



# Hathurusingha signed for two years

SPORTS REPORTER



An understanding of different conditions and cultures has played a vital role in Chandika Hathurusingha's appointment as the new head coach of the Bangladesh cricket team.

The former Sri Lanka batsman's desired financial package and interest in a full-time job also gave him the edge in getting the two-year term ahead of former Australia batsman Michael Bevan, who was the other interested candidate but with a more expensive financial package and comparatively lesser interest in a full-time tenure.

"We have finalised a two-year agreement with Hathurusingha. The agreement begins on July 1 this year, but since we are playing against India next month, we are hoping he will arrive by June 10," said Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Nazmul Hassan Papon while making the official announcement.

"Apart from Chandika Hathurusingha, we had a few alternatives. We thought that he could be our best choice because of two reasons -- his knowledge of sub-continental wickets and his work experience in Australia. He worked in Sri Lanka for long and played for the national side. He has worked in Australia and with the World Cup coming up, this is a good combination for us," said Papon.

"I think we were looking for this type of coach, one who has knowledge on sub continental and Australian conditions. Hathurusingha is among the high-profile coaches from around the world as far as I am concerned," he added.

Hathurusingha's tactical shrewdness was highly praised by none other than Sri Lanka batting maestro Kumar Sangakkara during his role as a shadow coach but a disciplinary issue terminated his association with the national side in 2010.

Papon was not in a position to disclose the financial package



CHANDIKA HATHURUSINGHE						
Player (February 1991- March 1999, Sri Lanka)						
Tests						
Matches	Runs	Average	50s	Wickets	Average	
26	1274	29.62	8	17	46.41	
ODIs						
Matches	Runs	Average	50s	Wickets	Average	
35	669	20.9	4	14	50.64	
Coach (Cricket Australia and England and Wales Cricket Board Level 3 qualified)						
2005-2006: Head coach of United Arab Emirates						
2006-2009: Head coach of Sri Lanka A						
2009-2010: Assistant coach of Sri Lanka						
2011-2014: Assistant coach of New South Wales (acting head coach in 2012-2013)						
2011: Coaching consultant for Canada in the 2011 World Cup						
2013-2014: Head coach of Sydney Thunder in the Big Bash League						

of the new coach, but if the amount is one to two thousand dollars more than predecessor Shane Jurgensen, as hinted by Papon, then the figure will be around 18,000 dollars.

A five-member special committee was given the task of finding new coaches to replace Jurgensen, trainer David Dwyer, batting and fielding coach Corey Richards and Richard McInnes, the head coach of the National Cricket Academy.

Besides a new head coach, David Dwyer has been replaced by Sri Lankan Mario Villavarayan as the new strength and conditioning coach.

BCB is still in discussion with candidates for the role of the fast bowling coach; former Zimbabwe fast bowler Heath Streak and Champaka Ramanayake have reportedly been approached by the BCB.

"We are trying to get the other coaches but I don't think we will get everyone before the India series. We are communicating with them and because not all of them are full-time coaches, we are trying to work out a time slot. We haven't gone too far in this regard, so we don't want to talk much about it," said Papon, adding that Chaminda Vaas's name is also there in the list of probable fast bowling coaches.

Papon said that the preparation camp for the India series will start by May 25 and local coaches will look after the boys before the new head coach takes over.

# Where is BCB's HQ?

SPORTS REPORTER



Over the last few days all the buzz in the Bangladesh cricket community revolved around the identity of the new head coach of the national team. With Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Nazmul Hassan Papon intimating late last week that the official announcement would be made on Monday, reporters had flocked to the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur from yesterday morning in anticipation of an announcement at BCB's headquarters.

By lunchtime the reporters were assured that the board was going to announce the name as per the promise of its president. Unfortunately however, to the surprise of many, Papon would not make the announcement from the board's office;

rather he decided to hold the press conference at his corporate offices in Dhanmondi. Finally a press conference took place at the Beximco office, and it was held without communication to all concerned reporters.

This strange procedure begged the question: How appropriate was it to hold a high-profile BCB press conference at Papon's personal office? Is this the professionalism that the BCB preaches its players to follow?

As a high-up in a leading business conglomerate in the country, Papon should know better than most that it is utterly unprofessional to make his personal office an alternative headquarters of a national body of which he was elected president. The cynics have already started to call BCB the "Beximco Cricket Board" because of some activities and this recent act only adds fuel to the fire -- not good publicity for an organisation like the Bangladesh Cricket Board.

# Azarenka out of French Open

AFP, Paris

Former world number one Victoria Azarenka pulled out of the French Open on Monday as she struggles to recover from a foot injury.

"Unfortunately I will not be able to compete in Roland Garros this year," the two-time Australian Open champion, 24, wrote on her Twitter page.

"Working hard on my recovery and getting back on court," the world number five added.

The 24-year-old Belarus star, who normally would be a main rival to favourite Serena Williams, has not played since a second round loss to Lauren Davis at Indian Wells in the first week of March.

# Football's finest hour

## Mexico 1970

For people of a certain age, the 1970 World Cup in Mexico is perhaps the most vividly remembered.

It had pretty much everything -- Bobby Moore's arrest, Gordon Banks' extraordinary save and subsequent food poisoning that cost England their quarterfinal, perhaps the single most thrilling knock-out game ever between West Germany and Italy, probably the greatest team we've ever seen in the Brazilians and, on top of it all, colour television coverage of all the games for the first time.

Brazil were the absolute favourites in the tournament, even before it began. They had scored 23 goals in their qualifying campaign in six matches. Tosato had got ten of them and had struck up a rich partnership with Pele, who himself bagged six. Carlos Alberto, Gerson and Jairzinho were coming into their prime and Clodoaldo provided the base at midfield while Rivelino was another exciting talent.

Elsewhere, West Germany had Gerd Muller in their books but scraped through 3-2 against Scotland. Italy, the European Champions looked strong in qualifying with Luigi Riva scoring seven goals. Argentina though, were eliminated by Peru.



**Brazil legend Pele celebrates his opening goal as an Italy defender lies on the wake during the 1970 final at the Azteca Stadium in Mexico.**

PHOTO: DAILY STAR ARCHIVE

The first great clash of the tournament came when Brazil and England met at the group stage, with Brazil narrowly getting the better of Bobby Moore's team by a goal to nil.

The quarterfinals threw up four European teams and four Latin American teams, with one of the most intriguing matches being England versus West Germany, a repeat of the 1966 final. With only half an hour to play, England had a two-goal lead and looked to be coasting into the semifinals, but

West Germany fought back from the dead to sneak a 3-2 win in extra-time. Meanwhile, in the South American 'local tie', Brazil overcame Peru's spirited challenge 4-2.

In the semifinals, Italy and Germany played arguably one of the best matches of the century. A 1-1 deadlock at normal time gave way to a goal feast in extra-time as the ball went into the net five times, with Italy getting the last word to win an epic encounter 4-3.

Brazil, meanwhile, wiped clean

memories of their defeat to Uruguay at the 1950 World Cup final by putting three goals past their South American rivals after shipping a goal early on and arrived in the final at the summit of their art.

The Italians were simply overwhelmed as Tostao, Gerson, Pele, Jairzinho, Rivelino and the rest gave the sporting world a lesson in football. It was 1-1 at one point as Italy's Boninsegna equalised Pele's early strike, but Jarzinho had been kept at bay by the brilliant Fachetti for most of the game but this time his probing paid off albeit with more than a little slice of luck. Fachetti took the ball off Jairzinho but it rolled to Gerson who stepped away from a challenge and scored with a crisp cross-shot. Within minutes Gerson's deep cross was headed across goal by Pele for Jairzinho to bundle in before Carlos Alberto killed it off with a fourth goal.

### FACTS & FIGURES

Winners: Brazil  
Runners-up: Italy  
Leading Scorer: Gerd Mueller (GER)--10  
Teams: 16  
Matches: 32  
Goals: 95  
Attendance: 1,603,975



PHOTO: STAR

**Feni Soccer defender Shahinur Rahman (R) jostles for possession with Uttar Baridhara striker Collins Tiego during their Bangladesh Premier League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.**

# Baridhara hold Feni

SPORTS REPORTER



Uttar Baridhara Club came from behind to hold Feni Soccer Club to a 1-1 draw in their Nitol Tata Bangladesh Premier League encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Akbar Hossain Ridon put

Feni Soccer ahead as early as the sixth minute only to be cancelled by Kenyan hitman Collings Tiego in the 76th minute to produce an identical 1-1 stalemate they played in their first meeting of the league.

Baridhara with fourth draw remained in eighth position with 11 points, just one point ahead of ninth-placed Feni Soccer Club.

Feni Soccer, the runners up of the Independence Cup, should have won the match but their foreign strikers squandered at least five easy chances, either sending it over the crosspiece or striking

straight at Feni goalkeeper Osman Gani. Nigerian striker Chuka Charles squandered three chances, Gambians Landing Darboe and Kabba Jobe missed one chance each to deprive Feni Soccer of their second win in 15 matches.

Uttar Baridhara, despite conceding an early lead, never gave up and tried till the end and the newcomers snatched a valuable point from Feni Soccer in their bid to continue their stint in top-level football.

Feni's Gambian coach Omar K Sise blamed the club officials for the draw as they interfered and kept his better players out of the game and warned that he would not stay in charge of the team if the club officials do the same things in the future.

However, Uttar Baridhara coach Mohammad Alamgir was happy to have secured a point against Feni Soccer and believed his charges would be able to avert relegation on their debut appearance in the professional football league.

# England-SL lone T20I today

AFP, London

England will hope history repeats itself when they begin their international programme against Sri Lanka with a lone Twenty20 international at The Oval on Tuesday.

One of the few highlights for England during a recent tour programme that saw them surrender the Ashes 5-0 came in March when Alex Hales' stunning 116 not out off just 64 balls saw them beat eventual champions Sri Lanka at the World Twenty20 in Bangladesh.

England eventually bowed out of that tournament with a humiliating 45-run loss to the Netherlands while even Hales' astonishing innings -- the first century in a Twenty20 international by an England batsman -- has threatened to become something of a millstone around the 25-year-old's neck.

Tradition still holds sway in England, the longer the game the more respect it is accorded.

That's why many England fans regard Tuesday's match and the five one-day internationals that follow as a 'warm-up' for the more 'serious' business of the two Test series with Sri Lanka.

# WOMEN'S KABADDI BD lose series against WB

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh women's kabaddi team lost the three-match series 0-2 after conceding 18-32 points defeat against West Bengal team in the third and last match at Paschimbanga Kabaddi Tent in Kolkata on Monday.

Bangladesh team drew 21-21 points in the first match on Saturday and conceded a narrow 27-28 points defeat against the same opposition on Sunday.

# Gatlin runs season's best

AFP, Shanghai

Justin Gatlin raced the fastest 100m of the season at Sunday's Shanghai Diamond League meet, while Olympic gold medallist Allyson Felix failed to recapture her previous magic, finishing fifth in the 400m.

Gatlin ran under 10 seconds for the first time this year, claiming victory in 9.92 seconds after leading from the blocks -- and then immediately vowed to improve on that time.

# Sadi's 3rd death anniversary today

SPORTS REPORTER



Today is the third death anniversary of Al Musabbir Sadi, a prominent sports journalist and former general secretary of Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF).

Sadi, also a senior member of the Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association (BSJA), died of cancer on this day in 2011 at the age of 44. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

After completing his Master's degree in Sociology from the University of Dhaka, Sadi started his journalism career as a sports reporter at 'The Independent' in 1995. He later worked at The Daily Star from 2004 to 2009 as a senior reporter before joining BFF as the first ever paid general secretary in 2009.

A milad mahfil will be held at 5:30pm today at the BFF House to pray for the salvation and peace of his departed soul.

# DD misery on

## MI too good for Royals

AGENCIES, New Delhi



Delhi Daredevils suffered their seventh consecutive loss this IPL season as they went down to table-toppers Kings XI Punjab by four wickets in their last game at Feroze Shah Kotla here yesterday.

Chasing 165 for victory, Punjab rode on a breezy 67-run opening stand between Virender Sehwag (23) and Manan Vohra (42 off 19 balls) to overhaul the target in 19.4 overs.

Vohra dazzled with four fours and three sixes to entertain the packed house at the Kotla as the Punjab opening duo scored 66 runs in the powerplays.

In the day's first match at Ahmedabad, Mumbai Indians beat Rajasthan Royals by 25 runs to move up to sixth place on the table.

A fine batting display enabled Mumbai to post 178 for three before they resisted a late Rajasthan charge to take their fourth win of the season.

Kieron Pollard took an outstanding catch to dismiss Kevon Cooper as Mumbai restricted the Royals to 153 for eight in reply.

Krishnar Santokie, Pragyan Ojha, Harbhajan Singh and Shreyas Gopal all grabbed a brace of wickets to keep Mumbai's wafer-slim hopes of reaching the play-offs alive.

### SCORES IN BRIEF

DD: 164 for 7 in 20 overs (Karthik 69, Pietersen 49, Duminy 17; Sandeep 3-35, Hendricks 3-36)

KXIP: 165 for 6 in 19.4 overs (Vohra 42, Akshar 42 not out, Sehwag 23; Tahir 3-22, Duminy 2-27)

Result: Kings XI Punjab won by 4 wickets.

Player-of-the-match: Akshar Patel.

MI: 178 for 3 in 20 overs (M Hussey 56, Simmons 62, R Sharma 40; A Sharma 2-23)

RR: 153 for 8 in 20 overs (Nair 48, Hodge 40, Faulkner 31 not out; Harbhajan 2-13, Ojha 2-30)

Result: Mumbai Indians won by 25 runs.

Player-of-the-match: Mike Hussey.