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The Daily Star congratulates the Bangladesh cricket team for its victory.

## President, PM, Khaleda greet cricket team

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed has congratulated the Bangladesh cricket team for qualifying in the World Cup Cricket to be held in England in 1999, report agen-

"I am happy and I rejoice with the countrymen for the

brilliant performance of our players in the ICC Trophy," the President said in a message yes-"Manager, coach, captain, players and other concerned officials of the team deserve spe-

cial recognition for their devoted endeavour," he said. "We all, including myself, my colleagues in the cabinet and members of parliament and the whole nation, express gratitude to you for upholding a bright image of Bangladesh in the cricket world through en-See Page 12 Col 1

### -- Inside Today --

# Article

South Asian **Growth Quad**rangle: Ties of a **Gordian Knot?** 

Column: Currents and Crosscurrents by M M Rezaul Karim Page 4

#### International

Suu Kyi appeals for Int'l action to protect NLD members

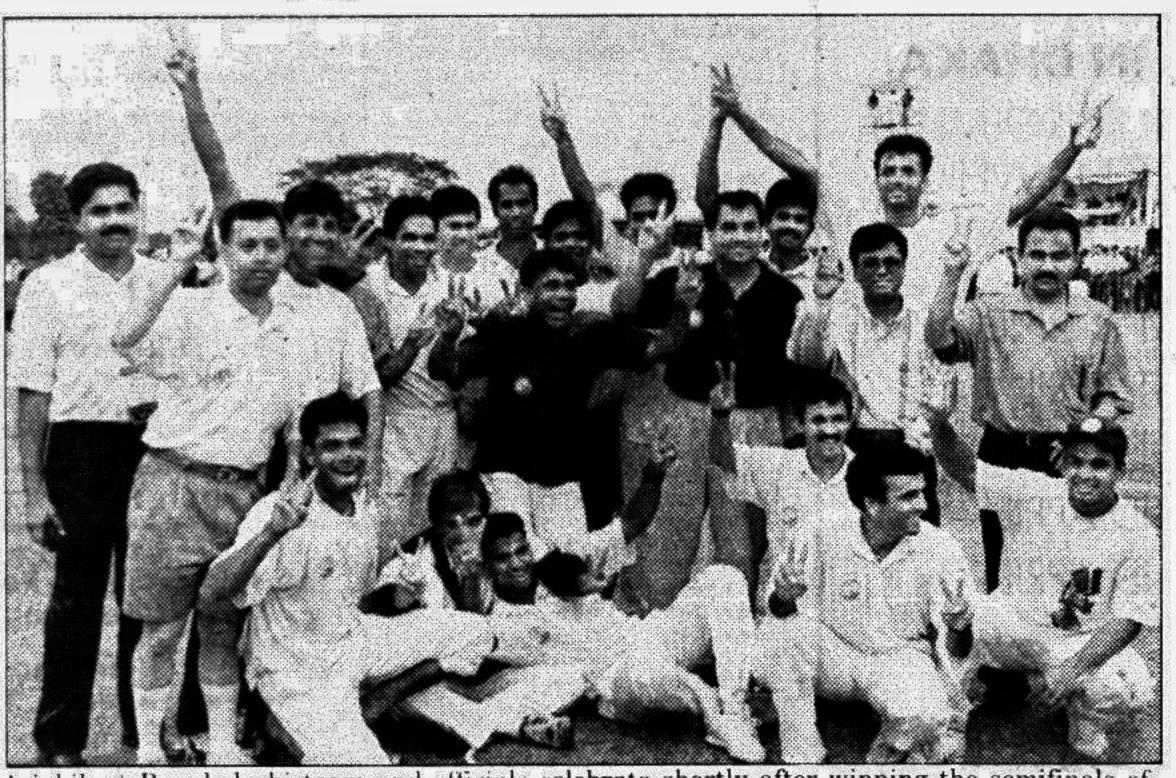
> Indo-Pak talks end Page 8

#### Business

\$ 15m Sino-Bangla cement factory in Chittagong next year

DSE price index increases by 7 points Pages 6,7

# Long-cherished dream comes true



A jubilant Bangladeshi team and officials celebrate shortly after winning the semifinals of the ICC Trophy tournament against Scotland yesterday in Kuala Lumpur. Bangladesh will -AFP/UNB photo meet Kenya on Saturday



Jubilation gripped the city on Bangladesh's victory in the ICC Trophy semifinal in Kuala Lumpur yesterday, securing a World Cup berth. — Star photo

# Bangladesh to play in '99 World Cup cricket

By Al-Amin Bangladesh will play in the next World Cup

cricket. The long-cherished dream came true when the national team recorded an emphatic 72-run victory

over Scotland yesterday in the second semifinal of the sixth ICC Trophy at the Kilat Kelab ground in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur. The whole nation, which was already in the grip of festive mood since our sensational win against

Holland on Friday, burst into jubilation when slow left-armer Mohammed Rafique heralded the fall of last Scotland wicket. Chasing a commanding Bangladesh total of 243, the new entrants in the fraternity of the ICC associate member nations, were skittled out for 171 in 44.5 overs.

The maiden entry of Bangladesh into World Cup - the ultimate test in limited-over cricket, to be held next in England in 1999 — has firmly planted a milestone in the annals of country's sports.

Incidentally, it was in England, official birth place of the game, where Bangladesh participation in the first ICC Trophy way back in 1979. But success eluded them during their five previous See Page 12 Col 1

## Gifts for players

Bangladesh cricketers will be given precious gifts for winning a berth in the 1999 World Cup cricket, reports UNB.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, members of the cabinet, different government and private institutions declared the gifts for the Bangladesh cricket players.

The following is the list of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina: Car. Telecommunica-

tions Minister Mohammad Nasim: Mobile telephone, Food Directorate: Gold Medal and crest, State Minister for Religious Affairs Moulana Nurul Islam: Quran, Tasbih, Jainamaj and Cap, State Minister for Jute AK Faezul Huq: Carpet. Bangladesh Biman: Dhaka-Hongkong-Dhaka or Dhaka-Singapore-Dhaka air ticket Health Minister Salahuddin Yusuf: Medical checkup & treatment, Purabi Insurance Co Ltd: Tk five lakh insurance See Page 12 Col 2

# SEC Chairman tells The Daily Star

# Allegations against more companies being probed

By Staff Correspondent

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is investigating the allegations against companies and stockbrokers whom a committee probing the scam in the share market suspected to have been involved in the manipulations but could not ascertain the extent of their involvement.

"If allegations against them are found positive, they would also be charged with fraud, like 32 others who have been accused of manipulating the stockmarket during a bull run last year," said Dr Haroonur Rashid, Chairman of the SEC, in an interview with The Daily Star on Tuesday.

The SEC chairman answered a number of questions in the wake of the filing of cases in the Chief Metropolitan Magistrates' Court on April 2 against some listed company owners and stock brokers. They have been accused of the biggest ever share market scam in the country on the basis of a probe report by a committee headed by Prof Amirul Islam, Vice-Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University. The committee scoured the market for three months to pinpoint persons re-

When asked why the probe committee had not identified

sponsible for the manipula-

anyone in the SEC responsible for the market behaviour although its report had observed that timely actions by the SEC could have saved the situation, the Chairman said only the probe committee members could answer this question.

He, however, mentioned that the terms of reference of the committee had empowered it to interrogate anyone connected with manipulation and there was no bar to go into matters of issues and issuers to find fault of any official of the SEC. He said "since further investigation is going on about a number of companies, actions will be

See Page 12 Col 4

### PM holds talks with leaders of 11 parties

By Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina had an 'open agenda' meeting with leaders of eleven political parties here yesterday. The meeting, held at the International Conference Centre

(ICC) at the Prime Minister's Secretariat, lasted three hours

from 4 pm. Addressing the leaders briefly, the Prime Minister sought their suggestion on national issues and cooperation in nation-building activities,

meeting sources said. During the talks, most of the leaders urged the Prime Minister to repeal all "black laws" including the Special Powers Act (SPA), the sources told this cor-

spondent. Rashed Khan Menon, Bimal See Page 12 Col 6

#### Feni killings Fresh BNP ultimatum to govt

FENI, Apr 9: BNP leaders at a rally here today lambasted the government for not arresting the killers of Jubo Dal and JCD leaders and again gave it a twoweek ultimatum from April 15 to arrest the assailants, reports

The rally was organised on Trunk Road in the town marking the expiry of a seven-day ultimatum given by the BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia on March 31. They also threw fresh pro-

grammes to press their demand for arresting the killers. See Page 12 Col 6

#### Samad Azad, Gujral talk water treaty.

NEW DELHI, Apr 9: Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad met with his Indian counter part IK Gujral here today and discussed bilateral issues, focusing on the implementation of the treaty on the sharing of the Ganges waters, reports BSS. The talks lasted for over an .

hour. See Page 12 Col 6

RLDIA

# Wild jubilation: 1 killed, 295 held

Star Report

At least one person was knifed to death, another run over by a truck and over 100 people were injured in the city yesterday as unruly elements among the revellers turned street jubilation into brawls while celebrating Bangladesh's berth in the World Cup cricket.

Police, in a belated action.

arrested 295 people from different parts of the city. At some places, they used batons and charged revellers turning wild. In Chittagong, several people were injured in bomb explosions during the celebrations. In Natore, police used batons to stop the fanfare from going out of control and arrested 16 people. In Narayanganj, 10 people

THE 100% BATH

were detained for creating disturbance on the streets and spraying colours on passers by.
Women bore the burnt of what appeared to be innocent exuberance of youths, pouring buckets of colour on passers by as cracker blasts heralded the victory in Kuala Lumpur, re-ports from different parts of the See Page 12 Col 3

#### Ershad breaks with Zinat

By Staff Correspondent Jativa Party chief HM Ershad yesterday announced the severance of his relationship with Zinat Hossain, MP, a pre-sidium member of the party.

The announcement to this effect was made following reports in the media which created 'confusion', said a party press release. The party chief also asked Zinat to refrain from active participation in the party, the release added. Meanwhile, hectic parleys See Page 12 Col 4

Manzur murder Gen Latif, Col Shamsur Rahman

granted bail By SC Correspondent

Major General (rtd) Abdul Latif and Lt Col (rtd) Shamsur Rahman have been granted bail by the High Court in the Manzur murder case.

The division bench of the HC comprising Justice Badrul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Abdul Matin yesterday granted the bail.

Earlier on November 26, 1996 former Chief of Army Staff and president Hossain Mohammad Ershad and Lt Col (rtd) Kamaluddin Bhuiyan got See Page 12 Col 8

#### Fresh influx of Rohingyas

BANDARBAN, Apr 9: While the last batch of Rohingya refugees still kept packing up for repatriation, influx of the Myanmar Muslims reportedly started afresh, reports UNB.

The Rohingyas began enter-ing Bangladesh through the Naikhongchhari border of the hill district. Naikhongchhari police ar-rested eight people of two fami-lies on Monday for the tress-

pass, officials said. Heads of the families Lokman Hakim, 42, and Sheikh Ahmed informed police that they decided to cross the border due to economic hardship and torture by Myanmar military.

THE CARIBBEANS, THE AUSSIES, THE ENGLISH. THE KIWIS. THE SOUTH AFRICANS.

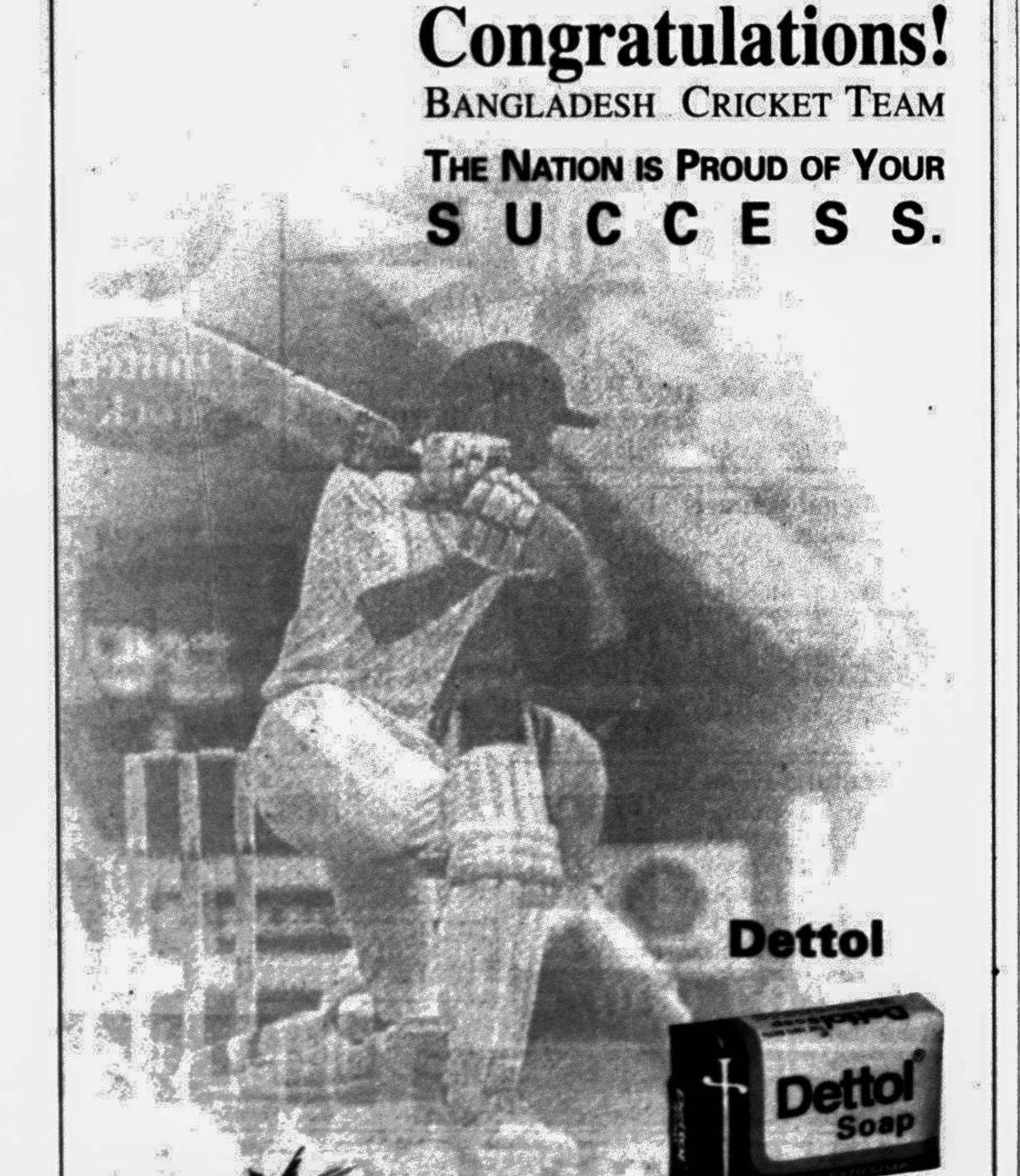
THE PAKIS. THE LANKANS.

THE ZIMBABWEANS. THE INDIANS.

AND US.

PERFECT 10

The Apex Tannery Group congratulates the Bangladeshi Cricket team on this historic event of qualifying for the World Cup. Let the light shine on...



RECKITTA COLMAN