

# What to WATCH

**SONY SIX**  
Bangladesh v South Africa  
3rd ODI  
Live from 2:00pm  
**STAR SPORTS 2**  
Hero Asia Cup

3rd Place Decider  
South Korea v Pakistan  
Live from 3:00pm  
Final  
India v Malaysia  
Live from 5:30pm

**STAR SPORTS 1**  
India v New Zealand  
1st ODI  
Live from 2:00pm  
**STAR SPORTS SELECT 1**  
English Premier League

Everton v Arsenal  
Live from 6:30pm  
Tottenham v Liverpool  
Live from 9:00pm  
**SONY ESPN**  
Ligue 1

Marseille v PSG  
Live from 1:00am (Monday)  
**TEN 2**  
La Liga  
Real Madrid v Eibar  
Live from 12:45am (Monday)

# ASIA CUP BANGLADESH 2017



## DAY'S EVENT

**Hero Asia Cup**  
3rd Place Decider  
South Korea v Pakistan  
Time: 3:00pm

Final  
India v Malaysia  
Time: 5:30pm  
Venue: Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium

**Bangladesh A v Ireland A**  
3rd One-Dayer  
Time: 9:00pm  
Venue: SKICS, Cox's Bazar



Indian players celebrate one of their four goals against bitter rivals Pakistan during their Hero Asia Cup Super 4 match at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

# India, Malaysia in final

SPORTS REPORTER



Faizal Sarri converted a 59th minute penalty corner as Malaysia booked their maiden berth in the Asia Cup final with a 1-1 draw against Korea at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium last night, setting up today's final against India, who beat Pakistan 4-0 in the earlier match of the day.

The Malaysians, who needed only a point to move into the final, looked down and out trailing 1-0 with less than two minutes remaining. But they somehow managed to earn their first penalty corner of the game in the 59th minute which Sarri dispatched with aplomb.

Yang Jihun had given the Koreans the lead from a penalty corner in the 24th minute and they needed a win to progress, which they eventually failed to do.

The result not only denied four-time champions Korea a third consecutive final appearance but also robbed them of a place in next year's world cup.

The final -- a repeat of the Super 4s fixture which India had won 6-2 -- will take place at 5:30pm today after Pakistan and Korea square off for the third position at 3:00pm.

Earlier, India booked their eighth final berth with a 4-0 drubbing of Pakistan in the penultimate match of the Super 4s stage.

Two-time champions India, who had beaten the same opposition 3-1 during the group phase, initially looked unconvincing but turned their game on in the second half and scored all the four goals during that period.

The win means the former champions

qualified for the final with seven points, the highest number of points from Super 4s stage while Pakistan were eliminated from the last four with just a single point.

While India eventually ran out with a convincing victory, it was Pakistan who started the game brighter.

Satbir Singh broke the deadlock in the 38th minute with a fine solo effort. The veteran darted into the circle from the right and pushed the ball, which took a deflection off the Pakistan keeper before hitting the board.

Dipsan Tirkey and Lalit Upadhyay missed two sitters before Harmanpreet made it 2-0 in the 52nd minute with a powerful conversion of a penalty corner, taking himself to the top of the goal-scorers' chart with seven goals.

Lalit further increased the margin a minute later, flicking from a prostrated position before Gurjant Singh wrapped up the victory with a firm strike from just inside the circle in the 56th minute.

The India coach Sjoerd Marijne said his pep talk at the break helped the team shrug off their initial lacklustre attitude. "It was a match of two halves. In the first half our performance was low. We had a team talk about where we went wrong. I'm happy with what came out after the break," said the Dutchman.

India captain Manpreet Singh was happy with inflicting a sixth straight victory on their fierce rivals. "We were not concerned about the weather or other things because we don't have a hand on those things; rather we concentrated on our own game. We played well in the fourth quarter and we are happy about it," said the young skipper.

# 'Neymar a mentor for Mbappe'

AFP, Paris



Paris Saint-Germain superstar Neymar will be crucial to the development of fellow new recruit Kylian Mbappe, the club's vice-captain Marquinhos has told AFP.

Marquinhos also said he believes Neymar will do more to bring glory to the Qatar-owned Paris club than its former Brazilian number 10 Ronaldinho.

Marquinhos and Neymar were on the same gold medal-winning Brazil team at the 2016 Rio Olympics and the defender believes the striker's leadership skills will be an important factor as the club go in search of titles this season.

"He's a wonderful player. When it's a big game that's when he shows the most character, the best attitude," Marquinhos said of the 25-year-old Brazilian who joined PSG for a world-record 222 million euros (\$261.5 million) in the close season.

"He likes to take charge of things and he loves a boiling atmosphere," Marquinhos said.

That approach will be tested on Sunday when PSG travel to Marseille for a Ligue 1 grudge match with the capital outfit sitting top on 25 points and OM third on 17.

"I know Neymar well and know he loves

this kind of game," said Marquinhos.

The 23-year-old defender, who is in his fifth season at PSG and has played over 20 times for Brazil, says Neymar's role as mentor to the 18-year-old Mbappe will help to shape the French international striker's game.

"Neymar knows how important he is for Kylian, as Messi was important for him, as Ronaldinho was important for Messi.

"Kylian is an adorable guy, and the two of them hit it off straight away," said Marquinhos.

"Even if they don't speak the same language, on the pitch you can see how well they get on.

"Both of them are capable (of winning the Ballon d'Or). The main thing is that it's magnificent to have the pair of them here," said Marquinhos.

Ronaldinho, the Brazilian superstar of his time, lit up the Parc des Princes from 2001 to 2003.

"I hope he'll do even more than Ronaldinho because he's a wonderful player and he always wants to stand up and be counted on the pitch," Marquinhos said.

PSG recruited Mbappe from Monaco just before the summer transfer deadline on an initial loan deal which is set to be made into a permanent move next year for 180 million euros.

# Suarez to sit out friendlies

AFP, Montevideo

Luis Suarez will play no part in Uruguay's two friendlies in Europe in November, at the request of his club Barcelona, to allow the striker to rest a nagging knee injury.

Uruguay play Poland on November 10 in Warsaw before facing Austria four days later in Vienna as they begin their preparations for the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

"Barcelona's medical staff are proposing a course of treatment, which will include a rest from all physical exercise and competition, for a week from November 5, to allow the player to rehabilitate his right knee," the Uruguayan Football Federation said.

Uruguay's team doctor Alberto Pan said Suarez "does not need" an operation, but reports in the Uruguayan press said he would need a surgical procedure to treat a cyst in his right knee.

# Acclaimed shooter Sadia in burn unit

SPORTS REPORTER



2010 South Asian Games gold medallist shooter Syeda Sadia Sultana is undergoing treatment at the Dhaka Medical College's Plastic Surgery Burn Unit after an accident at her Chittagong residence a week ago.

Sadia, a member of Bangladesh's 2010 SA Games 10m air rifle event gold medal winning team, burnt her body while cooking at home on October 15. She was then immediately rushed to Chittagong Medical College and Hospital before being transferred to Dhaka Medical College on Thursday.

"It happened seven days [actually six days ago] in Chittagong. She suffered deep burns, almost 20 per cent of her body has been burned and hence she is not out of danger. She will need surgery to remove the dead skin. We will try our best to heal her," Dr. Samanta Lal Sen, the hospital's coordinator, said yesterday when contacted over phone.

Sadia, also a member of Bangladesh's 2010 Commonwealth Shooting

Championship gold medal team, was admitted to the High Dependency section of the Burn Unit yesterday as she faced respiratory complications due to the deep burns on her face, neck and chest.

The shooter had taken a lengthy leave of absence from the sport after the 2013 Bangladesh Games. As informed by her brother Syed Sajjadullah, a former national badminton champion, she suffered from depression for an extended period.

Sajjadullah also informed that his sister had undergone counselling because of that and, on recommendation from the counsellors, the family held her engagement two months ago.

"She wanted to continue her studies and took a gap from the game. But she didn't get the required support from the shooting federation regarding her wish to take a break. She also left the Chittagong Rifles Club after the club suspended her monthly salary due to not taking part in a national championship. These things frustrated her and she eventually suffered from long depression. We even arranged counselling for her and we arranged her marriage on suggestion of the counsellors," Sajjadullah said when contacted.



# First Ind-NZ ODI today

AFP, Mumbai

New Zealand captain Kane Williamson urged his teammates Saturday to avenge last year's narrow ODI series defeat to India by putting in the performance of their lives this time around.

The Kiwis and their hosts were locked at 2-2 going into the decisive match of their 2016 one-day international rubber only for India to cruise to victory by 190 runs.

"In our last series here we were two-all going into the decider which...at (that) stage was a good effort, although we knew we hadn't quite played our best performance.

"And it was a shame in that last game. So it would be nice to come out this series and do a little bit better," said Williamson ahead of Sunday's opener at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium.

India, second in the ODI rankings, come into the three-match series on the back of a convincing 4-1 limited-overs victory over Australia and Williamson isn't fooling himself about the size of the task ahead.

# District football from November?

SPORTS REPORTER

Saif Global Sports (SGS), the commercial rights holders of the ongoing Bangladesh Premier League, is planning to sponsor district football leagues and provide each applicable district three lakh taka to help kick-start the leagues, which are supposed to get underway from November.

Tarafder Ruhul Amin, chairman of SGS and co-chairman of the District Football League Committee of the Bangladesh Football Federation, revealed his plans to reporters at his office yesterday.

The district league had been dysfunctional for quite a while, but the new committee, under AJM Nasiruddin as its chairman, has come up with a plan to revive it, the idea is to hold the leagues from this November till March next year.

"We have formed a full committee with the inclusion of district organisers. We may not start all the leagues simultaneously; we will start the leagues division wise. Our committee will reveal the complete plan in the first week of November. The plan is to start the process in November and end the leagues by March next year," said Ruhul Amin.

The SGS was roped in by the BFF for a five year period as the commercial rights holders of the Bangladesh Premier League. However, after the BFF failed to comply with a several terms and conditions, the company decided to discontinue its sponsorship upon completion of the ongoing league. Now the same company hopes to revive district football.

"SGS has already sent a proposal to the BFF for the commercial rights of the district league. The company will initially provide Tk three lakh each to the districts to start the leagues. I hope sponsors will be interested and invest in the league," said the businessman, who is also a director of Chittagong Abahani.

However, it will be difficult to revive the leagues' with only money as there is a dearth of available grounds across the districts. Ruhul Amin hoped that they can involve district administrators in this regard.

# Messi's video of son causes a stir

AFP, Barcelona

Barcelona's Argentine legend Lionel Messi entered the highly-charged drive by Catalonia for independence on Friday when he posted a video on social media of his child singing in Catalan.

The clip on Instagram shows Messi's two-year-old son Mateo singing a nursery rhyme in the regional language.

Among the flood of comments triggered by the post was one from Messi's teammate, Gerard Pique.

In his comment to Messi's Instagram video Pique replied: "In Catalonia they never stop indoctrinating children with 'Jean Petit qui danse'.... (the title of the nursery rhyme)" in a sarcastic dig at those in Spain who accuse Catalan authorities of indoctrination in schools.

His tongue-in-cheek blast was topical as it came after the Madrid government on Tuesday rejected an attempt to beef up school inspections to stamp out the alleged indoctrination of children.

# MU crash at Huddersfield

AFP, London



Manchester United fell to a shock 2-1 defeat at promoted Huddersfield Town on Saturday as Pep Guardiola's free-scoring Manchester City moved five points clear at the Premier League summit.

Aaron Mooy and Laurent Depoitre scored at the John Smith's Stadium to give Huddersfield a first win over United since 1952 and condemn Jose Mourinho's side to their first loss of the campaign.

City took full advantage by beating Burnley 3-0, with Sergio Agüero equalling Eric Brook's all-time club scoring record of 177 goals.

Defending champions Chelsea closed to within four points of second-place United by beating Watford 4-2 while Tottenham Hotspur can draw level with Mourinho's men if they beat Liverpool on Sunday.

United's defeat in rain-lashed Huddersfield followed their 0-0 draw at Liverpool last weekend and a laboured 1-0 victory away to Benfica in the Champions League in mid-week.

Things started to go wrong in the 23rd minute when Phil Jones was forced off by an apparent hip injury, with Victor Lindelof taking his place.

RESULTS			
Chelsea	4 - 2	Watford	Doucoure 45+2, Pereyra 49
Pedro 12, Batshuayi 71, 90+5, Azpilicueta 87			
Huddersfield	2 - 1	Man United	Rashford 78
Mooy 28, Depoitre 33			
Manc City	3 - 0	Burnley	
Agüero 30-pen, Otamendi 73, Sane 75			
Newcastle	1 - 0	Crystal Palace	
Merino 86			
Swansea	1 - 2	Leicester	Fernandez 25-og, Okazaki 49
Mawson 56			

Huddersfield went ahead five minutes later when former City player Mooy robbed Juan Mata and followed in to score after David de Gea had saved from Tom Ince.

Lindelof was at fault as Depoitre scored in the 33rd minute, failing to cut out goalkeeper Jonas Lössl's kick, which allowed Depoitre to round De Gea and score.

United substitute Marcus Rashford headed in Romelu Lukaku's cross with 12 minutes remaining, but Huddersfield held firm for a famous win.

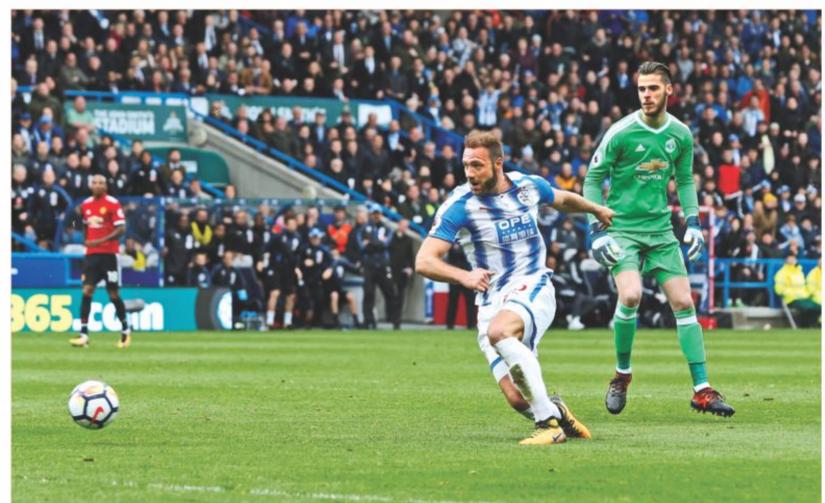
Guardiola's City have won their last seven

league games, scoring 20 goals in their last four home games.

Argentina striker Agüero netted from the spot on the half hour after Burnley goalkeeper Nick Pope was contentiously adjudged to have fouled Bernardo Silva.

Second-half goals from Nicolas Otamendi and Leroy Sane completed victory.

Michy Batshuayi came off the bench to inspire Chelsea to a 4-2 home win over Watford that lifted some of the pressure on manager Antonio Conte.



Huddersfield Town striker Laurent Depoitre scores the second goal against Manchester United during their Premier League encounter at the John Smith's Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS