

Henderson voices player welfare concern

AFP, LONDON

Liverpool captain Jordan Henderson fears player welfare is too low down the list of football's priorities as the English game continues to grapple with the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Premier League announced on Monday its intention to continue with the scheduled matches over the traditionally busy Christmas and New Year period, despite more than 90 confirmed coronavirus cases among players and staff in the last week.

Last weekend, six of 10 scheduled games in England's top flight were called because of coronavirus outbreaks, with Henderson telling the BBC: "I don't think people can appreciate how intense it is until you actually see it first-hand. I am concerned that nobody really takes player welfare seriously." "I think decisions get made -- of course we want to play as footballers, we want to get out there and play -- but I am worried about player welfare and I don't think anybody does take that seriously enough, especially in this period, when Covid is here," Henderson said.



It's possible to score runs in NZ, says Shakib



SPORTS REPORTER

Although Shakib Al Hasan took a leave from the Tigers' ongoing tour of New Zealand due to personal reasons, the star all-rounder remained at the center of attention after giving an explosive interview to an online portal before departing for the United States yesterday.

During the course of the interview, Shakib revealed that 'relations' between Bangladesh cricket's fantastic five, including himself and stalwarts Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, Tamim Iqbal, Mahmudullah Riyad and Mushfiqur Rahim, were not as smooth as had been portrayed over the years.

Shakib rating himself ahead of the other four in terms of contributions to the team also raised eyebrows.

Before departing for the United States to enjoy a holiday with his family, the 34-year-old attempted to identify the areas that require work following the Tigers' poor outings across the formats throughout the year.

"Obviously, it was disappointing that

we were unable to fulfill our target at the T20 World Cup despite going there with a big goal. But it happened in the past as well and we managed to come back strong after such debacles," Shakib told the media at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport. "There are a lot of areas to improve on whether we play well or not and it is important to sit together and identify the areas so that we can improve in the coming days."

The Bangladesh team are currently in New Zealand and will take part in a two-match Test series that is expected to be a tough outing for the visitors given they have not registered a single win in any format in the country.

However, the poster boy of Bangladesh cricket, who scored his Test-best 217 runs in New Zealand, assured that it is possible to score runs in the tough conditions.

"Batting has always remained good in New Zealand and even Tamim Iqbal, [Mahmudullah] Riyad Bhai and Soumya Sarkar all scored hundreds on the last tour. It is possible to score runs there and that will be my message to the team," he added.

Zverev predicts similarity in dominance

REUTERS

Olympic champion Alexander Zverev is confident a changing of the guard is almost complete in men's tennis with next year's big silverware likely to be shared between Novak Djokovic, Daniil Medvedev and himself.

Germany's Zverev beat Djokovic en route to gold at the Tokyo Olympics and then ended the year by winning the ATP Finals title for the second time.

Djokovic won three of the year's Grand Slam titles but his old rivals Rafa Nadal and Roger Federer failed to add to their collections with the trio tied on 20 majors each. World number two



Medvedev beat Djokovic in the U.S. Open final while Zverev also reached two Grand Slam semis this year.

Heading into the new season Federer, 40, is still recovering from knee surgery while Nadal, 35, is in the early stages of his comeback from a foot injury.

"I think next year could be very similar to the last six months from this year," Zverev, named German Sportsman of the Year this week, told Eurosport Germany's Das Gelbe vom Ball podcast.

"Before, there used to be always talk about Nadal, Federer and Djokovic -- now the big titles were the Olympics, U.S. Open, Turin (ATP Finals) and Wimbledon, and they were all won by Medvedev, Djokovic and me. I don't expect it to be any different next year."

Zverev ended the year ranked three and believes the number one spot is a viable target.

"I know I'm not far away from it, but for that I also have to win tournaments and Grand Slams," he said.

Theoretically, the 24-year-old Zverev could become number one if he wins the Australian Open and Djokovic misses the tournament because of its COVID-19 vaccine stance.

"The situation with Novak and Australia is still a big question mark," he said. "Of course, I hope that he will be allowed to play, that's very clear."

"There are thousands of mathematical calculations, if he doesn't play Australia and I win the Australian Open, then I'm number one in the world and so on and so forth."



Run-machine Labuschagne climbs the summit

REUTERS, Sydney



Australia run-machine Marnus Labuschagne has displaced England captain Joe Root to claim the world's number one Test batter spot following a run of big scores in the ongoing Ashes series at home, the International Cricket Council said on Wednesday.

South Africa-born Labuschagne scored his sixth Test century and followed it up with a 51 in the second test in Adelaide to help Australia take a 2-0 lead in the five-match series against their arch-rivals.

Root managed to score a half-century in each of the first two tests and dropped to second in the list of test batters.

Having narrowly lost out to New Zealand for a spot in this year's inaugural World Test Championship final, Labuschagne said Australia's eyes are not trained on just winning the Ashes.

"Regardless of if we win the next one, our goal is to win every single test match this summer," he told reporters. "For us, that is what the test championship has brought in."

"Not just about winning this series, you're playing for something bigger than that as well." Labuschagne's first four Tests for Australia came when the side were without banned duo of David Warner and Steve Smith.

After making his debut three years back against Pakistan, Labuschagne lost his place in the side and only returned as a concussion substitute for Smith in the 2019 Ashes series in England.

The 27-year-old, who started the ongoing series ranked fourth, scored 74 in the hosts' opening win in Brisbane and his average of 62.14 is second only to Don Bradman's legendary mark of 99.94 among those who have batted in 20 innings or more.



MILAN UNVEILS 'THE CATHEDRAL'

A new stadium inspired by the design of Milan's Duomo cathedral will become the new home of AC Milan and Inter Milan, replacing the 95-year-old Stadio Giuseppe Meazza. 'The Cathedral' was unveiled on Tuesday and will be run by Populous, the architecture firm behind London soccer grounds such as Wembley Stadium, Arsenal's Emirates Stadium and the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium. A final project is expected to be presented in 2022 and the new ground is expected to have a capacity of around 65,000, a reduction from the current 80,000-seater arena which is also known as San Siro.

PHOTO: TWITTER

Tender Notice www.midlandbankbd.net

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from reputed companies for following works:

Name of the Works	Available Tender Schedule		Submission & opening Date
	From	To	
Acquisition of ISO/IEC 27001:2013 Certification	23.12.2021	05.01.2022	20.01.2022
Procurement of ATM Machine	23.12.2021	05.01.2022	09.01.2022

Interested companies may collect tender schedule/s by submitting an application addressing the undersigned from General Services Division during office hour (10.00 am to 6.00 pm) on payment of Tk. 2,000.00 for each Schedule in the form of payment order (non-refundable) favoring "Midland Bank Limited" as per above mentioned schedules. Each tender must be submitted in the sealed envelope mentioning the name of work on top of the envelope within 3.00 PM on the above mentioned submission date and will be opened at 3.30 PM on the same date. MDB reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

Head of General Services Division
Head Office (annex), General Services Division, Zahed Plaza (7th Floor), 30 North Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan 2, Dhaka 1212.
*Terms & Conditions Apply

Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources
Power Division
Power Cell

Biddiyut Bhaban (Level 14), 1, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka 1000, Bangladesh
(www.powerdivision.gov.bd, www.powercell.gov.bd)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR CONSULTING SERVICES FOR CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY WITH RECOMMENDATION OF QUALITY POWER SUPPLY INCLUDING SAIDI/SAIFI (Package No. S-12)

No. 27.71.0000.003.03.002.21-1051

Dated: December 21, 2021

- Electricity plays pivotal role for the socio-economic development of a country. Government's vision is to provide quality electricity in cost-effective and affordable manner as well as ensure reliable electricity for all. Many good initiatives are taken in power sector, yet sometimes, consumers may face interruption of power due to network constraint. Although customer service improved significantly, still it requires further improvement to fulfill customer expectation. Major expectations of customer are minimum interruption, quick service restoration, easy bill payment, complaint lodge and settlement and other service assistance. So, it's essential to carry out public perception survey on Customer Satisfaction.
- The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a fund from the International Development Agency and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payment under the contracts for appointment of consultant for "Consulting Services for Customer Satisfaction Survey with Recommendation of Quality Power Supply including SAIDI/SAIFI". Power Cell, therefore, intends to appoint a nationally reputed consultancy firm to accomplish the mentioned services by using World Bank fund under "TA for Strengthening and Development of Sustainable Power Sector in Bangladesh" project of Power Cell, Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resource.
- Interested consulting firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. The short-listing criteria are:
 - General experience
 - Experience of the firm in similar task
 - Experience of the firm in power sector
 - Resources, key experts & support services of the firm
- A consulting firm is allowed to submit the Expression of Interest (EOI) alone if it considers itself to be fully qualified on its own for the assignment, as it is not mandatory for consultants to associate with any other firm(s). Alternatively, if consultants themselves choose to associate to enhance their qualifications and capability for the assignment, then such associations may either be as a Joint Venture (i.e. all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally responsible) and/or Sub-consultants (i.e. the Consultant will be responsible, including for the services of the sub-consultant). In case of an association, the Consultants must explain in the EOI submission (a) the rationale for forming the association and (b) the anticipated role and relevant qualifications of each member of the Joint Venture and/or of each sub-consultant for carrying out the assignment, to justify the proposed inclusion of the JV members and/or sub-consultants in the association. Failure to provide the above explanation in the Expression of Interest may risk the association not being shortlisted for the assignment. However, the qualifications/experience of sub-consultants will not be considered by Power Cell in the evaluation of Expressions of Interest for Shortlisting purposes.
- Consultants are requested to submit the following supporting documents against the above mentioned criteria: (a) The Firm's Incorporation/Trade/registration documents from the country of the firm; (b) JV agreement/letter of intent (if applicable); (c) Firm's brochure; (d) Description of similar consultancy contracts, including the scope, contract amount, name of Client, period of the contract (date of contract signing to date of completion), location/country of the services, etc.; (e) Service experience record; (f) Short Biography of Key Professional; (g) Company's Income Tax certificate/Income Tax registration certificate
- Detail Scope of Work will be available in the Terms of Reference (TOR) which can be downloaded from the website of Power Cell (www.powercell.gov.bd) and CPTU website from the date of publication of EOI.
- Applicants are requested to submit their EOI (02 hard copies) to the above mentioned address within the submission deadline of **January 20, 2022, 17:00 Hrs (BST)**. Any submission received after the confirmed submission date will not be accepted.

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UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA: Applications in prescribed form, obtainable from the office of the Registrar, are invited from the Bangladeshi nationals for appointment of one (01) permanent post of Lecturer in the Department of International Business, University of Dhaka in the Pay Scale of Tk. 22,000-53,060/- (National Pay Scale 2015).

QUALIFICATIONS FOR LECTURER:

Candidates must have Honours and Master's degrees in International Business from any reputed university. Candidates must have at least first class or CGPA 3.75 out of 4.00 in both Honours and Master's degrees and must have first division or GPA 4.25 out of 5.00 in both S.S.C & H.S.C Examinations. Other qualifications being equal preference may be given to those who have a higher degree. One of the approved condition of S.S.C or H.S.C Examination may be relaxed to those who obtained first position/achieved highest CGPA in Honours or Masters degree. Eight copies of application together with attested copies of certificates, mark-sheets/grade sheets and testimonials proof of experience along with a Pay Order/Bank Draft of the value of Tk. 750/- (seven hundred fifty) only payable to the Registrar, should reach him on or before 17/01/2022. Candidates already in service must apply through proper channel.

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