

## Journalist slapped by Mohammedan Sporting's Nigerian player Okoro

Two days before football legend Diego Maradona visits the city, ugly scenes were witnessed during Mohammedan Sporting club's training session here Thursday, when Nigerian striker Mike Okoro assaulted a journalist for asking uncomfortable questions.

Okoro flared up after the journalist asked Sporting players Anit Ghosh and Madhab Das whether they would take part in the club's Federation Cup opener Friday against State Bank of Travancore.

Protesting against the club not clearing their dues, the Sporting players have raised the banner of revolt and did not train Thursday.

When the electronic media journalist put the poser before Das and Ghosh, they rushed towards him and Okoro came from behind to slap him in full view of a sizeable number of club fans who had turned up to watch their club's training session.

As the journalists, despite being taken aback by the unseemly conduct, protested, Okoro charged towards another scribe, but was held back by club officials.

However, Sporting fans, already cut up with the players for putting their monetary interests above club loyalty, reacted strongly and rushed at the footballers.

Sensing danger, some of the footballers fled the ground and were seen running to the safety of nearby roads.

The journalists also lodged a police complaint against Okoro at the Lake police station.

Later in the night, Sporting officials held a meeting and decided to take strong disciplinary action against Okoro and other players involved in the ugly incident.

'We will announce our decision after Maradona's visit to our city Sunday,' said a Sporting official.

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