

SPORT

BANNED FOR NOTHING!

Dundee United's Paul Paton was banned for two matches for spitting at Aberdeen's Jonny Hayes, though both players denied wrongdoing. The allegations began flying after the final whistle when footage circulated online. Hayes then confirmed Paton had not spat at him through a



Tk 28 crore for int'l events

SPORTS REPORTER

The finance ministry is expected to allocate Tk 28 crore for different sporting disciplines and events this fiscal year. According to a government official the fund will help athletes take part in international contests and will also help the federations and the Bangladesh Olympic Association to host events.

National Sports Council (NSC) secretary Shibnath Roy stated that the NSC had submitted a budget of approximately TK 48.5 crore, of which TK 28 crore is expected to be allocated by the finance ministry so far.

"As we don't have a specific sports budget for international engagements, we have to manage it before the games or tournaments which is a problem for us. Considering this, the finance ministry asked us to prepare a specific budget only for international engagements," said NSC secretary Shibnath Roy.

"We have already estimated a budget of Tk 48,39,40,713 for different disciplines and sent it to the finance ministry, which, as far as I know, is going to allocate Tk 28 crore," he added.

In the quest to spend the Tk 200 crore sports budget in a planned manner, the finance ministry had recently formed a high-profile seven-member committee, which asked the sports ministry to submit a specific budget for different international engagements.

The NSC has submitted the budget for 13 disciplines - football, hockey, shooting, athletics, weightlifting, karate, archery, kabaddi, volleyball, tennis, body building, table tennis and chess - the 12th South Asian Games, the fourth Indo-Bangladesh Bangla Games and the Inaugural Youth and Children Games.

Some of the other major budgets include, Bangladesh Football Federation's TK 9.7 crore for the Bangabandhu Gold Cup, AFC U-22 Championship qualifiers, AFC U-14 Championship, AFC U-16 Women's Championship and Pioneer Football League.

The Bangladesh Olympic Association submitted Tk 10 crore to host the Indo-Bangladesh Games, Youth and Child Games and to participate in 12th SA Games.



Australia batsman Steve Smith (L) celebrates his first Test century as captain with partner Mitchell Johnson on the third day of the 2nd Test against India at the Gabba in Brisbane yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Smith ton gives Aussie the edge

AFP, Brisbane



India were fighting back after Australia gained a 97-run innings lead on the back of another century from new skipper Steve Smith in the second Gabba Test on

Friday.

The tourists had cut the deficit back to 26 runs by the close on the third day at 71 for one with Shikhar Dhawan on 26 and Cheteshwar Pujara not out at 15.

The day belonged to the Australians, trailing by 187 runs at the start but piling on 258 runs for the last four wickets with Smith leading the way.

Smith posted his second ton of the series and Johnson a swashbuckling 88 off 93 balls to give Australia the edge to win the Test over the closing two days and take a 2-0 lead in the four-match series.

Smith and Johnson shared in a ground record 148-run stand for the seventh wicket to take the steam out of the Indians.

Mitchell Starc chipped in with 52 off 59 balls, Nathan Lyon hit 23 and Test debutant Josh Hazlewood cracked an unbeaten 32 to frustrate India's attempts to wrap up the innings.

Starc bounced back from his indifferent bowling in the first innings and struck a major blow with the wicket of Murali Vijay for 27 in the 11th over of India's second innings.

Vijay, who had scored three consecutive half-centuries including 144 in the first innings in Brisbane, was in two minds whether to play only for the ball to strike his bat and hit the stumps.

The day's highlight was Johnson's game-changing innings, which finished tantalisingly short of his second Test century when he was caught behind off Ishant Sharma for 88 off 93 balls with 13 fours and a six.

Smith followed five balls later when he was finally dismissed in the series for 133.

He inside-edge Sharma onto his stumps to end a 303-minute vigil. It had taken India 704 minutes to finally get Smith's wicket over three innings.

Smith scored 162 and 52 in last week's Adelaide Test win and continued to be the bane of the tourists with another consummate knock.

Smith, who took over the captaincy after Michael Clarke injured his right hamstring in the first Adelaide Test, was the fifth Australian skipper to score a century in his first Test as captain.

Monty Noble, Clem Hill, Lindsay Hassett and Greg Chappell all scored hundreds in the first innings of their debut Test as skipper with Chappell the last against the West Indies at the Gabba in 1975.

India began the third day well with two wickets inside the opening hour but Johnson's lusty hitting quickly swung the game Australia's way.

India's tactics of sledging and bowling short to Johnson back-fired as it only served to enrage him and attack the bowling.

The dramatic turnaround came after the dismissals of Mitchell Marsh and Brad Haddin inside the first hour of play.

Marsh did not offer a shot and was bowled for 11 by Ishant Sharma, probably expecting a higher bounce.

Speedster Varun Aaron produced a vicious throat ball on his first delivery after drinks that Haddin could only fend away to bat-pad where Pujara took an easy catch for six.

SCORES IN BRIEF

INDIA: First innings 408 (Vijay 144, Rahane 81; Hazlewood 5-68)

AUSTRALIA: First innings 505 (Rogers 55, Warner 29, Watson 25, Smith 133, Marsh 32, Johnson 88, Starc 52, Lyon 23, Hazlewood 32 not out; Sharma 3-117, Aaron 2-145, Yadav 3-101, Ashwin 2-128)

INDIA: Second innings 71 for 1 (Vijay 27, Dhawan 26 not out, Pujara 15 not out, Starc 1-10)

Goading Johnson backfires

AFP, Brisbane



India paid a big price for goading Mitchell Johnson with the incensed paceman turning around the second Gabba Test with an explosive batting cameo.

The tourists lit the fuse with their sledging of Johnson and bowling short to him and two hours later were left lamenting a smoking knock from the ICC Cricketer of the Year.

Johnson came into bat with Australia shaky at 247 for six and still trailing India by 161 runs with four wickets left.

He took to the bowlers, peeling off 88 runs off 93 balls with 13 fours and one six, and shared in a ground record 148 runs with skipper Steve Smith for the seventh wicket.

When Johnson left the ground the home side were 13 runs in arrears and headed for an innings lead of 97.

Smith, who raised his second ton of the series with 133 off 191 balls, praised Johnson's contribution to the dramatic turnaround for the Australians.

"He came out and was positive from ball one," Smith said.

"They tried to be quite aggressive with him bowling short and trying to get stuck into him and I think that played into his favour.

"Mitch and Rohit (Sharma) were having a little bit of banter.

"He took them on and they didn't really

have an answer for him."

Johnson treated short-pitch balls with some aggressive pull shots for boundaries and clubbed off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin for a mighty six over long-on.

With Smith and Johnson leading the rearguard assault Australia's tail responded, putting on 258 for the last four wickets.

Mitchell Starc chipped in with 52 off 59 balls, Nathan Lyon hit 23 and Test debutant Josh Hazlewood cracked an unbeaten 32 to frustrate India's attempts.

"At six for 240-odd it didn't look that way but the tail came out and batted beautifully," Smith said.

"Both Mitchs batted outstanding and Nathan Lyon and Josh Hazlewood on debut were very good at the end. To get us over 500 with a lead of 97 put us in a very good position.

"When your tail bats like that it's a nightmare for the opposition."

Smith's hundred, his sixth in Tests, continued a golden patch for the new Australia skipper.

Smith was not dismissed in last week's Adelaide Test with knocks of 162 and 52 and it took India 704 minutes to finally get Smith's wicket over three innings.

Smith, 25, who took over the captaincy after Michael Clarke injured his right hamstring in the first Adelaide Test, was the fifth Australian skipper to score a century in his first Test as captain.

Kruif may return for Gold Cup

SPORTS REPORTER



The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) is thinking of bringing back Dutch coach Lodewijk de Kruif for a short stint with the national team ahead of the Bangabandhu Gold Cup International football tournament, which is scheduled to take place from

January 16 to 27 in Dhaka and Sylhet.

Kruif and assistant coach Rene Koster's contracts were terminated by the game's governing body in October this year due to a 'lack of sincerity'. The duo denied taking charge of the national football team ahead of the two-match series against Sri Lanka.

"We are thinking of Kruif, who knows the Bangladesh team very well. There is a 50-50 chance of appointing him for a short period during the Bangabandhu Gold Cup, although nothing has been finalised," said BFF president Kazi Salahuddin.

Explaining the reason behind his thought Salahuddin said, "If we bring a new coach at the moment, he will need at least 15 days to get to know the team. Since the tournament will begin soon, Kruif will have an advantage as he already knows the Bangladesh team."

Tabith M Awal, member of the National Teams Committee and BFF vice president, is in touch with Kruif, and the Dutchman is apparently interested in the offer. Under the guidance of Kruif, Bangladesh national and U-23 teams played 12 international matches. They won four, drew two and lost six matches.



South African bowler Vernon Philander (L) celebrates one of his four wickets against the West Indies during the third day of the first Test at SuperSport Park in Centurion yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Kiwis clinch ODI series

AFP, Abu Dhabi

Skipper Kane Williamson and Ross Taylor hit half-centuries while paceman Matt Henry recorded career best bowling figures as New Zealand thumped Pakistan by 68 runs in the fifth and final one-dayer in Abu Dhabi on Friday.

Williamson's 97 and Taylor's 88 were the cornerstone of New Zealand's 275-4 before Henry's 5-30 helped dismiss Pakistan for 207 in 43.3 overs for a 3-2 series win at Sheikh Zayed Stadium.

Henry took the first three of the four wickets as Pakistan were struggling at a 38-3 before Haris Sohail and Ahmed Shehzad put on 69 for the fourth wicket.

Henry then returned for his second spell to dismiss Shehzad followed by Sarfraz Ahmed and Shahid Afridi to improve on his previous best of 4-38.

This becomes Pakistan's 12th defeat in the final games of a series after they were tied at 1-1 or 2-2.

Pakistan were off to a disastrous start when opener Nasir Jamshed was leg-before wicket in the first over to Henry for nought.

Henry then had Younis Khan and Shehzad to leave Pakistan struggling at 107-4.

Shehzad was then caught while Sohail was bowled by Mitchell McClenaghan.

Earlier Williamson and Taylor propelled New Zealand to 275-4 in their 50 overs.

Williamson added an invaluable 116 for the third wicket with Taylor before top-edging a sweep off leg-spinner Afridi and was caught behind.

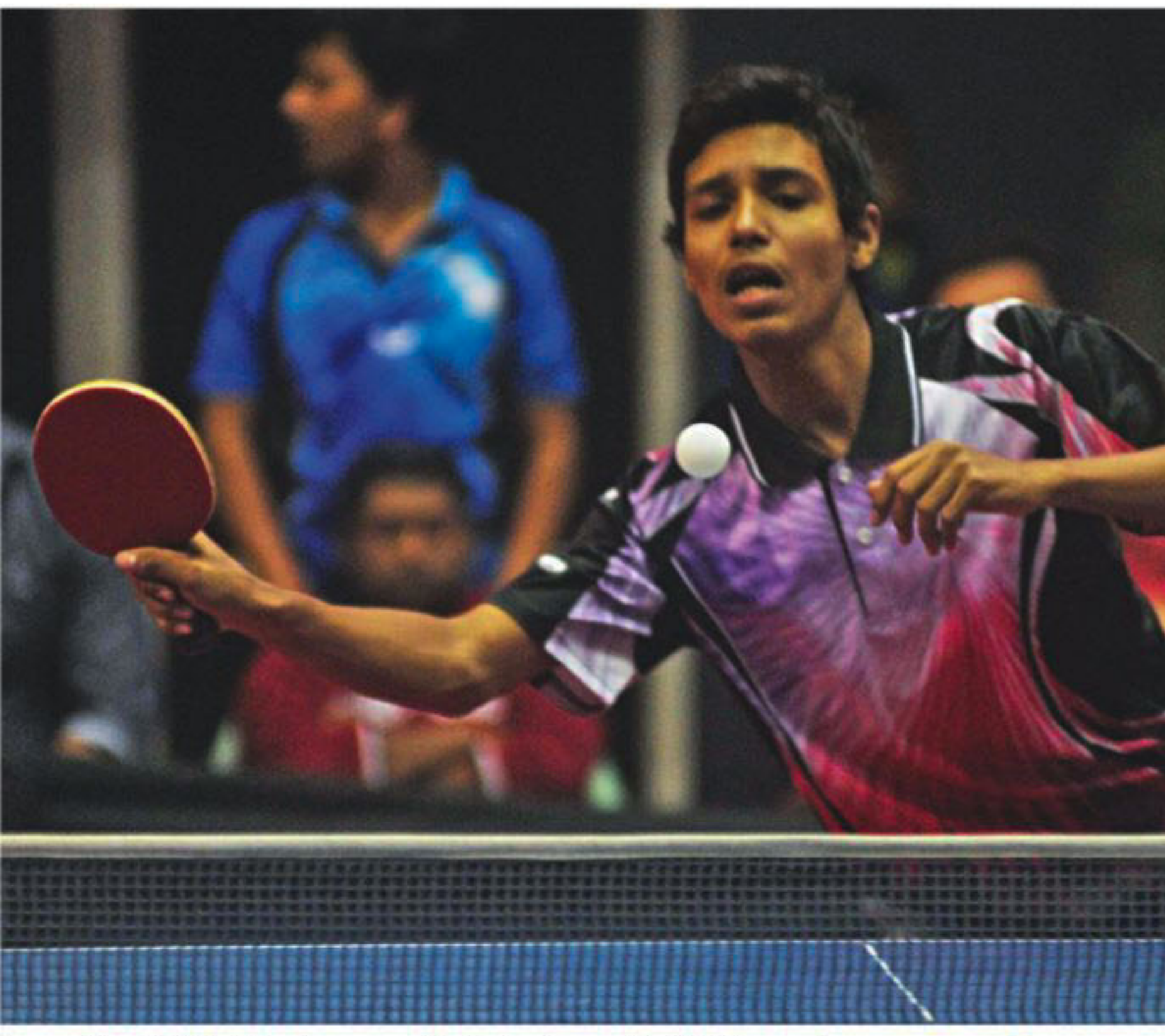
SCORES IN BRIEF

NEW ZEALAND: 275 for 4 (Brownlie 34, Williamson 97, Taylor 88 not out, Latham 22 not out; Irfan 2-62)

PAKISTAN: 207 all out in 43.4 overs (Shehzad 54, Sohail 65, Sarfraz 26; Henry 5-30, McCullum 2-59)

Result: New Zealand won by 68 runs and take the five-match ODI series 3-2

Player-of-the-match: MJ Henry



Armenian Club's Akash secured a 3-2 win against Shihan of Bangladesh Boys in a Dhaka Metropolis Table Tennis League game at the Shaheed Tajuddin Indoor Gymnasium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Mohidur's ban augmented

SPORTS REPORTER

The suspension of Wari Club's joint secretary Mohidur Rahman Miraz has been extended to the confederation level by the chairman of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) disciplinary committee yesterday.

The AFC disciplinary committee imposed the extension in accordance with sanctions issued by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) Professional Football League Committee.

Mohidur was suspended on August 25 from taking part in any kind of football-related activities in Bangladesh for one year due to his involvement in match-fixing during the Bangladesh Championship League in May.

Proteas take charge

AFP, Centurion



Vernon Philander was the main destroyer as the West Indian batting crumbled on the third day of the first Test against South Africa at SuperSport Park on Friday.

Philander took four for 29 as the West Indies were bowled out for 201 and forced to follow on, 351 runs behind South Africa's first innings total of 552 for five declared.

Philander struck again early in the second innings when he dismissed Devon Smith for the second time in the day.

West Indies were 76 for two at the close, still needing 275 runs to avoid an innings defeat.

After a good start by opening batsmen Kraigg Brathwaite and Smith, the West Indian batting disintegrated in dispiriting fashion.

Brathwaite and Smith saw off South Africa's new ball attack, putting on 72 for the first wicket before Philander dismissed both openers in successive overs.

Smith went on to make 35 before being caught and Brathwaite fell for 34.

Kyle Abbott had Leon Johnson caught at cover for 33 after lunch and Morne Morkel took the important wicket of Marlon Samuels. That left Shivnarine Chanderpaul hold-

ing West Indian hopes but Philander returned to the attack and had the veteran left-hander caught at second slip for 21, with Jermaine Blackwood following in similar fashion in the last over before tea.

The rest of the batting crumbled after tea with captain Denesh Ramdin setting a poor example when South African captain Amla brought on occasional left-arm spinner Dean Elgar to bowl some tempting flighted deliveries outside off stump. Ramdin obliged by hitting Elgar's sixth ball straight to cover.

Smith made only five in the second innings before he was caught by a diving substitute fielder Temba Bavuma at a cover.

Brathwaite was out for 20 when he edged Morkel high to second slip.

SCORES IN BRIEF

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 552 for 5 decl (Petersen 27, Elgar 28, Amla 208, De Villiers 152, Van Zyl 101 not out; Roach 2-52, Benn 2-148)

WEST INDIES: First innings 201 (Brathwaite 34, Smith 35, Johnson 31, Samuels 33; Philander 4-29, Morkel 3-55)

WEST INDIES: Second innings (following on) 76 for 2 (Brathwaite 20, Johnson 33 not out, Samuels 13 not out; Morkel 1-26, Philander 1-0)