

What to WATCH	CHANNEL 9 FIFA WC Qualifiers Bangladesh v Tajikistan Live from 6:00pm	SONY SIX FIFA WC Qualifiers Ecuador v Uruguay Live from 3:00am (Friday) Chile v Colombia	SONY KIX FIFA WC Qualifiers India v Guam Live from 7:30pm	Live from 5:30am (Friday)	Argentina v Brazil Live from 6:00am (Friday)	SONY SIX HD FIFA WC Qualifiers	Bolivia v Venezuela Live from 2:00am (Friday)
	DAY'S EVENT	FIFA WC Qualifiers Bangladesh v Tajikistan					STARSPORTS2

WI leave with a win

REUTERS, Colombo

West Indies ended their dismal tour of Sri Lanka with a consolation victory after Dwayne Bravo's all-round brilliance secured a series-leveling 23-run win in the second and final Twenty20 International on Wednesday.

Blanked in the preceding test and one-day series and beaten in the first Twenty20 International on Monday, West Indies posted 162-6 before bowling out the hosts for 139 to salvage a bit of pride.

Bravo blasted a run-a-ball 31 before returning to claim four wickets at the R Premadasa Stadium.

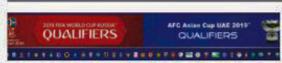
For Sri Lanka, Tillakaratne Dilshan top-scored with a breezy 52, and Shehan Jayasuriya made 30 before Ravi Rampaul and Bravo wrecked their middle and lower order.

SCORES IN BRIEF

WEST INDIES: 162 for six in 20 overs (Charles 34, Bravo 31, Ramdin 34 not out; Malinga 2-16, Siriwardana 2-17)
SRI LANKA: 139 all out in 20 overs (Dilshan 52, Jayasuriya 30; Rampaul 3-20, Bravo 4-28)

Booters brace for Tajikistan

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh will be aiming to put their best foot forward in order to taste a maiden victory in the World Cup and Asian Cup Qualifiers when they take on hosts Tajikistan in the Group B encounter at the Republican Central Stadium in Dushanbe today.

The match will get underway at 6:00pm BST with Channel 9 telecasting live.

With three matches left against Tajikistan, Australia and Jordan, Bangladesh realistically only have a chance of getting points from today's game. However, in order to do that Bangladesh must improve further after an inspiring performance under new coach Fabio Lopez in Kyrgyzstan saw the visitors play comparatively well before going down 2-0.

Bangladesh have earned a solitary point from five outings, drawing 1-1 against Tajikistan at home in June. Now they will rely on an away game against the same opponents to break their five-match winless run and hopefully topple fourth-placed Tajikistan to brighten their chances of directly entering the 2016 Asian Cup Qualifiers.

Although Tajikistan are 20

places ahead of Bangladesh in the FIFA rankings, their recent performances have been far from encouraging. The Central Asian nation managed to escape defeat against Kyrgyzstan and Bangladesh by playing out draws, but they could not avert defeats against table-toppers Jordan and second-placed Australia.

Bangladesh will also want to grab their opportunity with both hands, but the chilly weather in Dushanbe may be a factor for the visitors. Although they reached the Tajikistan capital five days before the game to get acclimatised, the forecast for rain today is worrisome.

"The match is important for Bangladesh and Tajikistan because both teams will be fighting for fourth place in the group. Tajikistan is definitely a strong opponent, especially at home, but we have also come here with a target of winning," said Lopez yesterday.

"If it rains tomorrow [Thursday], then it will be a problem for us because the intense cold may cause our players to have breathing problems," said Lopez.

However the 42-year-old coach reassured that his charges had nearly acclimatised to the chilly weather after having practised for five days and that would have a



Bangladesh players practice during a training session at the artificial turf of the Outer Stadium Ground in Dushanbe yesterday ahead of today's match against Tajikistan.

PHOTO: BFF

positive impact on the match.

Midfielder Jamal Bhuiyan and striker Nabib Newaj Jibon are also optimistic of producing a good result against Tajikistan and said they are ready to face the challenge.

"We had surrendered our lead against Tajikistan in the dying moments at home and we know

well that the home side will be trying to play attacking football and get early goals. But we are also here for the victory and it is a good opportunity for us to get points against them," said Bhuiyan.

"We all are motivated to give our best against Tajikistan. The coach told us that if we can

replicate our recent performance against Kyrgyzstan tomorrow [Thursday], then we have a good chance of beating Tajikistan," said Jibon.

Tajikistan's new coach Mubin Ergasher said that they are eager to win the match against Bangladesh, especially after bringing some new players to the squad.

Fahad stuns GM Zia

SPORTS REPORTER

FIDE Master Mohammad Fahad Rahman stunned GM Ziaur Rahman in the eighth round of the Saif Powertec 41st National A Chess Championship at the National Sports Council Tower auditorium yesterday.

Fahad with black pieces beat holder Zia after 35 moves to taste first-ever victory over any Grand Master in his playing career so far.

After the eighth round, GM Abdullah Al Rakib, GM Enamul Hossain Razib and IM Minhaz Uddin Ahmed shared the lead with six points each while GM Niaz Murshed was in the second position with 5.5 points.

Chelsea, West Ham fined

AFP, London

Chelsea and West Ham United have been fined £50,000 (\$75,550, 70,670 euros) and £40,000 respectively after admitting misconduct charges over last month's encounter at Upton Park, the Football Association announced on Tuesday.

ARGENTINA V BRAZIL

Neymar back for Selecao

AFP, Montevideo

Brazil superstar Neymar returns from suspension to face an injury-hit Argentina on Thursday as South America's qualifying campaign for the 2018 World Cup resumes with a showdown between the bitter continental rivals.

Neymar was forced to sit out Brazil's opening two qualifiers last month -- a 2-0 defeat to Chile followed by a 3-1 victory over Venezuela -- following his four-match suspension at the Copa America in June.

But the talismanic striker is now back and available for Brazil as the five-time world champions head to Buenos Aires to face an Argentina side who took only one point from their first two games.

Argentina suffered a shock 2-0 defeat at home to Ecuador in their opening game and then laboured to a goalless stalemate against Paraguay in Asuncion.

Those results have piled the pressure on beleaguered Argentina manager Gerardo 'Tata' Martino, whose position had already come under scrutiny after his star-studded side's failure to win the Copa America.

Martino's preparations for Thursday's showdown at the Estadio Monumental have been thrown into turmoil by an injury crisis which has deprived him of an array of attacking talent.

Captain Lionel Messi had already been ruled out after suffering a long-term knee injury in September.

Manchester City striker Sergio Aguero is also unavailable while Carlos Tevez is rated



Argentina will look to star man Angel Di Maria (L) to deliver while superstar Neymar returns for Brazil ahead of the archrivals' 2018 World Cup qualifier in Buenos Aires on Thursday.

PHOTOS: AFP



as doubtful after suffering a knee problem. Boca Juniors striker Tevez skipped training on Monday and is struggling to be fit according to press reports in Argentina.

Paris Saint-Germain midfielder Javier Pastore is also a concern after suffering a calf injury.

Brazil veteran Kaka, restored to the squad by coach Dunga earlier this year, has urged the Selecao to draw on the memory of their 3-1 win in Argentina during a 2009 World

Cup qualifier as they prepare for Thursday's clash.

"Argentina haven't won a game yet so they have an extra motivation to beat Brazil," Kaka said.

"We had a good win over Venezuela and we need to continue that. But it's never easy against Argentina and it's always a great game.

"We know how difficult it is to go there and get a result, but we can win. We went

there in 2009 and won -- I can remember the party we had at the end of that match," the former AC Milan star said.

Elsewhere on Thursday, Ecuador and Uruguay will meet in a top-of-the-table meeting involving two sides with 100 percent records.

Uruguay, who are still missing Luis Suarez as he serves out the remainder of his 2014 World Cup biting ban, will be able to recall striker Edinson Cavani, suspended during the Copa America for his lurid altercation with Chile's Gonzalo Jara.

The Uruguayans defeated Bolivia and Colombia in their opening games while Ecuador are brimming with confidence after stunning Argentina before a further win over Bolivia at home.

Uruguay coach Oscar Tabarez has urged "La Celeste" to reproduce the decisiveness shown in their opening victories as they head for an awkward assignment at altitude against Ecuador on Thursday.

"We need to be decisive, to be balanced, to work hard to limit the opponent and to try to create problems to get the points," Tabarez said. "We're psyched up and ready."

Ecuador meanwhile are facing injury problems of their own, with English Premier League duo Enner Valencia and Antonio Valencia both missing along with attacking midfielders Michael Arroyo and Renato Ibarra.

In Thursday's other marquee match, Copa America champions Chile take on a Colombia side who have Real Madrid superstar James Rodriguez fit and available for selection once more.

Blatter in hospital

AFP, Geneva



Suspended FIFA president Sepp Blatter has been hospitalised after being placed under medical observation for stress, but he is expecting to leave the facility early next week, his spokesman said Wednesday.

"He is now, at this moment, in hospital," Blatter's spokesman Klaus Stoeckli told AFP by phone. "He is preparing to leave on Monday and will be back on the job on Tuesday."

Stoeckli added that 79-year-old Blatter had "regained his good humour" and has vowed to persist with "his fight against the (FIFA) ethics committee" which suspended him for 90 days over corruption allegations.

Blatter, long the most powerful man in football, suffered a medical incident last weekend and had been placed under medical observation from his home.

Blatter's daughter Corinne has said that her father had been forced to cancel all of his appointments up to November 15.

Stoeckli previously said the stress-related medical incident had been brought on by the pressure the embattled Swiss national has faced in recent weeks.

Blatter has been at the centre of the worst scandal to ever hit world football. Swiss prosecutors opened a criminal case against him in September, an announcement that led to his suspension from FIFA.

tyco **OSL**
OSL ENGINEERING

We Offer International Standard product of TYCO for Total solution of Fire Detection & Protection as well as Installation and Electrical Safety, Specially in RMG Sector.

OSL ENGINEERING CO. (BD) LTD.
Is only official agent in Bangladesh for Tyco.

Contact: OSL ENGINEERING CO. (BD) LTD.
(A Korea - Bangladesh Joint Venture)

House: 196, Lavel 05, Lane: 02 (East), DOHS Baridhara, Dhaka-1206, Tel: +88028419053, Fax: +88028419052
Cell: 01712573564, 01724693447, 01557249646
Email: info@osleng.com.bd www.osleng.com.bd

SCALING THE SUMMIT IS NO EASY TASK!

FIND OUT WHO ARE WINNING TONIGHT!

Raiyan Ahmed
Sunnydale, Dhaka

Md. Rayan Rakibuzzaman
Shahen International School, Rangpur

Tahsin Abedi
Mastermind, Dhaka

Saber Hossain Sagor
Maple Leaf International School, Dhaka

Mahzabin Alam Tonny
Feni Girls' Cadet College, Feni

Ramisa Rawnak
Chittagong Grammar School, Dhaka

চলেছে প্রিলিমিনারি রাউন্ড
২২০০+ কুলের ৩,৯৯,৪০২ জন প্রতিযোগী থেকে উঠে এসেছে ৯৬ জন স্পেলার।
এখন থেকে প্রতি পর্বে ৬ জন করে স্পেলার লড়াইয়ে এবং সেরা ২ জন চলে যাবে কোয়ার্টার ফাইনাল রাউন্ডে।

The School of Excellence - এ ক্লাস করতে বসে পড়ুন - এ
আজ **বৃহস্পতিবার** সন্ধ্যা **৭:৫০** মিনিটে

The Sponsor:

Enlightened by:

Brought to you by:

Ticket Partner:

Associate Partner: