



His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of the General Sports Authority and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee, during a meeting with Mohammed Ali Al Qaed, CEO of the Information and eGovernment Authority. The meeting was also attended by HH Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Deputy President of the General Sports Authority, and Dr Abdulrahman Sadiq Askar, CEO of the General Sports Authority. HH Shaikh Khalid and Al Qaed discussed a number of issues related to the Authority's projects to enhance support and electronic link policies in the implementation of administrative procedures

Can't take India lightly in home conditions, says Williamson

AFP | New Delhi

New Zealand will not start as favourites despite facing an Indian team missing several key players, skipper Kane Williamson said yesterday, as the world's two top-ranked teams geared up for a spin battle in their first Test.

Hosts India have rested skipper Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Rishabh Pant, Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Shami while opener KL Rahul was ruled out of the two-Test series on Tuesday after a leg injury.

New Zealand are the number one Test side and reigning World Test champions but are still wary of the hosts, who have often proved formidable in home conditions.

"I don't think we are favour-



Kane Williamson

ites," Williamson said on the eve of the first Test in Kanpur.

"One of the key strengths of Indian cricket is its depth. India has great knowledge of their own conditions, we know the challenge is a big one."

Williamson led his side to an eight-wicket win against India at the World Test Championship (WTC) final in Southampton in June, which the hosts will be looking to avenge.

● Bahrainis drop to third in Group A with three points from three matches, play one final game on Sunday against Yemen

● Jordan, Lebanon currently lead Group B with three points apiece

TDT | Manama

Bahrain were held by Kuwait to a 1-1 draw last night in the second West Asian Football Federation (WAFF) U18 Boys Championship 2021, currently being played in the Iraqi city of Basra.

Team captain Mubarak Mohammed was on target for the nationals in the first half but they then conceded an equaliser with a quarter-hour remaining in regular time.

The stalemate was the first for the Bahrainis in three matches. They had previously beaten Palestine 2-1 before losing to hosts Iraqis 0-4.



Action from last night's match

Group A standings

	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Iraq	2	2	0	0	7	6
Kuwait	3	1	1	1	-1	4
Bahrain	3	1	1	1	-3	4
Palestine	2	1	0	1	1	3
Yemen	2	0	0	2	-4	0

They now play one final game in Group A on Sunday against Yemen.

Bahrain head coach Adel Al

Sayed Mahmood Almosawi, Ali Al Bouzaid, Abdulla Al Khalasi, Hashem Loay, Sayed Ali Hussain, Salem Al Dosari, Mustafa Mohammed and Abdulla Al Subaei.

Mohammed scored the match's opening goal with a wonder strike for Bahrain in the 45th minute. The talented youngster fired in a free-kick from more than 40 yards out. His powerful left-footed effort went straight to the top-right corner of the net, leaving the opposing goalkeeper no chance.

Mohammed's goal was enough to give the Bahrainis the slim lead heading into the half-time break.

In the 76th minute, however, the nationals handed the Kuwaitis a penalty after Fahad Al Azmi was brought down in the penalty area.

Al Azmi picked himself up and stepped forward to take the spot kick, scoring to the left of goal with the Bahraini keeper guessing the wrong way.

In yesterday's other Group A match, Palestine defeated Yemen 2-0 for their first win. The Yemenis suffered their second loss.

Ronaldo sends Man United into last 16, Chelsea thrash Juventus

AFP | London

Manchester United booked their place in the Champions League last 16 as Cristiano Ronaldo scored in a 2-0 victory at Villarreal on Tuesday, while holders Chelsea also reached the knockout phase by thumping Juventus.

Three-time European champions United went into their first game since sacking Ole Gunnar Solskjaer at the weekend needing a win to confirm a top-two finish in Group F.

But they were under massive pressure as defeat would have left their fate out of their own hands.

David de Gea made two crucial saves and United, with Michael Carrick in caretaker charge, took advantage through Ronaldo's 78th-minute lob.

Jadon Sancho, so often a peripheral figure since his big-money move from Borussia Dortmund in the close-season, capped a fine individual display with his first goal for the club late on.

"It's not an important result for me personally. It's an important one for the players and the club," said Carrick.



Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo, left, scores the opening goal



It's not an important result for me personally. It's an important one for the players and the club

MICHAEL CARRICK

son.

Chelsea's defenders were consistently a menace from set-pieces, and Thiago Silva saw a header saved by Wojciech Szczesny early in the second period.

It was a defender who doubled Chelsea's lead in the 56th minute.

England right-back Reece James hammered a fine volley into the bottom corner to net for the fifth time already this term.

Chelsea grabbed their third goal less than two minutes later, Ruben Loftus-Cheek prod-ding the ball to Hudson-Odoi, who smashed home from close range.

There was still time for Timo Werner, making his first appearance since an injury layoff, to come off the bench and score in added time.

"We did really well, it is so tough to score goals against Juventus and we created so much," said Tuchel. "Full credit for an amazing performance

140

Champions League goals have been scored by Cristiano Ronaldo in his career

and a fantastic result."

Zenit drew 1-1 with Malmo to secure a spot in the Europa League knockouts.

Barcelona stutter

Barcelona were held to a goalless draw by Benfica at the Camp Nou in Xavi's second game as coach, but remain above the Portuguese side in Group E.

However, the Catalan club will have to beat Bayern Munich in Germany in their final group game to be sure of making the next round.

Benfica host already-eliminated Dynamo Kiev in their last match, trailing Barca by two points.

Barcelona endured a nervy first half which saw Gavi waste the only clear opportunity, blazing over from close range when Memphis Depay was waiting in the middle for a tap-in.

Xavi's men improved after the interval, though, with Frenkie de Jong's header forcing Benfica keeper Odysseas Vlachodimos into a flying save.

But it was Benfica who almost took a huge step towards the last 16 deep into injury time, only for Haris Seferovic to shoot wide when he should have scored.

Setiabudi crashes out, Ebrahim advances at BKS badminton tournament



Adnan Ebrahim in action

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Series is the highest category event that is held on the island. The tournament is sanctioned by Badminton World Federation (BWF) which carries world ranking points and a total prize pool of USD 15,000

in all the five categories would be completed today, with Semifinals tomorrow and finals in all disciplines to be held on Saturday.

Ronaldo's goal was the 799th of his career, his 140th in the Champions League and his sixth in the competition this season.

The other qualification spot in the group remains up for grabs after Young Boys and Atalanta played out a thrilling 3-3 draw in Bern.

Late goals from Vincent Sierro and Silvan Hefti gave the Swiss champions a 3-2 lead, but Luis Muriel struck in the 88th

minute for the visitors.

Atalanta face a winner-takes-all match against Villarreal in Bergamo next month.

Chelsea thrash Juve

Chelsea romped into the last 16 and to the top of Group H with an impressive 4-0 thrashing of Juventus at Stamford Bridge.

Thomas Tuchel's men knew that qualification would be secured if they could avoid defeat or if Zenit Saint Petersburg failed to beat Malmo.

The Blues dominated the early stages and took the lead through young defender Trevoh Chalobah's third goal of the sea-

men's Singles winner Bob Setiabudi of Indonesia crashed out of Bahrain International Series in the first round, while Adnan Ebrahim advanced to the next round.

Setiabudi lost to Chan Yin Chak of Hong Kong and China (20-22, 18-21).

Bahrain Star and Arab Cup Men's Singles Winner Ebrahim beat Shreyansh Jaiswal of India in a thrilling three-game encounter (11-21, 21-19, 21-19).

First round and second round matches were progressing at the time closing.

All the quarterfinals match