

BCB at sea on Shakib matter

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is waiting to find out the details regarding Shakib Al Hasan's recent test for suspect bowling action in Chennai.

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) sources had told this newspaper on Thursday that Bangladesh's ace all rounder failed the second test for suspect bowling action on December 21 in Chennai after failing the first one at Loughborough University in the UK.

It could be surmised that the board has gathered some of the details but the BCB could not clarify what Shakib was awaiting.

"We know some of the information but it's important to pool together all the information before relaying it [to the media]. We don't want to publish fragmented information. We hope to send out a press release quickly so that no one has doubts about his exact situation. Our media department is working on it," BCB director Nazmul Abedeen Fahim told reporters yesterday in Mirpur.

The big question is whether Shakib will be picked for the Champions Trophy next month solely as a batter.

"It's up to the selectors' consideration and they will see to it. If they have any questions they will be able to ask the board but mainly it's a matter for the selectors," Fahim said.

It was learned that BCB had given both Shakib and Tamim Iqbal's names for visa processing in relation to the Champions Trophy, to be held in a hybrid model in Pakistan and UAE, starting from February 19.

BCB sources believe that Shakib may be able to give another test, although it has to be in coordination with the ECB. Reports in the media suggest the all-rounder has given another test but nothing was confirmed by BCB.

Fahim maintained that Shakib is under consideration for the Champions Trophy but added that the result of the test can have a bearing on Shakib's selection.

"It's already been said that Shakib is there and he is under consideration. If there is any problem in the test, that could be another matter but if he is cleared, it's already been said that he is under consideration," he said.

BCB insiders say the media department has kept two separate media releases ready in anticipation of the outcome of Shakib's latest bowling test in Chennai.

But BCB had no stance regarding Shakib in the last two series. Even chief selector Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu said on Wednesday that they received no instructions regarding Shakib.

With three days left till the deadline for Champions Trophy squad submission on January 12, Shakib's selection for the tournament, which was already uncertain before tests for suspect action, looks even more difficult.



Sohan overcomes Adelaide regret in Sylhet

SAMSUL AREFIN KHAN from Sylhet

Rangpur Riders skipper Nurul Hasan Sohan pulled off a miraculous victory against Fortune Barishal yesterday when he singlehandedly chased down 26 runs in the last over, a feat that overwhelmed him with joy but also evoked the memory of a defeat in the 2022 T20 World Cup against India where he nearly got the team home from a similar situation but fell short.

During a rain-affected group-stage match against India in Adelaide, the Tigers required 20 runs in the last over with Sohan and Taskin at the middle. Sohan hit a six and a four in that over but could not get the team over the line, as they fell five runs short.

After winning the match, I started thinking about the game against India in the last T20 World Cup. We required 20 in the last



over. I was able to take 15 or 16 [14] runs. If I had hit a six in the last ball, we could have won [tied] the game," Sohan told reporters in Sylhet after his side clinched their sixth successive win in the meet.

On Thursday, Sohan was faced with an even tougher challenge in the last over against Kyle Mayers but this time the wicketkeeper-batter won the game for his side by smashing three fours and as many sixes to take 30 off the over – most ever in the 20th over in BPL history

– and clinched a thrilling victory. Sohan said that he started to believe that they could win the match after he hit the first ball of the 20th for a six.

"In the previous over, when Khushdil [Shah] smashed two sixes, he was telling me that a victory is quite possible. When Rabbi [Kamrul Islam] came to bat in the last over, he was telling me to play all of the six balls as he believed that if I get in a good position, I can get the runs. When the first ball went for six, I started believing that it could be done," Sohan said, terming this innings as one of the best of his career.

After the match, there was a heated exchange between Barishal captain Tamim Iqbal and Rangpur's Alex Hales. Sohan, who was seen trying to calm Tamim down, claimed he did not know what caused this altercation.

Burl 'really enjoying' having Taskin as teammate

SAMSUL AREFIN KHAN from Sylhet

Bangladesh pacer Taskin Ahmed emerged as a standout performer in international cricket in 2024, finishing as the joint third highest wicket-taker across all formats with 63 wickets in 30 matches alongside West Indies' pacer Alzarri Joseph, trailing behind only India's Jasprit Bumrah (86) and Sri Lanka's Wanindu Hasaranga (64).

Taskin's stellar form with the ball has carried over into the ongoing Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) as well as he has already taken 12 wickets in four matches – highest among bowlers so far – for Durbar Rajshahi, which included a record-breaking 7-19 against Dhaka Capitals during his side's second game in Dhaka on January 2.

Rajshahi's Zimbabwean all-rounder Ryan Burl was full of praises for Taskin and was glad to have him as his teammate for the first time.

"I'm really enjoying having Taskin on my team now. I mean he has bowled incredibly well in the last four games," Burl told The Daily Star

yesterday about Taskin, whom he previously faced as an opponent in international and franchise cricket, getting dismissed to the pacer once in four encounters while playing for the national side.



"It's not just about the last four games. He has had a really good 2024. I think he has been rewarded for it by making it in the Cricinfo [ODI] Team of the Year. Congrats to him. Like I said, it's nice to have him in my team," he added.

However, despite Taskin's brilliant performance, Rajshahi is struggling on the field as a unit, having lost three out of their four matches so far.

Burl, who has previously represented Sylhet Strikers and

Chittagong Challengers in the BPL, also has had a mixed campaign so far, making 84 runs in four innings which included a match winning unbeaten 55 off 33 balls against Dhaka. He also has one wicket to his name.

Burl, however, feels that it would be harsh to be too critical of the team so early in the tournament as they still have a good number of matches to go.

"We have played only four matches. So, it's difficult to be too critical of the bowlers. There are still eight games to go. A lot can happen in eight games," he said.

"I think we have been quite good in patches but we haven't been good for 20 overs. We probably have bowled seven or eight good overs and then few loose overs came up. We haven't quite gelled as a unit yet, especially in the bowling department. "But as I have said, it's still four games in the tournament. You got to give the guys a chance, you got to let them come to their own and get some rhythm," said Burl.

Young starlets Gavi and Lamine Yamal, returning after an ankle problem, fired Barcelona into the Spanish Super Cup final with a 2-0 win against Athletic Bilbao on Wednesday. Gavi put Barcelona ahead from close range after 17 minutes and teenage winger Yamal netted the second early after the break. Spanish playmaker Olmo was cleared to play again on a temporary basis before the game and will be allowed to feature for Barcelona in the Sunday's final.

PHOTO: AFP

"Actually, the players have not been used to the new system of playing the league and the Federation Cup simultaneously," explained Alfaz.

"Besides, we had to play three successive matches on December 4, 7, and 10, so players were under pressure and could not maintain consistency," he added.

Mohammedan have been on the top of the BPL table with 18 points, three more than second-placed Rahmatganj.



What to WATCH

T SPORTS

BPL

Rajshahi vs Khulna

Live from 2:00 pm

Sylhet vs Dhaka

Live from 7:00 pm

STAR SPORTS 2

Big Bash League

Hobart Hurricanes

vs Sydney

Thunders

Live from 2:15 pm

Bangladesh eye semis of inaugural Kho Kho WC

SPORTS REPORTER

Despite being three time runners-up of the Asian Kho Kho Championship, Bangladesh set their sights on the semifinals of the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup due to a lack of preparation and the competition's new rules.

The first ever Kho Kho World Cup (both men's and women's) is scheduled to get underway on January 13 at the Indira Gandhi Stadium, New Delhi, India with participants from six continents taking part in Kho Kho, an Asia-based sport.

Bangladesh men's team became runners-up in the first three editions in 1996, 2000, and 2023. Meanwhile, Bangladesh women's team won silver in the 2016 SA Games but had to stay content with a bronze medal in the 2019 SA Games.

Bangladesh men's team also grabbed silver medals in 2016 and 2019 SA Games. "Our initial target is to qualify for the semifinals



in both men's and women's events and then think of moving into the final because we have taken preparation on the ground instead of the designated mat on which the game will be played. Also, the players are not familiar with the new rules of the game," said Bangladesh Kho Kho Federation general secretary Fazlur Rahman Babul yesterday.

Coach Mir Kaiser Sadik Sajib said, "We want to produce good results in the first ever Kho Kho World Cup by restoring our past performance because we could not perform better in the last edition of the Asian Kho Kho Championship."

Former national player Sajib, however, mentioned he is not aware of the strengths of the opponents from outside Asia.

"We don't know much about the opponents outside Asia, so we can't predict anything at the moment," Sajib said.

Both men's and women's teams, comprising 18 members each, are scheduled to fly out for India on Saturday before starting their campaigns on January 14.



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
JASHORE WATER DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
BWDB, JASHORE

Corrigendum-1 of Tender Id No-1050706 & 1050451

Due to Unavoidable circumstances some changes have been made in BoQ for the following tender. All others terms & condition remain same.

Invitatio n Referen ce No	Tender ID	Package No & Description	Previous Tender/Pro posal Document Last Selling Date & Time	New Tender/Pro posal Document Last Selling Date & Time	Previous Tender/Pro posal Closing & Opening Date & Time	New Tender/Pro posal Closing & Opening Date & Time
T30- A/1009; Dated: 12.12. 2024	1050706	Package No- CSAWM-WDB- SWZ-WD-14/04 The River bank protective work at (A) Afra Ghat from km 0.000 to km 0.300 = 300.00 m. (B) Gobindo Mondir from km 0.077 to km 0.200 = 123.00 m. (C) Kali Mondir from km 0.00 to km 0.077 = 77.00m. (D) kalibari from km 0.00 to km 0.630 = 630.00m. (E) Sarderhat from km 0.00 to km 0.500 = 500.00m. Total 1630.00 m. in Chitra-Bhairab-Afra Sub- Project (Jashore Part) in C/W Climate Smart Agricultural & Water Management Project in district Jashore under Jashore WD Division, BWDB, Jashore during the FY of 2024-2025 & 2025-2026.	13-Jan- 2025 17:00 hrs	19-Jan- 2025 17:00 hrs	14-Jan- 2025 12:50 hrs	20-Jan- 2025 12:50 hrs
T30- A/1001; Dated: 12.12. 2024	1050451	Package No- CSAWM-WDB- SWZ-WD-14/05 Re-excavation of Amdanga Khal from 0.500 Km to 2.700 Km=2.200 Km and strengthening of Amdanga khal by protection works from km.000 to km 0.450 = 0.450 Km and Rehabilitation of 2Nos. Outlet at Km. 1.170 & Km. 1.330 of Amdanga khal in Chitra-Bhairab- Afra Sub- Project (Jashore Part) i/c with CSAWM Project (BWDB Part) under Jashore WD Division, BWDB, Jashore During the Year 2024-25 & 2025-26.	13-Jan- 2025 17:00 hrs	19-Jan- 2025 17:00 hrs	14-Jan- 2025 12:20 hrs	20-Jan- 2025 12:20 hrs

This is online tender, where only e-tenders will be accepted in National e-GP portal and no offline and hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-tender, registration in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank's branch up to Banking hours as stated in IFT. Further information and guideline are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help Pdesk (helpdesk@procure.gov.bd) (0176265528-31). (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>)