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"All of this is part of a much bigger picture. The bigger picture is obviously the World Cup, the Asia Cup. We cannot wish for better preparation for that than a series against Afghanistan. They are a very good one-day team," he said. "With regards to pressure on us, pressure only comes from one side. It comes from the media and the supporters, not from us. So, it's up to you how much pressure you want to put us on," said the South African.

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The coach felt that if this young team is given enough exposure and provided a permanent home for training and tournaments, they can not only win a medal in SA Games but also bring more glory for the country.

*In the second and final part of an exclusive interview with **The Daily Star's Mazhar Uddin**, Bangladesh head coach Chandika Hathurusingha talked about the thought process behind approaching any particular opponent, the Tigers' chances in the upcoming major events and the change in mentality of the team as a unit among other topics. The excerpts of the interview are as follows:*

**CH:** I think we are in such a position that if we can play our best cricket, we can do something special. I know the rankings do not lie and we are ranked number eighth [seventh

**CH:** Fans always have expectations. That's why they are fans. I want them to have hope because we want them to support our team. In 2015, I think we played beyond our capabilities. We beat England [to reach the quarterfinal] and we had some good momentum. We played well in the Champions Trophy [in 2017] – reaching the semifinal by beating New Zealand in foreign conditions. At that time, we believed that we could go a step further. We nearly beat India in 2016 [T20 World Cup]. This time, the tournament is very different because we play every team and have nine games. So you can't have an off day. So, it will be a tough challenge. We might be given the favourites' tag considering that



PHOTO: BFF

**ANISUR RAHMAN** *from Bengaluru*

Cabrera was uninterested in looking back to the past, which he

When Cabrera was reminded that Bangladesh had fallen apart in crunch situations in the past five campaigns, he replied: "I think pressure applies to both sides because I don't think Maldives will come looking for one point since

After the completion of the final preparations, Cabrera called on team manager Amer Khan, team leader Shawakat Ali Khan Jahangir and team attendant Mohammad Mohsin to bring everyone together and form a circle in the middle of the field. Once the short briefing was finished, loud screams were heard from the players. They will be hoping to make some noise once again after the 'final'.

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Ansar finished on top of the medals tally with five gold and one silver medal, followed by BKSP who won three gold, two silver and one bronze medal. Police finished third with one gold, one silver and three bronze medals.



in sports as well. Whenever in pressure situations, players follow their instinct. And that's where the structure and the game plan become important. That's what I am trying

**CH:** I think the board has already put Liton in charge of some games while Shanto was the vice-captain. Miraz was also the vice-captain in some series. I don't think they

subcontinental conditions. They learn and get better on their 15th tour. [Having more away Test fixtures] It is something beyond our control, unfortunately.