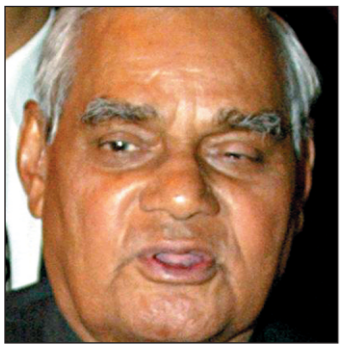


## Vajpayee pins ISI links to Dhaka



**PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi**  
 Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee yesterday claimed Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) was using "terrorists of Bangladesh and Nepal to pursue its anti-India agenda".  
 Vajpayee's remark at an internal security conference in New Delhi comes ahead of Bangladesh Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan's visit to India to talk the 'illegal immigrants' issue with External Affairs

Minister Yashwant Sinha.  
 Khan is scheduled to arrive on February 13 at the invitation of Sinha who visited Dhaka last August.  
 Late last year, Sinha told the parliament that the Pakistan high commission in Dhaka had become the "hub" of ISI activities, drawing sharp reaction from Bangladesh.  
 At yesterday's meeting, Vajpayee accused Pakistan of sponsoring, supporting and funding terrorism "as a matter of state policy".

"Pakistan has taken no significant action against training camps and infrastructural support to terrorism. This questions its claim to participate in international struggle against terrorism."  
 Assurances given by the leadership in Islamabad on the issue of cross-border terrorism have "remained unfulfilled", Vajpayee said.  
 "The Pakistani establishment does not appear to be interested in establishing tension-free and good neighbourly relations with India by

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

## Mashud full of hope

Tigers reach South Africa unnoticed



ICC Cricket World Cup SOUTH AFRICA 2003

**AL-AMIN, from Cape Town**  
 With the eyes of the media firmly fixed on big guns of international cricket, the Bangladesh team slipped into Cape Town virtually unnoticed on Friday evening.  
 And even though most of the local newspapers are devoting pages to the home team, yet Bangladesh captain Khaled Mashud believed his side would make an even bigger impact in the competition.  
 Fresh after a five-wicket win against KwaZulu-Natal in their last lead-up match at Kingsmead, the inspirational skipper said that it was a perfect launching pad ahead of their first World Cup match against Canada on February 11.  
 The victory against the strong provincial team known as 'Dolphins' was all the more surprising since pre-tournament favourites India lost to them the following day.  
 The 27-year-old wicketkeeper thought that the two-week conditioning camp in Namibia had helped tremendously to build up the players' confidence.  
 Mashud, who before leaving for South Africa dropped a bombshell by saying he intended to quit after World Cup, now believed that things had changed for the good.  
 "Namibia was a perfect prepara

PHOTO: STAR

South Africa's Jonty Rhodes (C) gets a hug from West Indian fast bowler Nixon McLean before a photo session on board Outeniqua, a navy ship, yesterday.

## India, Pakistan expel top diplomats

**AFP, New Delhi**  
 India and Pakistan indulged in a fresh round of tit-for-tat expulsions yesterday, ordering each other's top diplomats out within 48 hours as already hostile relations sank fur-

ther.  
 India first announced the expulsion of Pakistan's top envoy in New Delhi, Jali Abbas Jeelani, alleging that he had personally handed over cash destined for separatists in the Indian zone of divided Kashmir.

He and four other staff members at Pakistan's high commission in New Delhi were given 48 hours to leave. Their families have seven days.  
 Within hours, Pakistan expelled five officials from the Indian high commission in Islamabad including the acting head of the mission, Sudhir Vyas.

In statements, both countries' foreign ministries said the other's diplomats were involved in "activities incompatible with their status".  
 Indian officials charged that Jeelani on Thursday handed over to a Kashmiri woman \$6,250 destined for anti-Indian militants in the Himalayan province, which is bitterly disputed by the two countries.  
 The woman, Anjum Jamrud Habib, was arrested as she left the Pakistani compound here and booked under anti-terrorism legis

SEE PAGE 11 COL 8

## FM goes to New Delhi Feb 13

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan will hold talks with his Indian counterpart Yashwant Sinha on February 14 on an Indian move to deport "illegal immigrants".  
 Khan is scheduled to fly to New Delhi on February 13 at the invitation of Sinha who visited Dhaka last August.

The invitation came Wednesday night in the wake of a tense situation over the Indian push-in bids.  
 The talks will focus on other bilateral and regional issues, according to sources in the foreign ministry.  
 Khan will also meet with other Indian leaders on February 15 and return home the next day.  
 "We'll discuss bilateral and regional issues and the Middle East situation," Khan told newsmen at his ministry yesterday.  
 Dhaka-Delhi joint working groups need to be reactivated for

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

## Secret of Shaun

INTERNET, Cape Town

South Africa skipper Shaun Pollock says he and the team have a new secret weapon -- 'perosculating'.  
 Receiving the International Cricket Council's ceremonial rod as Test champions of the world, Pollock said the side hoped to "relieve" Australia -- the previous holder of the trophy -- of their Cricket

World Cup crown as well.  
 "Our aim now is also to take the World Cup from them and thus strip their trophy cupboard," Pollock said.  
 Pollock also revealed a new word his team created namely "perosculating".  
 "There is no such word," he explained when asked.  
 SEE PAGE 11 COL 6