DHAKA FRIDAY OCTOBER 16, 2026, ASHWIN 31, 1433 BS

SPORT



"Where can Hamza go? I just don't know where Hamza's meant to go. I have to be super careful because maybe what I might want to say, I don't say.

Sheffield United coach **CHRIS WILDER** regarding Hamza Choudhury's sending off

Jahanara seeks return to national fold

SPORTS REPORTER

Jahanara Alam, who has been away from the country's cricket scene for a few years, has expressed her interest to the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) in returning to the national fold. The former Bangladesh women's team captain last played for the Tigresses during the three-match home T20I series against Ireland in 2024.

The 33-year-old pacer has taken 48 WODI wickets and 60 WT20I wickets since making her international debut in the 50-over format in 2011. In January last year, Jahanara informed the board that she wanted a break from the national team, citing mental health issues. Late last year, she came into the limelight after alleging sexual harassment by members of the team management.

The BCB took steps following an investigation by its independent inquiry committee.

BCB women's wing chairman Rafiqul Islam Babu confirmed that the pacer had communicated with the board about returning to the national team.

"Yes, she has communicated with us. But she will have to pass fitness tests as well," Rafiqul told The Daily Star.



"She has to come and play domestic tournaments before she can take the next steps. She has expressed interest in playing domestic cricket, but at the end of the day, selectors make the call on who makes the teams.

"There is a procedure to follow once someone has taken a break, but the time she played in the national team, she did well," Rafiqul added.

The BCB has several domestic tournaments coming up, but board sources said Jahanara would have to decide which tournament to participate in as she seeks to make her case for a return.

WHAT TO WATCH

T SPORTS
Bangladesh Football League
City Club vs Bashundhara Kings
Live from 2:45 pm

World Championship of Legends
Semfinal 1: England vs South Africa
Live from 5:30 pm

Semifinal 2: West Indies vs Australia
Live from 9:30 pm

LaLiga
Deportivo VS Levante
Live from 1:00 am (Saturday)

PHOTO: REAL MADRID/FACEBOOK

Real break Roma hearts

STAR SPORTS DESK

Jose Mourinho and Antonio Rudiger enjoyed a Roma reunion to remember as Real Madrid scored three goals in seven minutes late on to claim a thrilling 4-3 Champions League win yesterday.

Masters of late comebacks, Los Blancos were trailing 3-1 before Carlos Espi struck in the 83rd minute. From there, Endrick and former Roma defender Rudiger completely flipped the script at Stadio Olimpico as Mourinho got one over on his old club.

Marten de Roon gave the hosts the lead in the 20th minute before Kylian Mbappe struck back five minutes later to level the scores at the break.

Two Donyell Malen strikes in the space of six minutes early in the second half seemed to take the game away from the 15-time European champions but Real scored three goals in the final seven minutes, all stemming from corners, to turn the game on its head.

- Real Madrid have now won five European Cup/UCL games after trailing by 2+ goals, more than any other team.
- Los Blancos overturned a 2-goal deficit after the 82nd minute, the latest an away side has done so in the UCL (excluding extra time).
- Roma have lost consecutive major European games despite scoring 3+ goals (both 4-3 defeats, to Bologna and Real Madrid in 2026).
- At 27 years 298 days, Mbappe became the youngest to reach 100 UCL appearances, beating Lionel Messi's age of 28 years 84 days in 2015.
- Since his January 18 Roma debut, Donyell Malen has scored 23 goals across all competitions. Only Harry Kane (37) and Raphinha (24) have scored more in that time for a big-five European league club.

'Lucky' PSG thump City

AFP, *Manchester*

PSG boss Luis Enrique said the European champions rode their luck to beat Manchester City 4-2 and maintain a perfect start to their defence of the Champions League.

The visitors ran riot in the first half of City's first home game since being found guilty of breaking Premier League financial rules as they raced into a 3-0 lead.

Desire Doue, Ousmane Dembele and Vitinha were on target in a near flawless first 45 minutes by the French champions.

But City roared back after the break as Erling Haaland struck twice, while they also hit the woodwork twice and were denied by a brilliant goalline clearance by Nuno Mendes.

"We could have lost this match if they scored the chances that they created. The way they play, it's amazing.," said Luis Enrique.

Maghnes Akliouche briefly restored PSG's three-goal lead in the second half, while Ferran Torres also missed a late penalty for the visitors.

"We try to win every single match. We try to score. We don't stop if we score one or two goals," added Luis Enrique.

"It's very nice to feel that but I have to repeat, today we were lucky because in the second half we could have conceded more goals."

- PSG have scored 10 goals in the Champions League this season, the most by any side in the competition's first two matches of a campaign.
- Haaland has scored 38 Champions League goals for City, surpassing Sergio Aguero's 36 to become the club's top scorer in the competition.



Tigers back in tri-series business, with WC in mind

SAMSUL AREFIN KHAN

Bangladesh in recent years have had little opportunity of playing a tri-series, which brings a distinct challenge as teams get little time to adjust to conditions and devise plans for different opponents.

Since winning their maiden tri-nation title in Ireland in 2019, the Tigers have not played an ODI series. Their last tri-series came in the T20 format in 2022, when Pakistan beat hosts New Zealand in the final ahead of the T20 World Cup in Australia.

Bangladesh's upcoming campaign, beginning against Zimbabwe in Abu Dhabi on Saturday, offers a chance to sharpen their adaptability ahead of next year's ODI World Cup in South Africa.

- Bangladesh appeared in a tri-series for the first time in 1997 in Kenya involving the hosts and Zimbabwe. They lost all four matches to get knocked out before the final.

In this tournament, featuring a single round-robin format, Bangladesh will play Afghanistan on October 21 before the final on October 23, both fixtures taking place in Sharjah.

Chief selector Habibul Bashar sees the competition as an important step towards the marquee event, with every match between now and then carrying weight.

"Right now, our primary focus is the ODI World Cup... Whether it's a tri-series or a bilateral series, every match leading up to the World Cup is extremely important for us," Habibul told The Daily Star on Thursday.



"In terms of preparation, I think we are doing well. The 2019 tri-nation series is an inspiration. And this series is a good opportunity for us ahead of the Asia Cup and the World Cup. Winning a tri-nation series like this would give us a lot of confidence going into those tournaments."

MOSADDEK HOSSAIN, Bangladesh all-rounder

"Although we play fewer tri-nation series now, we have the Asia Cup coming up, so this acts as a valuable dress rehearsal.

"Nowadays, teams play each other frequently... Strategies mainly adapt based on pitch and weather conditions," he said.

Bangladesh, drawn in Group B, are scheduled to open their World Cup campaign against England in Namibia on October 8 before travelling to South Africa for the remainder of their group-stage fixtures, running from October 12-23, involving the likes of New Zealand, Sri Lanka, and co-hosts South Africa.

The former Bangladesh captain wants Bangladesh to play a similar tri-series in Namibia before the World Cup, arguing that exposure to the conditions could prove valuable in the opening phase of the tournament.

"I thought about it because we haven't played much in Namibia, though we have played in South Africa," Habibul said. "Namibia is slightly different from South Africa -- it has a higher altitude, and the pitches aren't quite as good as South Africa's.

"In this World Cup, we must perform right from the first match; if we drop behind early, making a comeback will be very difficult. Therefore, playing a tri-nation series in Namibia would benefit our World Cup preparation, though it depends on whether other boards agree to align. Since our opening World Cup match is against Namibia, starting on top is essential."

The Tigers' record in tri-series suggests that winning the tournament will be no simple task. They have claimed just one title in 13 attempts, while losing to Sri Lanka in the finals of 2009 and 2018.

There have, however, been landmark moments. Bangladesh's first-ever ODI victory came against Kenya in the Coca-Cola Triangular Series in India in 1998, while their famous win over Australia in Cardiff during the NatWest Series remains one of the most celebrated results in the country's history.

KHALEDA ZIA IHF NATIONS TROPHY

26-year wait nears end for women's handball

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will host a senior women's international handball tournament for the first time in 26 years when the Begum Khaleda Zia IHF Nations Trophy (Asia Zone – 2) begins at Shaheed Captain M Mansur Ali Handball Stadium on Sunday.

Since hosting the South Asian Women's Handball Championship in 2000, the country has staged several age-group international tournaments but no senior women's competition.

The four-team tournament, sanctioned by the International Handball Federation (IHF), will follow a round-robin format, with the top two teams contesting the final and the other two playing for third place.

Bangladesh Handball Federation (BHF) general secretary Salahuddin Ahmed said Afghanistan withdrew on Wednesday after the IHF declined to accept five Iranian players in their squad.

The hosts trained for three months under Spanish coach Ana Alonso Fragua, who focused on individual skills initially before shifting to team play.

"We trained under a foreign coach for the first time," Bangladesh captain Ismat Ara Nishi said, adding that she considers India as favourites. Bangladesh will face Nepal on October 18, India on October 19 and Maldives on October 20.

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

SME FOUNDATION

নং- ৩৬.১২.০০০০.০০০.০৩৫.১১.০০০১.২৬-১৫৫২ তারিখ: ১৫ অক্টোবর ২০২৬

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক

এসএমই ফাউন্ডেশন শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়ের অধীন একটি উদ্যোক্তা উন্নয়ন সংস্থা, যা কোম্পানী আইন-১৯৯৪ এর ২৮ ধারার আওতায় অলাভজনক প্রতিষ্ঠান হিসেবে ২০০৬ সালে প্রতিষ্ঠিত হয়। এসএমই ফাউন্ডেশন সারাদেশে নতুন উদ্যোক্তা তৈরিতে সহায়তা প্রদানসহ বিদ্যমান মাইক্রো, ক্ষুদ্র ও মাঝারি উদ্যোক্তাদের দক্ষতা ও সক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধিতে প্রশিক্ষণ প্রদান করে। এই ফাউন্ডেশন পণ্যের মানোন্নয়ন ও বহুমুখীকরণসহ স্থানীয় ও আন্তর্জাতিক বাজারে বিক্রয়-বিপণন, প্রান্তিক উদ্যোক্তাদের অনুকূলে সহজশর্তে ঋণ বিতরণ, এসএমই বিষয়ক গবেষণা ও নীতি সহায়তা প্রদান ইত্যাদি কর্মসূচি বাস্তবায়ন করছে।

এসএমই ফাউন্ডেশনের 'ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক' পদে চুক্তিভিত্তিতে নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে যোগ্য ও আগ্রহী প্রার্থীদের নিকট হতে আবেদন আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। প্রধান নির্বাহী হিসেবে ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক ফাউন্ডেশনের সংঘবিধি ও চাকুরী বিধিমালাসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট বিধি-বিধানের আলোকে কার্যসম্পাদন করবেন এবং কার্যাবলীর জন্য তিনি সরাসরি পরিচালক পর্ষদের নিকট দায়বদ্ধ থাকবেন।

শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা: অন্যূন দ্বিতীয় বিভাগ/শ্রেণিসহ মাস্টার্স বা সমমানের ডিগ্রি (অধিকতর উচ্চ ডিগ্রীধারী প্রার্থীদের অগ্রাধিকার প্রদান করা হবে)।

অভিজ্ঞতা: প্রাইভেট সেক্টর এবং এসএমই সেক্টরে কাজের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ প্রথম শ্রেণির নির্বাহী হিসেবে কমপক্ষে ১৫ (পনের) বছর চাকুরীর অভিজ্ঞতা। দারিদ্র্য বিমোচন, জনগণের জীবনযাত্রার মান ও আয় বৃদ্ধি, দেশজ উৎপাদন বৃদ্ধি, সরকারি ও বেসরকারি খাতে শিল্পায়নে তাঁর অবদানের বিষয় আবেদন পত্রে উল্লেখ করতে হবে। প্রার্থীর বাংলাদেশের এসএমই খাত সম্পর্কে গভীর ও বাস্তবভিত্তিক জ্ঞান থাকতে হবে, যার মধ্যে রয়েছে খাতের কাঠামো, প্রধান চ্যালেঞ্জ এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট নীতি ও আর্থিক ব্যবস্থা।

বয়স: বয়সসীমা ন্যূনতম ৪৫ বছর (২৯ অক্টোবর ২০২৬ তারিখ অনুযায়ী)। **শিল্পায়ন এবং/অথবা এসএমই উন্নয়নে বিশেষ যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন প্রার্থীর ক্ষেত্রে শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা, অভিজ্ঞতা ও বয়স পরিচালক পর্ষদ শিথিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।**

বেতন: বেতন আলোচনা সাপেক্ষ।

প্রাথমিকভাবে চুক্তির মেয়াদ হবে ০৩ (তিন) বছর। চাকুরিকাল ০৬ (ছয়) মাস সম্পূর্ণ হওয়ার পর কার্যক্রম মূল্যায়নের ভিত্তিতে অবশিষ্ট সময়ের জন্য নিয়োগ চূড়ান্ত অনুমোদন (Confirm) করা হবে। পরবর্তীতে পর্ষদের সিদ্ধান্ত অনুযায়ী চুক্তির মেয়াদ বৃদ্ধি করা যেতে পারে।

চাকুরিরত প্রার্থীগণকে উপযুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে। আবেদন পত্রের সাথে সদ্য তোলা ০২ কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজ ছবি, অভিজ্ঞতা সনদ, জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র, সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সত্যায়িত কপি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে। অসম্পূর্ণ আবেদনপত্র সরাসরি বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।

আবেদনের সময়সীমা: আগামী ২৯ অক্টোবর ২০২৬ বিকাল ৪:০০ টার মধ্যে চেয়ারপার্সন, এসএমই ফাউন্ডেশন, পর্যটন ভবন (লেভেল ৬ ও ৭), ই-৫ সি/১, আগারগাঁও, ঢাকা- ১২০৭ বরাবর আবেদনপত্র ডাকযোগে/সরাসরি প্রেরণ করতে হবে।

বিশেষ দ্রষ্টব্য: ইতোপূর্বে প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞপ্তির পরিপ্রেক্ষিতে যাঁরা আবেদন করেছেন, তাঁদের পুনরায় আবেদন করার প্রয়োজন নেই।

মোঃ নাজিম হাসান সাত্তার
ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক (অঃ দাঃ)

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