

GAZI TV & STAR SPORTS 1
Bangladesh v Pakistan
Third ODI (D/N)
Live from 2:30pm

CHANNEL 9 & SET MAX
Indian Premier League
Hyderabad v Kolkata (D/N)
Live from 4:30pm
Bangalore v Chennai (D/N)
Live from 8:30pm

TEN CRICKET
West Indies v England
Second Test, Day 2
Live from 7:45pm

TEN ACTION
UEFA Champions League
Real Madrid v Atletico Madrid
Live from 12:45am (Thursday)

TEN SPORTS
UEFA Champions League
Monaco v Juventus
Live from 12:45am (Thursday)

IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY

Lewis Hamilton's younger sibling Nicolas, who suffers from cerebral palsy, is preparing to become the first disabled competitor to compete in the British Touring Car Championship, for Audi, starting in June. Lewis, whose next race is the Spanish Grand Prix on May 10, admits Nicolas shares the family stubborn streak which does not always welcome advice but recently he has been able to adopt a mentor's role.

— INTERNET



Pakistan now lose Sohail

AFP, Karachi
Pakistan's injury setbacks continued Tuesday as pace-man Sohail Khan was ruled out of the Test series in Bangladesh and was replaced by another fast bowler Imran Khan, an official said.
Sohail, 30, suffered back spasm two days before the team's departure and was initially ruled out of the ongoing three-match one-day series.
On Tuesday the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) announced he would not recover in time for the two-match Test series.
"After consulting with the PCB medical department it was confirmed that Sohail has still not been able to recover sufficiently so the selection committee was unanimous on Imran as replacement for him," chief selector Haroon Rashid was quoted as saying in a press release.
Imran, 27, played three Tests against Australia and New Zealand last year and took seven wickets.
Pakistan have been badly hit by injuries on the current tour with batsman Sohaib Maqsood also ruled out before the tour started because of an arm injury.

PROPOSED CRICKET STADIUM IN PURBACHAL A case of misplaced priorities?

ATIQUÉ ANAM
In the wake of Bangladesh cricket team's historic series win against Pakistan on Sunday, a cabinet meeting, presided over by the prime minister, gave green signal to the proposal of building a new 70,000-seater stadium in Purbachal, exclusively for cricket. The meeting has reportedly decided, in principle, to turn the now home of cricket in Mirpur into an all-purpose venue once the construction of the new stadium is finished.
This initiative, on surface, might seem a positive one for cricket and for sports in general. But is it the wisest decision of all? If one digs a bit beneath the surface, it might not seem so.
There are two arguments to oppose this idea, first of which comes from the cricketers, cricket administrators and cricket-lovers themselves. Anyone who has witnessed or experienced the hardship of establishing the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium as the home of cricket would probably not welcome the move. The venue in Mirpur, with its state-of-the-art facilities, has not only become the home of Bangladesh's cricket but also has become the face of a positive Bangladesh. Why denigrate it to an all-purpose venue when we already have one such in Motijheel?
It was learnt that the decision followed a discussion about the lack of



playgrounds in the capital for budding sportsmen. If that is the case, then a more appropriate decision might have been to free grounds from the encroachers or build new grounds altogether, not to build concrete structures which actually limit entry for the common.
The country already has seven purpose-built cricket venues and all of those have international match hosting rights. Do we really need one more international venue for cricket, especially if it comes at the expense of other sports which are neglected?
Football, which used to be the most popular sport of the country not too

long ago, and still the most global of sports, is one such neglected sport in the country. While hefty amounts of money is poured into cricket by the International Cricket Council, the Bangladesh Cricket Board and the sponsors; football has to beg and borrow to run its activities because the funding it receives from the FIFA and the AFC is not sufficient and sponsors largely take a lukewarm approach towards it. Hence the football governing body, for the first time, placed a proposal before the government for allocating an annual budget for its development and daily activities. The budget, which was of Tk 39 crore initially, has been revised

lately to an amount of Tk 20.6 crore; but there has been little positive response as yet. Given the important fixtures of the national football team over the next couple of years in the Asian Cup and World Cup Joint Qualifiers and the importance of making the academy in Sylhet a fully functional one, the amount asked for seems a quite valid one and a rather paltry one if compared to the expenditure that would take to build a 70,000-seater stadium.
Now there is no reason to believe that the money required to build the new stadium would come from a special fund, rather it would come from the budget allocation for sports, which would be generated through taxpayers' contribution. Will the taxpayers be at ease with the decision to construct a new cricket venue on the outskirts of Dhaka at the expense of the home of cricket and also at the expense of football?
It is common knowledge that our prime minister is a self-confessed sports enthusiast and that she comes from a family which was one of the early patrons of sports, especially football. Her father, the father of the nation, was a footballer and football lover himself. So it is our honest expectation that the idea of building the new stadium will be thought twice and that football's cause will not be overlooked.



Proud Sabina returns home

SPORTS REPORTER
Having spent a dream spell in the Maldives women's football fiesta, Bangladesh striker Sabina Khatun returned home yesterday with some good memories.
Sabina, who struck 16 goals in one match, racked up a total of 37 goals in six matches for Police Club of Maldives, which eventually became runners-up in the tournament after losing to Maldives Immigration side in the final.
"A lot of Bangladeshis live in Maldives. They always came to watch my performance and inspired me. I made the expatriates proud with performance on the pitch and it was a big achievement in Maldives," recalled Sabina.
Sabina, who left here for Maldives on March 4, is the first Bangladeshi female footballer to play in an overseas tournament, expressed satisfaction over her performance.
"I tried to put up usual performance and I think I uplifted the image of our country in Maldives," said Sabina. "The officials of Bangladesh Football Federation wanted me to do something good in my first overseas tournament and I think I did well because the officials of Maldives Police Club increased my wages after the tournament and offered me an extension for next season."

Real's biggest test

AFP, Madrid
Real Madrid have the unenviable task of beating city rivals Atletico Madrid at the eighth attempt this season if they are to progress to a fifth consecutive Champions League semifinal.
The European champions have failed to overcome Atletico in seven games since beating Los Rojiblancos in last season's Champions League final, including last week's 0-0 draw in the first-leg at the Vicente Calderon, and have also been struck by a series of injuries and suspensions to key players.
The return to fitness and form of James Rodriguez is a huge boost for Los Blancos.
The Colombian World Cup star has

scored twice in four games after a two-month injury layoff due to a broken foot to take his tally to an impressive 14 in his first season at the Bernabeu.
"Before I was out I was scoring goals, playing at a good level and now I think it is the same," he told Madrid's website.
"I want to continue like this, using my characteristics to help the team achieve important objectives.
"We are all dreaming of getting through this round and if I can score as well then it would be great. The most important thing is to win and get through this very difficult game, but we are in our own stadium with our own fans. I think it could be a great game."
However, Real will be faced with arguably the best defence in Europe on Wednesday.



Real Madrid superstar Cristiano Ronaldo (C) takes part in a training session with teammates at the Valdebebas training ground yesterday ahead of tonight's Champions League quarterfinal against Atletico Madrid. PHOTO: AFP

AFC U-14 GIRLS' C'SHIP BD draw with India

SPORTS REPORTER
Bangladesh made a good start in the AFC U-14 Girls' Regional Championship, after playing out a 1-1 draw against India in their opening match at the Dasarath Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal yesterday.
Bangladesh went ahead in the 20th minute with a strike from Marzina, who beat the Indian goalkeeper with an angular shot. But the lead lasted only four minutes as India captain Soni Kumar scored from a free-kick.
Bangladesh will play their second match against Bhutan today.

YOUTH HOCKEY C'SHIP BKSP, Dinajpur in last four

SPORTS REPORTER
Despite a massive 0-15 defeat against Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday, Dinajpur moved into the semifinals of the 25th National Youth Hockey Championship after emerging group A runners-up.
BKSP, who had earlier confirmed their semifinal berth, emerged Group A champions and will meet Group B runners-up on April 26. In Group B encounters, Dhaka posted a 15-0 win over Gopalganj while Sylhet Division beat Joypurhat 4-2.

WI 36 for 2 at lunch

AFP, St. George's
James Anderson and Chris Jordan struck early to have the West Indies struggling on 36 for two at the lunch interval following a rain-shortened first session of the second Test at the Queen's Park Stadium in Grenada on Tuesday.
Under overcast skies that produced the sporadic showers which delayed the start of play until almost midday, Anderson produced an unplayable inswinger to bowl Kraigg Brathwaite in the seam bowler's second over.
WEST INDIES: First innings 36 for 2 (Smith 15, Bravo 19 not out; Anderson 1-11, Jordan 1-8)

Brothers pip MSC

SPORTS REPORTER
Brothers Union stunned Mohammedan SC 1-0 in their Manyavar Bangladesh Premier League encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.
Haitian striker Augustine Walson separated the two sides five minutes from time, condemning the Black and Whites to their second consecutive defeat while taking his side to fourth position with seven points from four outings.
Mohammedan, who came into the match on the back of a 1-0 defeat against Sheikh Russel KC, were helpless against the pace of Brothers' foreign striking duo from first minute to the last.
Walson and Nigerian Kester Akon exposed Mohammedan's backline several



times before Walson broke the deadlock in the 85th minute with a side-volley after Akon was denied by Mohammedan goalkeeper Mohammedan Nehal, who had earlier thwarted two efforts from Walson and Imtiaz Sultan Jitu.
In the day's first match, Rahmatganj MFS notched up their maiden victory after inflicting a 2-0 defeat on neighbours Farashganj SC, who have suffered defeats in all three matches so far.
Rahmatganj, who had held Abahani to a 2-2 draw before suffering a 1-2 defeat against Sheikh Jamal DC in their first two matches, took a 2-0 lead within the first half.
Nigerian forward Gideon Solomon put Rahmatganj ahead after dodging past two defenders in the 14th minute while Nurul Absar scored with a brilliant angular shot in the 33rd minute to ensure their maiden victory.

Juventus eyeing semis

AFP, Monaco
Juventus head to Monaco on Wednesday for the second leg of their Champions League quarterfinal looking to clinch a place in the last four for the first time in over a decade.
An immovable force at the top of the European game in the 1990s, when they reached three consecutive finals, including beating Ajax in the 1996 showpiece, Juve were also Champions League runners-up in 2003, losing to AC Milan.
But they have not got beyond the last eight since, failing to translate their domestic dominance to the European stage.
Nevertheless, when they close in on a fourth consecutive Serie A

crown, they are now primed to secure a spot in the semifinals in Europe after Arturo Vidal's penalty gave them a 1-0 victory against the Principality club last Tuesday.
Crucially, Juventus did not concede an away goal in that game, meaning Monaco will now be obliged to come out and attack at home, something which is not their forte.
"I was not surprised by Monaco because we didn't underestimate them, but they played really well against us," Juve's veteran French international left-back Patrice Evra told Canal Plus.
"I was really proud of Monaco when they beat Arsenal because I saw them playing without fear. Some of the Monaco players say that they are better away from home because the stadiums and the atmosphere are different."

Hafeez in the clear

THE DAWN
Pakistan's embattled all-rounder Mohammad Hafeez was ready to play a pivotal role with the ball after having his action cleared by the Sri Ramachandra University in India, the 34-year-old on Tuesday revealed on Twitter.
Hafeez said he had been bowling with the same action for the past eleven years and made corrections according to the new protocol set by the International Cricket Council.
"I would like to thank the National Cricket Academy analyst and the Pakistan Cricket Board for supporting me all the way," Hafeez tweeted.

Punjab end Royals run in Super Over finish

AGENCIES, Ahmedabad
Kings XI Punjab snapped Rajasthan Royals winning streak in style by winning the first super over of the IPL season at the Sardar Patel Stadium in Motera, Ahmedabad on Tuesday.
Chasing a massive 192 to win, Kings XI got off to a disastrous start by losing Virende Sehwag early but a fifties from Shaun Marsh and David Miller took the Kings XI into the super over.
Earlier, Rajasthan Royals posted 191/6 in a bid to maintain their unbeaten run in the Indian Premier League 2015. A sensational 74 from Ajinkya Rahane and a solid 45 from Shane Watson gave Royals a blistering start and the Kings XI were only left to play catch up.
SCORES IN BRIEF
RAJASTHAN: 191 for 6 in 20 overs (Rahane 74, Watson 45, Nair 25; Patel 2-30)
PUNJAB: 191 for 6 in 20 overs (Vijay 21, Marsh 65, Miller 54, Saha 19; Tambe 1-20)
Result: Match tied (Punjab won the one-over eliminator)

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