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Photos International Olympic Committee

INVESTIGATIONS

Indonesia

Anti-Mafia Team Arrests PSSI Member in Match Fixing Allegation

TEMPO.CO, Jakarta - The anti-mafia task force arrested an executive member of the Football Association of Indonesia (PSSI) Johar Lin Eng today, December 27, at the Halim Perdanakusuma Airport in terms of a match-fixing scandal. Indonesian National Police headquarters' public relations Head Brig. Gen. Dedi Prasetyo said that witness testimonies and a number of evidentiary items have incriminated Johar in the nation's match-fixing scandal.

"Johar's name arose several times in a number of witness testimonies, evidentiary items, and Police analysis," said Dedi Prasetyo. Police are set to conduct intensive interrogation against Johar Lin Eng. PSSI member Johar Lin Eng was arrested by the anti-mafia task force after landing at the Halim Perdanakusuma airport around 09:55 Western Indonesia Time (WIB).

Source: Translator: Ricky Mohammad Nugraha & Editor: Laila Afifa, 27 December 2018, Tempo.co

Football

<https://en.tempo.co/read/1159387/anti-mafia-team-arrests-pssi-member-in-match-fixing-allegation/full&view=ok>

Indonesia

Sports Ministry Secretary to be Probed over Match-fixing Scandal

TEMPO.CO, Jakarta - Gatot S. Dewa Broto, secretary of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, will appear before the police. He was summoned by the Police Criminal Investigation Agency (Bareskrim) to provide testimonies regarding the alleged practice of football match-fixing. Gatot said on December 26 that he would come to the police station.

Allegations of match-fixing in football surfaced after a statement by Madura FC Manager, Januar Herwanto. Januar claimed he was offered money by the Indonesian Football Association (Exco) executive committee member, Hidayat, if his team would lose to PSS Sleman during a League 2 match.

Following the report, Hidayat stepped down from his position in PSSI. The PSSI's Komisi Disiplin banned Hidayat from engaging in any football-related activities for three years. He was also ordered to pay a fine of Rp150mn and prohibited from entering any football stadium for two years.

The police also plan to question PSSI secretary general Ratu Tisha Destria over allegations of match fixing on Dec. 21, 2018. Four other people are also asked to appear to the police station: Januar Herwanto; PT Liga Indonesia Baru president director Berlington Siahaan, the Indonesian Sports Professionals Agency (BOPI) chairman Richard Sambera, and BOPI secretary general Andreas Marbun. Ratu Tisha failed to turn up.

The Police Headquarters' spokesman, Grid. Gen. Dedi Prasetyo, said the five people are suspected to have knowledge about the alleged football match-fixing practices. According to Dedi, investigators have also scheduled to question seven other people from Dec. 26 to 28.

Source: 26 December 2018, Tempo.co

Football

<https://en.tempo.co/read/1158906/sports-ministry-secretary-to-be-probed-over-match-fixing-scandal/full&view=ok>

SENTENCES/SANCTIONS

Indonesia

PSSI bans Indonesian club for match fixing

Indonesia's football governing body PSSI have banned second-tier club PS Mojokerto Putra from the domestic league ahead of the 2019 season.

The club was found guilty of fixing three matches – both their encounters against Kalteng Putra (3rd and 9th November) and against Gresik United (29th November). Moreover, their striker Krisna Adi Darma has been handed a lifetime ban from the sport as he was found guilty of intentionally missing a penalty against Aceh United (19th November).

This ban means that Mojokerto Putra will not be a part of the 2019 season of Indonesia Liga 2 and the Piala Indonesia. The club scored a staggering 14 goals from the penalty spot in 10 matches last season and were even given the nickname 'The King of Penalties'.

"We are also preparing an Ad Hoc team for integrity synergy. This committee is formed for special tasks and in special periods. Beginning in January 2019, PSSI will plan a meeting with the Indonesian National Police which also invites FIFA to discuss strategic steps," PSSI Secretary General, Ratu Tisha Destria said.

Source: 25 December 2018, Fox Sports Asia

Football

<https://www.foxsportsasia.com/football/asian-football/1005057/pssi-bans-indonesia-club-for-match-fixing/>

LEGISLATION

India

Congress MP Tharoor Introduces Sports Betting Bill In India

Dr. Shashi Tharoor, a senior Congress MP has introduced the Sports (Online Gaming & Prevention of Fraud) Bill, 2018 to the Lok Sabha. The bill will look to legalize sports gambling across the Indian market and also ensure that the integrity of sports is maintained within the newly regulated market.

The Bill focuses mainly on two key issues. The Bill wants a special gaming 7 member gaming commission to be formed who will be responsible for governing the online sports gaming market. The second part of the Bill looks at maintaining the integrity of sports and now allowing any sporting event or match to be compromised to due to match fixing or any other form of sports fraud.

The Online Sports Gaming Commission's job will be to license and regulate all online sports gambling in the country. It will also work with law enforcement to crack down on illegal sports betting operations and to determine whether any sports fraud is happening at various sporting events.

According to the Bill, online sports gaming is defined as placing a bet on the whole or partial outcome of a game via a telecommunication device. This includes mobile devices like smartphones to desktop computers. This will be massive for India which has a population of over 1.3 billion who are very keen on their sports.

Under the Bill, the Online Sports Gaming Commission will be allowed to set rules and restrictions on any betting on sporting events. This is to help ensure that people will only wager on a match within a limited and safe framework. The potential restrictions that the commission can place include the banning of minors from playing, placing a maximum charge for betting fees, limiting access to credit for wagering.

The Bill will also allow the government to allow Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to online sports gambling websites. This can include tech collaborations to improve their performance and revenue. This can be a big help to modernize and expand their sports betting operations.

MP Tharoor has been a controversial figure but believes that it is time for India to move forward with sports betting. The Bill will only become a law if he can get the necessary support from the Parliament but that can be tough given the fact that the Congress is not the ruling party and just about every form of gambling is frowned upon by ruling BJP government.

Source: 31 December 2018, Legal Gambling and the Law

<https://www.legalgamblingandthelaw.com/news/congress-mp-shashi-tharoor-introduces-sports-betting-bill-in-india/>



DOPING

Russia

Wada athletes body adds to pressure for new ban on Russia

The World Anti-Doping Agency has been warned by its own athlete committee that if it does not ban Russia again it will have failed clean athletes.

Wada was left with egg on its face after the Russian authorities allowed a 31 December deadline to hand over doping data from its Moscow lab to lapse – the key condition of a controversial deal to lift the three-year suspension on the Russian Anti-Doping Agency in September.

To make matters worse for Wada, its president, Sir Craig Reedie, had offered a “100%” guarantee the Russians would comply in November.

Wada’s compliance review committee will now meet on 14 January to make a recommendation to Wada’s executive committee on how to proceed but Wada’s athlete committee said the only option is for Russia to be suspended again.

“We are extremely disappointed that the Dec 31 deadline imposed on Russia by Wada has not been adhered to by the Russian authorities,” the committee said in a statement. “We now expect that following the process recommended by the CRC that Russia will be declared non-compliant. Only this action will be suitable and appropriate in the view of the athletes. Anything less will be considered a failure by Wada to act on behalf of clean athletes.”

Wada also faced mounting pressure from national anti-doping organisations, including from the United States and Germany, who called for an immediate review and recommendation from the CRC.

“We recognise Rusada has been working with Wada in an effort to resolve these issues, but the conditions ... were unequivocal and without data there can be only one outcome,” Nado leaders said in a statement. “The importance of this situation does not warrant providing a further two weeks for Russia to comply.”

“Uninhibited access to the Moscow laboratory and the athletes data was the first condition of Wada’s reinstatement of Rusada in September 2018,” a statement said. “At the same time the process to be followed once the 31 December deadline passed was set out.

“The CRC must now complete its work and Ukad keenly awaits its recommendation to Wada’s executive committee.”

Source: 7 January 2019, the Guardian

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2019/jan/02/wada-athletes-pressure-new-ban-russia-doping>



Ukraine

Five weightlifters suspended after London 2012 retests

(Reuters) - Five weightlifters, including two Olympic champions, have been provisionally suspended after retests of their samples from the 2012 London Olympics came back positive for doping, the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) said.

Ukraine's Oleksiy Torokhtiy could now be stripped of the Olympic title he won in the 105-kg category in London while Azerbaijan's Bulgaria-born Valentin Hristov could lose his bronze medal from the 56-kg category.

"The International Olympic Committee is responsible to decide about any consequences relating to the athletes' participation in the 2012 London Olympic Games," the IWF said.

"In all cases where it is determined that an Anti-Doping Rule Violation was committed, the responsibility to conduct results management will be transferred to the IWF in terms of consequences extending beyond the athletes' Olympic Games participation."

Uzbekistan's Ruslan Nurudinov, who came fourth in the 105kg in London, Armenia's Melanie Daluzyan and Belarus's Mikalai Novikau were also suspended after the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) re-analysis discovered adverse analytical findings, the IWF said in a statement.

Nurudinov won the Olympic title in Rio in 2016 as well as the world title in Poland in 2013 and the gold medal at the Asian Games in Jakarta this year.

Weightlifting, which featured at the first modern Olympics in 1896, is under fire over widespread doping offences and the IOC has threatened to remove it from the Paris 2024 Games if it fails to improve its record. The sport remains on probation.

The IWF has adopted a tougher anti-doping policy this year under which repeat-offender nations can be banned outright from the Olympics.

Source: 25 December 2018, Reuters

Weightlifting

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-weightlifting-doping/five-weightlifters-suspended-after-london-2012-retests-idUSKCN1OM0GT>



GOOD PRACTICES

Sri Lanka

ICC says SLC worse than Zimbabwe Cricket in sports corruption – Sports Minister

Sri Lanka has been ranked as one of the top countries where sports corruption thrives by the International Cricket Council (ICC) and in an effort to curb it the ICC has decided to set up a permanent Anti-Corruption Unit office in Sri Lanka, stated Sports Minister Harin Fernando at a media conference held at the Sports Ministry yesterday.

“The ACU office once established will probe into corruption allegations in Sri Lankan Cricket. The government of Sri Lanka shall assist the ICC in establishing this office,” said the Minister. “He also said that 50% of their accommodation cost will be covered by the government of Sri Lanka.”

Speaking further Minister Fernando said, “We met Alex Marshal, Head of the ICC Anti-Corruption Unit. Unfortunately, Sri Lanka has been ranked as one of the top worst countries where sports corruption thrives. This is nothing to be proud of. The ACU also informed me that even the mafia is involved in Sri Lanka Cricket corruptions.

Minister Fernando also revealed that the ICC Anti-Corruption Unit has handed over a report on corruption in Sri Lanka cricket which he said cannot yet be publicized as it may affect the ongoing investigations which are still underway.

“They mentioned to me that even Zimbabwe Cricket is not corrupt as much as Sri Lankan Cricket. According to the ICC, Zimbabwe’s administration was better, but Sri Lanka Cricket is corrupt from top to bottom,” Minister Fernando said.

“Most importantly, the ICC will be giving an amnesty period for all the members of the Sri Lankan cricket team to come before them and provide any relevant information on corruptions which are taking place in Sri Lankan Cricket. The specific time period will be soon declared,” the Minister said quoting the ICC.

“There is a code of conduct for the ICC. It is the ICC that pays these cricketers’ remunerations. One might wonder why we are getting the ICC so much involved in Sri Lanka Cricket.

Most of the funding received by SLC is from the ICC. It is their money that is being misused. So they have the right to get involved. The ICC has the power to take strict action against any corruption that has taken place in Sri Lanka Cricket,” he further said.

Minister Fernando also stated that an evaluation process will be initiated when renewing the contracts with Sri Lanka Cricket. He pointed out that some persons who have got these contracts signed are receiving large amounts of money as their payments. He said that he has requested them to justify their service for Sri Lanka Cricket.

MATCH-FIXING TO BE INCORPORATED INTO SPORTS LAW

The government is planning to incorporate in the Sports Law a law to prevent match fixing. Minister Fernando said that it will be done within the next two months.

“Advice has been sought presently from the Attorney General’s Department on the matter and the policies with regards to the new changes in the Sports Law which will be sent to the Legal Draftsman’s Department soon. After the proposed Sports Law is drafted, I will be presenting it to Parliament,” Minister Fernando said.

“This law is for all the sports in the country, not just for Sri Lanka Cricket,” he said.

Minister Fernando also said that several senior cricket personalities such as Sidath Wettimuny, Mahela Jayawardene and Kumar

Sangakkara have come forward to revive Sri Lanka cricket and one of their main demands is to establish a strong Sports Law in the country so that the culprits involved in sports corruption could be brought to book.

“At present, we have no proper law on sports corruption. So we need to strengthen the Sports Law in the country before trying to end corruption in sports. I am a politician. So my job is to provide facilitation for those people who know cricket well, to carry out this process. I will allow them to work which they think is correct, and I will give my fullest support to them to bring Sri Lanka cricket back on its feet,” the Minister added.

Source: 1 January 2019, Daily News

<http://www.dailynews.lk/2019/01/01/sports/172808/icc-says-slc-worse-zimbabwe-cricket-sports-corruption-%E2%80%93-sports-minister>

Zambia

Convicted former Zambia striker Nchimunya Mweetwa starts match-fixing foundation

The former Zambia forward received a suspended jail sentence in Finland and handed a two-year worldwide ban by Fifa in 2012

Former Zambia and Rovaniemi Palloseura (RoPs) forward Nchimunya Mweetwa has established a foundation to discourage football players from involving themselves in match-fixing.

The Nchimunya Mweetwa Sports Foundation was created by the ex-striker, who was tried, convicted and given a suspended jail sentence by a Finnish court for match-fixing after appeal.

Fifa also came in to hand him a two-year ban and five other Zambia players after the conviction, ending his football career despite trying to resurrect the same in his home country, Uganda and Botswana.

Source: 4 January 2019, Goal.com

Football

<https://www.goal.com/en-tza/news/convicted-former-zambia-striker-nchimunya-mweetwa-starts/1qxfw3ignm0oz1vbics6vpug28>

