

## 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

**FROM PAGE 16**  
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

**FROM PAGE 16**  
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



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 off 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 steadied the innings.

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

Paranavitana (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 Paranavitana at first slip off fast bowler Trent Boult when the

batsman was on 32.

Mathews played some aggressive shots in the morning, lofting off-spinner Jeetan Patel over wide long-on for the first six of the innings and then cutting the bowler past point for four.

Southee has so far taken four wickets for 51 off 19 overs.

### SCOREBOARD

**NEW ZEALAND:** First innings 412 (Williamson 135, Taylor 142, Flynn 53; Herath 6-103)

**SRI LANKA:** First innings (overnight 43-3)

Paranavitana c Van Wyk b Southee 40  
Dilshan b Southee 5  
Sangakkara c Boult b Southee 0  
M Jayawardene c Williamson b Boult 4  
Mathews c Guptill b Southee 47  
Samaraweera not out 76  
P Jayawardene c Williamson b Patel 12  
Randiv not out 34  
Extras: (lb-3, nb-3, w-1) 7  
Total: (For 6 wkts in 86.2 overs) 225  
To bat: Kulasekara, Herath, Eranga  
Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-7, 3-12, 4-102, 5-103, 6-128

| Bowler  | O  | M | R  | W |
|---------|----|---|----|---|
| Southee | 19 | 3 | 51 | 4 |
| Boult   | 17 | 5 | 34 | 1 |
| Patel   | 22 | 3 | 47 | 1 |
| Astle   | 13 | 2 | 41 | 0 |

# Selectors behind Ricky



AFP, Adelaide

Ricky Ponting has the unanimous backing of selectors as he searches for runs to save his Test career and will play in the series decider against South Africa, coach Mickey Arthur said Tuesday.

The former Australia skipper, who turns 38 next month, has failed in three innings against the Proteas during draws in Brisbane and Adelaide and pressure is building on the 167-Test veteran ahead of Friday's third Test in Perth.

Ponting admitted in Adelaide that he was a realist and knew that if he did not start scoring runs then he "definitely" would not be in England for the Ashes in July and August next year.

Arthur, who is also on the selection panel, told reporters that Ponting's future had not been

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.

## BFF names

**FROM PAGE 16**  
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.



PHOTO: COURTESY

**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.**



PHOTO: AFP

**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 CHESS

## Mohammedan keep leading

SPORTS REPORTER

Holders Mohammedan SC maintained their lead in the Ultra Milk Premier Division Chess League after the fifth round at the National Sports Council Tower Auditorium yesterday.

Mohammedan defeated Farashganj SC by 3.5-.5 points to secure maximum 10 match points from five rounds.

GM Merab Gagunashvili, GM Ziaur Rahman and IM Minhazuddin Ahmed beat Siddiquir 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 checkedmate Faith Chess Club by straight 4-0 points.

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

## 'Win will motivate us'

**FROM PAGE 16**

The home team's talismanic all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan's absence through injury in the first two matches will have an impact, Russell thought. "I think it's a good opportunity for us to make as much out of the first two games. He is a great all-rounder, a very good bowler and a very good batsman. The team [Bangladesh] will miss him, both areas, batting and bowling. But there are going to be other bowlers, so we can't take anything for granted."

Russell was also of the opinion that Bangladesh were a more formidable prospect in limited-overs cricket. "Definitely, I think

they are a better ODI team than a Test team because they have a lot of all-rounders. They are a good, fighting team. You can't relax, they keep you on your feet and they just keep coming."

As for the West Indies, they are a force to be reckoned with in limited-overs cricket, according to Russell. "I think in the one-day format, we have a very good all-round team. And all-rounders are very important, in any form of the game. More all-rounders mean more options and the team is more balanced. The one-day team is looking very good on paper. We have to go out there and get the job done."



**Twelve budding booters from the Airtel Rising Star competition pose during the certificate giving ceremony at a city hotel yesterday after they arrived home from England on Monday.**

PHOTO: COURTESY

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

### ACROSS

**1** Atomizer output  
**5** Annoy  
**8** Picnic invaders  
**12** Pub  
**14** Old Italian coin  
**15** Poisonous evergreen  
**16** Alternative to Windows  
**17** Greek consonants  
**18** Electrical resistance  
**20** Some silverware  
**23** Soon, in verse  
**24** Individuals  
**25** "Hamlet" Oscar winner  
**28** Schedule abbr.  
**29** "Once upon..."  
**30** Periodical, for short

### DOWN

**1** Chinese chairman  
**2** Ailing  
**3** Witness  
**4** "Much obliged"  
**5** Unopened roses  
**6** Exploit  
**7** Apache leader  
**8** Graduates  
**9** 1492 vessel  
**10** Advanced math  
**11** Old German duchy name  
**13** Responsibility  
**19** Hoisted, at sea  
**20** Enemy  
**21** Aware of  
**22** Authentic invitees  
**23** Preferred  
**25** Ear doctor's device  
**26** Eastern potentate  
**27** — -tat-tat  
**29** Operatic solo  
**31** Toothpaste style  
**33** Buckeye  
**34** Always, in music  
**36** Show anger  
**37** Relocate  
**38** Desert-like  
**39** Actress Campbell  
**40** Legend  
**43** Long-cropper  
**44** — and outs  
**45** Baseball bat  
**46** Crafty

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

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## 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 Muktiyoddha 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 Sangstha (CJKS) are organizing the league jointly.

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

## Lucky 12 return

**FROM PAGE 16**

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 Mashud Ahmed 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.

Mahmudul 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 Tobit and Ron Rimmer, head of UKBA and British High Commission's representative distributed certificates among the players.

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### CRYPTOQUIP

CDNXQCDJDAE EMTE T KDCZWA

JXZE ZETL TE T NXCED E

WS ZJTOO MWEDOZ DTYM

LDTC: SWXC-QAA KWOQYL.

**Saturday's Cryptoquip:** I REALLY HATE KEEPING TRACK OF MY FINANCIAL REPORTS. FOR ME, THERE'S NO TASTE FOR ACCOUNTING.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals T