

<b>What to WATCH</b>	<b>GTV</b> Bangladesh v Zimbabwe First ODI (D/N) Live from 1:00pm <b>STAR SPORTS1</b> India v South Africa	<b>First Test, Day 3</b> Live from 10:00am <b>Bundesliga</b> Bayern Munich v Stuttgart Live from 8:30pm Darmstadt v Hamburger	<b>STAR SPORTS2</b> Australia v New Zealand First Test, Day 3 Live from 6:00am	<b>STARSPORTS4</b> English Premiership Bournemouth v Newcastle Live from 6:45pm Man United v West Brom Live from 9:00pm	<b>Stoke City v Chelsea</b> Live from 11:30pm <b>TEN ACTION</b> Asian Tour Day 3 Live from 3:00pm	<b>SONY SIX HD</b> Primera Liga Rayo Vallecano v Granada Live from 1:30am (Sunday) <b>SONY KIX</b>	<b>Primera Liga</b> Celta Vigo v Valencia Live from 9:00pm Levante v Deportivo Live from 11:30pm Elbar v Getafe	<b>Live from 1:30am (Sunday)</b> Malaga v Real Betis Live from 3:30am (Sunday) <b>SONY SIX</b> Serie A Verona v Bologna
	<b>DAY'S EVENT</b> Bangladesh v Zimbabwe First ODI (D/N)							

# Siddikur, Jamal on six-under

SPORTS REPORTER

Siddikur Rahman and Jamal Hossain Mollah took a share of the third-place at the end of the second day of the Panasonic Open with matching six-under (138) aggregate scores yesterday.

The 30-year-old Siddikur, who started the day in fourth position at four-under, traded four birdies for two bogeys at the Delhi Golf Club on Friday to get up a rung while Jamal, who is taking part in his second Asian Tour event of the season, enjoyed a perfect day with five birdies.

The two Bangladeshis were five strokes behind leader Chiragh Kumar of India and two adrift of Sri Lanka's Mithun Perera.

Siddikur was satisfied with his day's work despite seeing Chiragh race to a considerable lead.

"I didn't hit the ball straight off the tees but my short game saved me. I'm still happy with my score. I should not pressure myself even though Chiragh is leading," the two-time Asian Tour winner told Asiantour.com, adding: "Anything can happen here. One shot can give you huge problems here. Just focus on my own game and that's the key to a good score."

Meanwhile, the third Bangladeshi, Dulal Hossain, failed to make the cut despite carding a two-under (70) in the second round yesterday. The young golfer was left to rue the disastrous eight-over (80) he had scored in the opening round.



Bangladesh national football team players laze around at the Dubai International Airport on way to Tajikistan yesterday. The booters are expected to reach Dushanbe today and will take on the hosts in a World Cup qualifying fixture on November 12.

PHOTO: BFF

# Australian FA officials due tonight

SPORTS REPORTER

Two officials of the Football Federation Australia (FFA) are scheduled to arrive here tonight to meet with their Bangladesh counterparts ahead of the World Cup and Asian Cup qualifier between Bangladesh and Australia this month.

It has been learnt that the FFA officials are supposed to talk about the tour itinerary of the Socceroos, who are scheduled to arrive here on November 14 and take on the hosts on November 17 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. The FFA officials are likely to sit with the Bangladesh Football Federation officials tomorrow, said a source without elaborating any details.

ASIAN ARCHERY C'SHIPS

# Ruman's run ends in quarterfinals

SPORTS REPORTER

Ruman Sana's impressive run in the 19th Asian Archery Championships ended in the quarterfinal stage as the Asian Grand Prix gold medallist suffered a 4-6 defeat to eventual finalist Lee Woo Seok of Korea in Bangkok yesterday.

In the battle between two high-school students, Ruman, ranked 41st, gave the top-seed and 2014 Summer Youth Olympic gold medallist Seok a run for the money before losing the battle.

Ruman surprised Seok by winning the first set before suffering two consecutive set defeats. The Bangladeshi archer, however, staged a strong comeback to level things at 4-4.

However, Seok took the next set and the deciding one by 29-27 points to advance into the semifinals.

The 18-year-old Bangladeshi had earlier beaten Japan's Kawata by 10-9 points in a shoot-off in the pre-quarterfinals.

# Welcome boost for Jose Rivalry motivates C'Ron

AFP, London

Petr Cech insists shell-shocked Arsenal will make amends for their Champions League meltdown by winning this weekend's north London derby, while troubled Jose Mourinho has received a welcome boost from midweek hero William ahead of Chelsea's tricky trip to Stoke.

Arsene Wenger's side suffered a potentially fatal blow to their chances of making the last 16 in Europe's elite club competition after crashing to a dismal 5-1 loss against Bayern Munich on Wednesday.

The Gunners' joint-heaviest European defeat leaves them in severe danger of missing the knockout stages for the first time in 16 years.

But veteran goalkeeper Cech knows they have a chance to erase those painful memories when they return to Premier League action against arch rivals Tottenham at the Emirates Stadium on Sunday.

"Every game comes thick and fast and you have to make sure you recover and move onto the next one," said Cech, whose second placed team have won their last five league matches and are behind leaders Manchester City on goal difference.

"The defeat to Bayern is tough to take but in a way you have to accept the team you played was superior to us in everything they

## FIXTURES

**Saturday**  
Bournemouth v Newcastle (1245 GMT), Leicester v Watford, Manchester United v West Brom, Norwich v Swansea, Stoke v Chelsea (1730 GMT), Sunderland v Southampton, West Ham v Everton

**Sunday**  
Arsenal v Tottenham (1600 GMT), Aston Villa v Manchester City (1330 GMT), Liverpool v Crystal Palace

have done.

"In terms of the league, you have to make sure you are ready for the next game."

Fifth placed Tottenham's hopes of avenging their League Cup loss against Arsenal earlier this season won't be helped by their gruelling schedule over the last week.

Mauricio Pochettino's team beat Aston Villa on Monday then hosted Anderlecht in the Europa League on Thursday, leaving them with little recovery time before facing Arsenal.

"We need to take the schedule and not complain about that," Pochettino said.

Mourinho will remain firmly in the spotlight when Chelsea visit Stoke on Saturday, even though the beleaguered Blues boss won't actually be at the Britannia Stadium.

The 52-year-old isn't allowed any contact with his team as he serves a one-match stadium ban following his half-time

AFP, London



Cristiano Ronaldo says his fierce rivalry with Lionel Messi provides all the motivation he needs to keep striving for even more success.

Real Madrid forward Ronaldo has jousted with Barcelona striker Messi for the La Liga title, the Champions League crown and a host of individual awards since moving to Spain from Manchester United in 2009.

Messi has four La Liga titles and two Champions League triumphs in the period following Ronaldo's arrival at the Bernabeu, while the Madrid ace has one Spanish league success and one Champions League triumph with Los Blancos.

After Messi won the Ballon d'Or prize given to the world's best player four years in a row, Ronaldo, who also won the award while with United in 2008, managed to turn the tables as he picked up the trophy in 2013 and 2014.

The supremely talented duo both possess an intense desire to be ranked as the very best and that, combined with their roles as figureheads of duelling superpowers Real and Barca, has prevented them from striking up

any kind of friendship.

Asked how he felt whenever Messi got the better of him, Ronaldo told BT Sport: "I'm always disappointed when I lose, it's normal. I'm not a fake person. I'm not going to hide it when I feel disappointed."

"But I'm not complaining because I've won three times, I never thought I would win one Golden Ball, so to win three is great, gives me great motivation to work hard and achieve more."

"I want more and more. I still have many years to play football, and I want to win more things."

"Messi is an unbelievable player and maybe it pushes me more, harder to be better and better."

"But the people who know me, know I'm always like that, I try to be the best professional in my job, I try to be the best all the time."

"Sometimes it's not possible because we are human beings, we are not machines. But in my mind I'm the best and I work like the best."

Earlier this season, Ronaldo became Real's leading goalscorer with 326 goals in all competitions, but he hasn't enjoyed the same domestic success as Messi.

Even during Jose Mourinho's reign as Real boss, the pair won only one La

Liga title in 2012 and reportedly clashed over the team's cautious style of play.

But Ronaldo remains a fan of Mourinho and offered his support to the under-fire Chelsea chief.

"I would put him at the top, I always say that. He's a good coach, he did many good things and won many trophies for other clubs," Ronaldo said.

"My coach is now (Rafael) Benitez and I'm comfortable we are going to win many things together."

While Ronaldo and Messi reign supreme as the world's best, the Madrid player still keeps an eye on the next generation of emerging stars.

He regards Real teammate Martin Odegaard, Chelsea's Eden Hazard, Manchester United's Memphis Depay, Paul Pogba of Juventus and Barcelona's Neymar as the most exciting talents to follow.

"You see many players with potential. I will mention Odegaard of Madrid for example, at 16 he's still young but you can see he's a very good player," Ronaldo added.

"Hazard for example, the number seven of Manchester Depay is a good player too, Pogba and maybe Neymar."

# INT'L JUNIOR TENNIS Finals today

SPORTS REPORTER

The final line-up of boys' singles and doubles in the Walton 29th Bangladesh International Junior Tennis Tournament completed at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna yesterday.

India's Dhruv Sunish beat his compatriot Sunil Jagtiani 6-1, 4-6, 6-1 while Syria's Naow Hazem beat India's Parikshit Somani 6-4, 6-3 to set up a final clash.

In boys' doubles, the Somani-Dhruv pair defeated Amit Beniwal and Megh Bhargav Patel 6-4, 6-4 while Vikrant Dahiya and Jagtiani pair beat Denton Ho and Yu-Hsiang Su pair 6-3, 4-6, 10-8 to move into the final.

All the four finals -- boys' singles and doubles, girls' singles and doubles -- will be held today.

# Perez backs Benzema

AFP, Madrid

Real Madrid striker Karim Benzema received the backing of his club on Thursday, just hours after being charged in connection with a sex tape extortion case.

"Real Madrid president, Florentino Perez, held a meeting with the player in which he gave him his full support and expressed his confidence that his actions were in good faith and that he is completely innocent," said a statement released by the Spanish giants.



Liverpool midfielder Jordan Ibe celebrates his all-important goal against Rubin Kazan during their Europa League match in Kazan on Thursday.

PHOTO: AFP

# Ibe fires Liverpool

AFP, Paris



Jordan Ibe scored a fine goal to hand Liverpool a crucial 1-0 victory over Rubin Kazan in the Europa League on Thursday, as Celtic flopped once again to leave their hopes in tatters.

After three successive draws, Liverpool coach Jurgen Klopp was hoping his team could carry over the momentum from Saturday's Premier League 3-1 win over Chelsea when they travelled to Russia.

And they did not disappoint, dominating for much of the match and Ibe's 53rd-minute strike ensuring a first away win in Europe in three years against a side that has in the past claimed the scalps of Chelsea, Tottenham and Wigan.

Group B leaders Sion had Veroljub

Salatic to thank for a 94th minute goal that secured a 1-1 draw with Bordeaux, who are next up for Liverpool, on six points two behind Sion and three ahead of the French team.

A fine double save by Sergei Ryzhikov kept Rubin Kazan in the game at half-time against Liverpool, the goalkeeper reacting smartly to a poor defensive header from teammate Solomon Kverkvelia before palming the ball away.

Ibe provided the breakthrough when he sprinted away midway inside the Rubin Kazan half before shooting low into the far left corner for his first goal in a Liverpool shirt.

Klopp's former club Borussia Dortmund and Napoli both secured their places in the knockout stages, the Germans beating Qabala of Azerbaijan 4-0 and the Italian club notching up a 5-0 thrashing of Midtjylland of Denmark.

# Novak rolls on, Fed falls

AFP, Paris

Novak Djokovic kept his win streak alive at the Paris Masters on Thursday, but there was defeat for Roger Federer at the hands of big-serving American John Isner.

Rafael Nadal and Andy Murray also reached the quarterfinals, but in contrasting styles.

World number one and defending champion Djokovic went through to the last eight in the final tournament of the ATP's regular season with a 6-3, 7-5 victory over Gilles Simon that took his unbeaten run to 19 matches.

Djokovic will next play fifth seed Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic who eased past an injury-hampered Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 6-3, 6-4 for a place in the semifinals of a tournament he has won three times previously, including the last two years.

Federer was shocked to find himself leaving for home without once having dropped his serve as Isner typically won on two tie-breaks 7-6 (7/3), 3-6, 7-6 (7/5), hammering down 27 aces in the process.

Isner will play David Ferrer for a semifinal spot after the Spanish eighth seed outlasted Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria 6-7 (4/7), 6-1, 6-4.

# Real reeling from Karim bombshell

AFP, Madrid



Real Madrid are expected to be without striker Karim Benzema for their tricky trip to Sevilla on Sunday after he was charged in an extortion case in his homeland involving a sex tape featuring fellow French international Mathieu

Valbuena.

Benzema returned to Madrid on Thursday after spending Wednesday night in custody in Versailles, on the outskirts of Paris.

The 27-year-old hasn't featured for Madrid since injuring his hamstring on international duty a month ago and is unlikely to be rushed back into action after a momentous week off the field.

In brighter news for Madrid boss Rafael Benitez, Gareth Bale could make his return after a three-week layoff with a calf problem as he trained along with the rest of the squad on Thursday.

James Rodriguez is also expected to make his first appearance in two months after he returned to the squad but was an unused substitute in Tuesday's 1-0 win over Paris Saint-Germain.

Benitez's men were heavily criticised for their display against the French champions despite sealing their place in the last 16 of the Champions League.

Moreover, they suffered another injury setback as Marcelo hobbled off with a thigh problem that has ruled him out of the trip to the Sanchez Pizjuan.

"There were good things, but also a lot of things which we have to reflect on," admitted Madrid captain Sergio Ramos.

"On top of the poor play, the bad news is Marcelo's injury. He was in great form."

Kiko Casilla is also expected to deputise for Keylor Navas in goal after the Costa Rica international aggravated an adductor

muscle injury in midweek.

Madrid will be particularly keen to rack up a fourth consecutive league win with Barcelona to come in their next outing after the international break.

The two giants of Spanish football are tied on 24 points at the top of the table.

Sevilla are in desperate need of the points themselves having slipped to 11th after just three wins in their first 10 league games.

The Andalusians were also outclassed by Manchester City 3-1 in the Champions League in midweek, but coach Unai Emery refused to accept that expectations should be tempered ahead of Madrid's visit.

"At Sevilla we have always been strong in the face of adversity," he said.

## FIXTURES

**Saturday**  
Celta Vigo v Valencia (1500), Levante v Deportivo la Coruna (1715), Eibar v Getafe (1930), Rayo Vallecano v Granada (1930), Malaga v Real Betis (2105)

**Sunday**  
Athletic Bilbao v Espanyol (1100), Barcelona v Villarreal (1500), Atletico Madrid v Sporting Gijon (1715), Sevilla v

"On Sunday we have another great game to look forward to. These type of games always generate great expectations."

Barcelona can edge ahead of Madrid for a few hours at least when they host fifth-placed Villarreal at the Camp Nou earlier on Sunday.

The Catalans remain hopeful the Yellow Submarine's visit will be the last time they will be without Lionel Messi before he returns from knee ligament damage.

However, the European champions have only dropped three points in his absence thanks to the superb form of Neymar and Luis Suarez, who have now scored 18 of Barca's last 21 goals over combining for all three in Wednesday's 3-0