Kumar Bose, Shawkat Russell, Yeasin Khan, Uttam Kumar Banik and Shariful Islam.

**Midfielders:** Shahedul Alam Shahed, Alamgir Kabir Rana, Ashraf

Mahmud Linkon, Mejbabul Haque Manik (captain) and Mobarak Hossain Bhuiyan.

**Strikers:** Shakhawat Hossain Rony, Yeamin Ahmed Chowdhury Munna, Towhidul Alam Sabuj, and Tauhidul Alam Touhid.

# Shakib-less Tigers

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Nasir Hossain (32) were all guilty of wasting a good start. What promised to be a 300 plus score when Tamim was going strong could have been less than the 272 they got were it not for a cameo by Marshal Ayub, who scored 37 off 32 balls.

"It (the string of scores in the 30s) is a matter for concern, they are playing ODIs after a long time, first after the Asia Cup (in March). It's very important for batsmen to play long innings for the team to score big runs," Akram said

after the match, adding that with the new ODI rules (two bouncers per over and no less than five fielders inside the circle during non-Powerplay overs) in effect in the match, it would take some time for the Tigers to adjust.

**SCORES IN BRIEF**

**BANGLADESH:** 272 for

eight (Tamim 72, Marshal

37 not out, Mashfiqur 35;

Enamul 3-31, Sunny 2-33).

**BCB XI:** 274 for five in 49.1

overs (Kayed 53, Ziaur 51

not out, Mominul 45; Riyad

2-27, Gazi 1-33)

**Result:** BCB XI won by five

wickets

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and 7 respectively.

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**Goalkeepers:** Maksudur

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Alam Sohel and Sultan

Ahmed Shakil,

**Defenders:** Raihan Hasan,

Sohel Rana, Kesto Kumar

Bose, Shawkat Russell,

Yeasin Khan, Uttam Kumar

Banik and Shariful Islam.

**Midfielders:** Shahedul

Alam Shahed, Alamgir

Kabir Rana, Ashraf

Mahmud Linkon, Mejbabul

Haque Manik (captain) and

Mobarak Hossain Bhuiyan.

**Strikers:** Shakhawat

Hossain Rony, Yeamin

Ahmed Chowdhury

Munna, Towhidul Alam

Sabuj, and Tauhidul Alam

Touhid.



Talukdar Noman Anwar, Country Head of Communications, HSBC Bangladesh, and Jawaheerul Islam Mamun, Director Admin, Bangladesh Blind Cricket Council, exchange documents on behalf of their respective organisations yesterday to sponsor the Bangladesh team to the T20 Blind Cricket World Cup scheduled to be held over December 2-13 in Bangalore. Andrew Tilke, Chief Executive Officer of HSBC Bangladesh, and Monsur Ahmed Chowdhury, Chairman, Bangladesh Blind Cricket Council, were also present during the signing ceremony.



New Zealand pacer Tim Southee (L) appeals during the third day of the second and final Test against Sri Lanka at the P Sara Oval in Colombo yesterday.

## Premier Div from today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Premier Division Football League starts today at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong with ten teams fighting it out for the chance to be champions. Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) Eleven will play against Mukti Joddha Krira Chakra in the opening match. Each of participating teams will be eligible to play three foreign players in each match, informed SM Sahidul Islam, general secretary of Chittagong District FA yesterday.

CDFA and Chittagong Jela Krira Sangsta (CJS) are organizing the league jointly.

The participating teams are: CCC Eleven, Mukti Joddha Krira Chakra, Chittagong Mohammedan Sporting Blues, BCIC Krira Sangshad, Chittagong Brothers Union, Quality Sports Club, Customs Sports Club, Agrabad Nowjoan Club, Madarbari Udyon Sangha and Shatadal Club.

## Lucky 12 return

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They return with the realization that the path to becoming a professional footballer is not an easy one, especially in Bangladesh, where there is a lack of modern facilities. They are however, all committed to carrying out the lessons from their brief stint at the Manchester United Soccer School.

"We can now understand how a player grows up availing the modern facilities which we lack in our country," said striker M a s h u d A h m e d Chowdhury adding that he still was carrying those memories with him.

As a striker himself, Mashud explained how he observed every move of Rooney and Van Persie both on and off the ball in their game against QPR.

Mahmud Hasan Kiron believes that they have just started the preliminary stage and have a long way to go. He said that he had been inspired by the spectators, who encouraged Manchester United throughout the 90-minutes against QPR.

Airtel CEO and managing director Chris Tobin and Ron Rimmer, head of UKBA and British High Commission's representative distributed certificates among the players.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	32	Semi-	19	Hoisted,
1 Atomizer	output	sherry	13	at sea
5 Annoy	34	Location	20	Enemy
8 Picnic	35	Study of	21	Aware of
12 Pub	invaders	the past	4	"Much
14 Old	36	(Abbr.)	22	Authentic
15 Italian	Wild	37 Crazed	23	Preferred
16 coin	one	40 Silent	24	invitees
17 ever-	38</			