

# SPORTS



## Batsmen all chip in

### Tamim suffers thigh strain on first day

#### BD-CSA INVITATION XI

Bangladesh: First innings		49	46		
Tamil Nadu		513	10		
Suryya (Klamb) Proteus		63	80		
Imrul (Chagn) Vorely		24	49		
Mominul (Klamb) Cohen		68	91		
Musfiqur (Klamb) Cohen		63	85		
Rahmanullah		0	0		
C(Christensen) Cohen		0	0		
Sabbir		58	90		
Liton Das		92	0		
Mohid (Klamb) Cohen		18	39		
Toukonout		8	25		
Extras: B-5, S-1, Lb-1, W-2		9			
Total (For 10 wickets)		1838	139		
Fall of wickets: 84, 2-92, 3-211, 4-211, 5-220, 6-220, 7-272					
Overseas: Mohammad					
Bowler		O	M	R	W
Proteus		12	2	49	1
Chagn		12	1	48	1
Coh		8.3	0	62	0
Klamb		11	2	23	4
Vorely		20	1	96	0
du Plooy		3.3	0	22	0
CSA INVITATION XI: First innings		84	6		
Tamil Nadu		917	20		
Bangladesh		10	0		
Extras: (For 10 wickets)		21			
Fall of wickets: 1-25					
Tobat: Breetze, von Berg, Christensen, Cohen, Bokulu, Klamb, C, Proteus, du Plooy, Musfiqur, Rahmanullah					
Bowler		O	M	R	W
Musfiqur		3	1	13	0
Moinul		3	0	13	0
Moinul		6.3	0	0	0



Sabbir Rahman (L), one of three half-centurions on the day for Bangladesh, walks off with pacer Taskin Ahmed after Bangladesh declared on 306 for 7 against Cricket South Africa Invitation XI on the first day of their three-day practice match yesterday.

## 'They want to be ittle Bangladesh cricket'

#### SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Nazmul Hassan said yesterday that they will go ahead as planned to hold the October 2 AGM (Annual General Meeting) and EGM (Extraordinary General Meeting) despite being threatened to face legal battles.

Speaking to reporters at the BCB headquarters in Mirpur, the board president reacted sharply to the recent turn of events where Mobasher Hossain, a former board director, served a legal notice to the BCB asking it to refrain from holding both the AGM and EGM. Besides, former BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury also questioned the legality of such a move following a Supreme Court ruling on July 26 this year. The apex court ruled that the amendments made in the BCB constitution in 2012 by the NSC was done unlawfully.

Interestingly, the present committee was elected under the amended 2012 BCB constitution.

"The Supreme Court's last direction said that the BCB is fully valid because we were elected under that constitution and the ICC also recognises us. And now we will call an AGM and if anyone wants a change in the constitution according to the ICC's guidelines then we can do that. Then we will send it to the NSC for approval, but NSC cannot change anything. This is the guideline and there is no leeway here," Hassan told reporters.



NAZMUL HASSAN

Mobasher sent a legal notice to the National Sports Council (NSC) last Saturday asking the country's local sport's governing body to stop any and all functions of the present BCB board of directors, including president Hassan.

Barrister Mahubb Shafigo, on behalf of Mobasher, served the legal notice asking the BCB president not only to stop all his activities but also to refrain from holding the upcoming AGM of the board. The notice stated that the present committee of the BCB has lost its legality following the Supreme Court judgment.

On the other hand Saber, in a letter addressed to the BCB president, said: "Based on judgment of 26th July of Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, I'm not eligible to be a councillor of the BCB." He was actually responding to a notice he was served by the BCB as its councillor.

"If they were right then we would have to go to the 2008 constitution and bring our team back from South Africa. The ICC has a very important board meeting next month and they will not allow us into that," Hassan said widely while referring to the 2008 constitution, where BCB president was not elected but was a nominee from the government.

"This is all pre-planned. You have to understand what your objective is. I will tell you one thing, Saber Hossain gave me a letter before asking why I did not hold AGMs. I have heard Mobasher Shaheb saying on talk shows why I don't hold AGMs. These are hypocrites and I don't like these things," said Hassan.

"Our stand is very simple. Bangladesh is going forward with cricket and we have the responsibility to maintain that as long as it's in our hands. If anyone tries to create any obstacles we will have to protect that and then we will not do anything outside the law. We will hold our AGM of course," said the first elected president of BCB.

He looked ICC meeting.

"The next ICC meeting will finalise the fact that we will get from 8 million to 16 million. If we are not allowed there then it's over. They want to stop this progress and belittle Bangladesh cricket inside and outside the country," he continued adding that: "Of course, Saber is behind it. We all know that from the start."

"The reason they filed a case is that they want the 2008 constitution used in the next election. Neither of them were councillors in 2008. I have said before that the 2008 constitution is not approved. It is in direct violation of ICC guidelines and we have the 2008 constitution then it means cutting Bangladesh off from the ICC," Hassan said bitterly.

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Bangladesh has had a good opening on the opening day of the three-day practice match against Cricket South Africa Invitation XI at the Willowmore Park in Benoni yesterday.

After Musfiqur Rahim elected to bat, all the batsmen scored runs barring opener Tamim Iqbal, who left the field retired hurt after suffering a strain in his right thigh, and

Mahmudullah Riyad, who made a first ball duck. The Tigers returned their innings at 306 for seven.

Tamim was in five when he left the field in the fifth over after facing 13 balls while opening the innings alongside Soumya Sarkar. He will be under observation for 48 hours but team sources said that the injury was not serious.

After Tamim's departure, Soumya (43) and Imrul Kayes (34) steadied the ship by sharing 84 runs but both batsmen returned to the pavilion in quick succession. A 119-run stand for the third wicket followed between Mominul Haque (68) and captain Musfiqur Rahim (63) which seized back the initiative from the home side.

However, the Tigers suffered another collapse soon after Mominul's dismissal as they lost four wickets for nine runs. The very next ball after Mominul's departure saw Mahmudullah walk back to the dressing room. Also captain to convert his fifty into three digits as the wicketkeepers batsman was dismissed for 63 and Liton Das was the other batsman who scored a duck as Bangladesh were reduced from 211 for two to 220 for six.

Sabbir Rahman was the other successful batsman. He scored a fifty and remained unbeaten on 58 when Musfiqur declared the visitors' innings.

After the exchange Sabbir initiated a run out on the last ball of the day to send Isaac Dikgale back to the pavilion and the home side were at 21 for one on stumps.

#### SPORTS REPORTER

Putting up consistent performances in the international circuit has been a rarity for Bangladesh's bowlers in the recent past but the U-18 national team have been displaying scintillating football in the ongoing SAFF U-18 Championship in Bhutan and currently sit on top of the five-team table with successive wins over regional powerhouses India and Maldives.

The boys in red and green showed incredible character against India as they notched up a 4-3 win despite trailing by three goals going into halftime. And amazingly they kept the winning momentum intact by handing Maldives a 2-0 defeat with another dazzling display where they showed superb link-up play and the backline hardly made any errors.

The sudden transformation of the players on the international arena comes as a surprise to everyone and coach Mahabub Hossain Roy believes that it was the incredible win over India which bred the belief in his boys.

"A come-from-behind win against India changed the boys and they have now been growing stronger match by match. Initially we didn't have any idea how this team would perform because we got only three days for training and didn't play any practice matches," Mahabub said over phone.

"The initial confidence was laid by the come-from-behind win over India and it has more been enhanced after beating Maldives," said Roy, before adding that the experience gained from playing in the domestic set-up was key to the bowlers' successes.

"I must admit that we have an advantage because we have players from the Bangladesh Premier League and Bangladesh Championship League and that is the key behind the consistent performances. The players have good fitness because they were involved in domestic competitions before coming here."

Bangladesh pressed high up the pitch against India and destroyed their defence before switching to a compact five-man midfield against Maldives, which denied any space for their opponents to build up from the middle.

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#### SPORTS REPORTER

facing helpers Nepal, who dropped all three points in their first match against Bhutan. And Bangladesh's coaching staff is now mulling whether to adopt another new strategy to overcome the Nepalese.

"We capitalised on our set-pieces against India but Maldives successfully thwarted all of our set-pieces. Now other opponents know how we played against India and Maldives so we have to adopt a new strategy against Nepal," said Hossain, who believes a win over Nepal would complete 80 per cent of their job on way to clinching the championship.

"The boys realise that they have raised expectations after winning two successive matches and they have no way to turn back from this point. They are determined to keep the tempo in the next two matches and celebrate only after the last match against Bhutan," said the former national footballer.

The boys in red and green had a rest day and travelled to a temple yesterday before returning to business by having a tactical class in the evening. They will have a training session today and then watch Nepal tie against Maldives.

## U-16s face U-Yemen test

#### SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh launch their AFC U-16 Championship (Qualifiers campaign) today as they take on Yemen at the Grand Hamad Stadium in Doha after their first match against the United Arab Emirates was cancelled due to UAE's withdrawal.

The boys in red and green are expected to take inspiration from the U-18 team and U-16 women's team and put up performances similar to what the U-18s are displaying in the SAFF U-18 Championship and what the girls showed against Japan and Australia in the AFC U-16 Women's Championship.

However the ground conditions at the U-16 stadium in Doha are expected to be a challenge for the 16 boys who have been winless in the competition for nearly 10 years. Their last win came in the 2007 edition when they beat Pakistan 2-1. Since then the U-16s have suffered 13 defeats across four editions with a goalless draw against Indonesia in the 2009 edition the only result to their credit.

Yemen are currently on top of the three-team table following a 6-1 win over Qatar and a win over Bangladesh would confirm their place in the 16-team final round, leaving Bangladesh and Qatar to fight for a place among the five best runners-up from the 10 groups in order to advance to the next round.

Anwar Parvez Babu's charges watched the match between Yemen and Qatar on Wednesday and they have prepared accordingly.

"We now have some idea about Yemen, who are very strong opponents, because we watched their match against Qatar. Now we know their strong and weak points and I think the match will be a competitive one as our boys are ready to give their best effort," said Parvez.

## Kalabagan, Khelaghar notch wins

#### SPORTS REPORTER

Kalabagan Kiria Chakra and Khelaghar Samaj Kalyan (KSK) secured comfortable wins against their respective rivals in the Dhaka Women's Premier Division Cricket League at BKSIP yesterday.

Kalabagan posted an eight-wicket victory against Mohammod Sporting Club at BKSIP Ground-4 as they scored 90 for two wickets in 39 overs in reply to Mohammedan's 88 all out in 39.1 overs.

Mushidha Naznin and Shailla Sharmin took two wickets each to rattle Mohammedan's innings where captain Salma Khanum was the top scorer with 37 runs.

Hena Akter made 20 of 83 balls and Shailla Sharmin scored 39 of 55 balls with three boundaries to help Kalabagan reach the top of the group.

At BKSIP Ground-3, Hillol Jubo Sangha were all out for 51 in 32.3 overs with Naiiry Thapa being the only batter to make any runs (28).

Labone took four wickets for ten runs in ten overs.

Khelaghar then reached the target of 52 for one in 10.2 overs to post a nine-wicket victory. Aja Minkil added 21.

## Rubel cleared for take-off

#### SPORTS REPORTER

Pacer Rubel Hossain was scheduled to take the Emirates 1:15am flight to join the Bangladesh team in Benoni. Rubel finally received the required security clearance yesterday.

Rubel had to return home from the airport last Saturday as he did not manage to board the flight after he failed to obtain a No Objection Certificate from South Africa's immigration security agencies. Under current rules, NOC is a requirement whether one has obtained a visa or not.

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Nazmul Hassan told the reporters yesterday that: "We have communicated with South Africa and they contacted their home ministry. We got all the information which he couldn't get immediately. There is another person with Rubel's name, date of birth and everything matches but they are different people. So the one who is banned is not our cricketer and that is what we have ruled confirmed."

Rubel missed the ongoing three-day practice match at Benoni but he will be available for selection for the first test which will start from September 28 at Potchefstroom.



## Defeating India changed the boys: Mahabub

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## Eng-WI ODI abandoned

#### AFP, Nottingham

Play in the second one-day international between England and West Indies at Trent Bridge on Thursday was abandoned as a no-result washout.

Only 11 minutes play was possible at the Nottingham ground before rain saw the umpires take the players off the field with England 21 without loss after 2.2 overs, having been sent into bat.

Jonny Bairstow was nine not out and Alex Hales 10 not out.

## India make it 2-0

#### AFP, Kolkata

Left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav claimed his maiden hat-trick as India beat Australia by 50 runs in the second one-day international in Kolkata on Thursday.

Yadav once again combined with leg spinner Yuzvendra Chahal to dismiss the visitors to 202 in 43.1 overs while chasing 253 and earn India a 2-0 lead in the five-match series.

Earlier, fast bowler Nathan Coulter-Nile helped Australia bowl out India for 252 despite a fluent 92 by skipper Virat Kohli.

The hosts depended on a 102-run second-wicket stand between Kohli and Ajinkya Rahane, who made 55, to start strongly before the Australian bowlers struck back at the Eden Gardens.

Fast bowlers Coulter-Nile and Kane Richardson claimed three wickets each for the visitors, who lost the first in the five-match series in Chennai.

Coulter-Nile claimed opener Rohit Sharma caught and bowled for seven, but had to wait to get his next two as Indian batsmen scored freely.

Rahane's run out started the turnaround for the visitors and Ashton Agar soon bowled Manish Pandey for three to halt India's progress.

Coulter-Nile came back for his second spell to get Kedar Jadhav out for 24 and end another dangerous-looking stand with Kohli in the other end.

SCORES IN BRIEF

INDIA: 252 all out in 50 overs (Rahane 55, Kohli 92, Jadhav 24, Pandya 20, Kumar 20, Coulter-Nile 3-51, Richardson 3-55)

AUSTRALIA: 202 all out in 43.1 overs (Smith 59, Head 39, Stoinis 62 not out; Kumar 3-9), Yadav 3-54, Pandya 2-56, Chahal 2-34)

Result: India won by 50 runs and led 5-match series 2-0.

Player-of-the-match: Virat Kohli.



India's left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav celebrates after completing his maiden hat-trick against Australia in the second one-day international at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata yesterday.