

Dhaka, May 11: Three teams, who are supposed to participate in the AFC presidents cup's qualifying round, have arrived in Dhaka yesterday. Total four teams will fight in the group 'A' to qualify for the final round. "Dordoi Bishkek" from Kirgizstan, "Hasus NTCPE" from Chinese Taipei, Nepalese Champion "New Road Team" and "Abahani Limited" hosting the competition are participating here.

All of the teams had a practice session today afternoon to prepare themselves for the tournament kicking off tomorrow at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. Dordoi Bishkek's Russian coach Sergeys Dvoryankou, who have been working with the team for last three years said, "We have defeated Chinese Taipei 3-0 in 2008 in our only encounter with them but I don't have any idea about the teams we are going to fight." He thinks, Abahani will be their hardest rival as they are playing in the own condition. The Kirgiz outfit, which includes four national player and two Russian recruits is five times finalist and they won the title twice.

Former national coach of Nepal, Egombor Suwal is training the Kathmandu based team, is tensed about the hot and humid condition. He said, "We are preparing for this competition for last three months. We will play offensive and hope will get a good result." This side includes two national players and one Danish striker.

The other visiting team, Hasus NTCPE does not have any foreign player in their side and they had to leave five important players at home as they (the players) had to join military training which is mandatory for every male citizens of their country. This is their first appearance in this tournament but they are expecting a good result. "We have a very young side but we are a balanced team. We will give our best to get a good result" says the Taiwanese coach Chau-Jun-Jui. The NTCPE team has five national players in their twenty player side.

The host team Abahani Limited is the last two years domestic champion and they are the table topper this year also, have an advantage of playing in the home condition. Abahani's coach Amolash Sen said, "We did not get any extra time to practice for this tournament, so we have practiced the formation and techniques we will apply in AFC Presidents Cup in our Bangladesh League Matches." He thinks their toughest opponent will be the Kirgiz side.