

The squad is united and training hard. But we can't afford any more slips. I am positive that we can make up the lost ground. That's the direction we are working in, improving in defence, in pressure.

FC Barcelona coach Xavi



Abahani, MSC lose ground

SPORTS REPORTER

Both Mohammedan and Abahani lost ground on league leaders Bashundhara Kings with draws in their respective matches of the Bangladesh Premier League yesterday.

Mohammedan were held to a goalless draw by Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club at the Rafiq Uddin Bhuiyan Stadium in Mymensingh. Still in second position, Mohammedan now have 16 points from eight games and trail defending champions Kings by five points. Sheikh Jamal, on the other hand, are in fifth position with 10 points from eight matches.

Abahani, meanwhile, were held to a 2-2 draw by their Chittagong namesakes at the Sheikh Fazlul Haque Moni Stadium in Gopalganj.

Abahani, who were beaten in the Federation Cup by archrivals Mohammedan in the mid-week, took a 2-0 lead early in the game, thanks to a brace from Cornelius Stewart. The Vincentian forward opened the scoring from a spot-kick in the ninth minute before doubling the lead with a powerful shot in the 36th minute of the game.



Liverpool striker Darwin Nunez celebrates with teammates after opening the scoring against Brentford in their Premier League fixture at the Brentford Community Stadium yesterday. The All Reds eventually won the game 4-1 to extend their lead at the top of the table to five points.

PHOTO: REUTERS

'Bayern at fault for Kane's form dip'

AFP, Berlin

Bayern Munich coach Thomas Tuchel said Saturday his side needed to do more to bring an "unsatisfied" Harry Kane into games amid a dip in form.

Kane has not registered a shot on target for two matches, both of which Bayern lost.

Bayern, who travel to Bochum on Sunday, have not lost three matches in a row since 2015.

"It's unbelievable how well he can score in training and how he pushes on the team -- which is absolutely world-class -- and how little we have found him in games.

"I have seldom experienced such a difference in what a player has been able to bring on the pitch in training and on the pitch in actual games."

Tuchel said he has not given the experienced striker advice, saying "Harry doesn't need me. He can take care of himself."

"He knows what he's doing and he's not satisfied with the way he's been implemented in games and we're not satisfied with the way things have been going."

Kane has 24 league goals in 21 games so far this season, but drew blanks against Bayer Leverkusen and again at Lazio in the Champions League.

Tuchel on Saturday recognised the "gloomy" atmosphere around the team but said "we are all committed to turning things around".

Bayern, who have won the past 11 Bundesliga titles, sit five points behind Leverkusen with 13 games remaining this season.

SHORT CORNER

Records tumble as Aussie women crush SA

Australia thumped South Africa by an innings and 284 runs Saturday in the first-ever women's Test between the two countries. It was only South Africa's second Test match in a decade and captain Laura Wolvaardt admitted it had been a learning experience.

Klopp endorses Alonso as a new generation 'standout' coach

The former Liverpool and Real Madrid midfielder has been linked to the upcoming opening at Anfield after Klopp announced last month that he will step down at the end of season. Klopp praised Alonso's immediate but potent implementation of strategies despite only taking on the role in October 2022.

Potential Mbappe arrival excites Madrid fans

Paris Saint-Germain striker Kylian Mbappe seems to be edging towards a Real Madrid move, with excitement already building in the Spanish capital. Mbappe could still cross paths with record 14-time winners Madrid in this year's competition.

Inter warm up for Atletico clash with Salernitana thrashing

Inter Milan stretched their lead at the top of Serie A to 10 points on Friday after cruising past sorry Salernitana 4-0 ahead of their Champions League clash with Atletico Madrid.



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কেমিক্যালযুক্ত সুগন্ধি স্যানিটারি ন্যাপকিন থেকে
ইনফেকশন হতে পারে

