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PM's bounty for Bangladesh team

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina last night congratulated Bangladesh's boys who registered a memorable victory against Pakistan in their World Cup match held in Northampton, England.

Hasina yesterday announced a bounty of one lakh taka for each player, coach and manager of the team. And from her personal fund the Prime Minister also held out another lump of one lakh taka each for the glorious win.

In a message made available to BSS the Prime Minister said, "On behalf of the nation I congratulate the members of the Bangladesh contingent which performed wonderfully and valiantly in fighting the Pakistanis, the powerful cricket team which had once won the See Page 12 Col 5

Half-day holiday today

The government announced a half-day holiday today for celebration of a historic victory of Bangladesh in the World Cup cricket. HSC and other examinations scheduled for today will however remain undisturbed, reports UNB.

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Prayer Timings

June 1		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4:15	4:20
Zohr	12:45	1:30
Asr	4:45	4:55
Maghrib	6:40	6:43
Esha	7:40	8:10

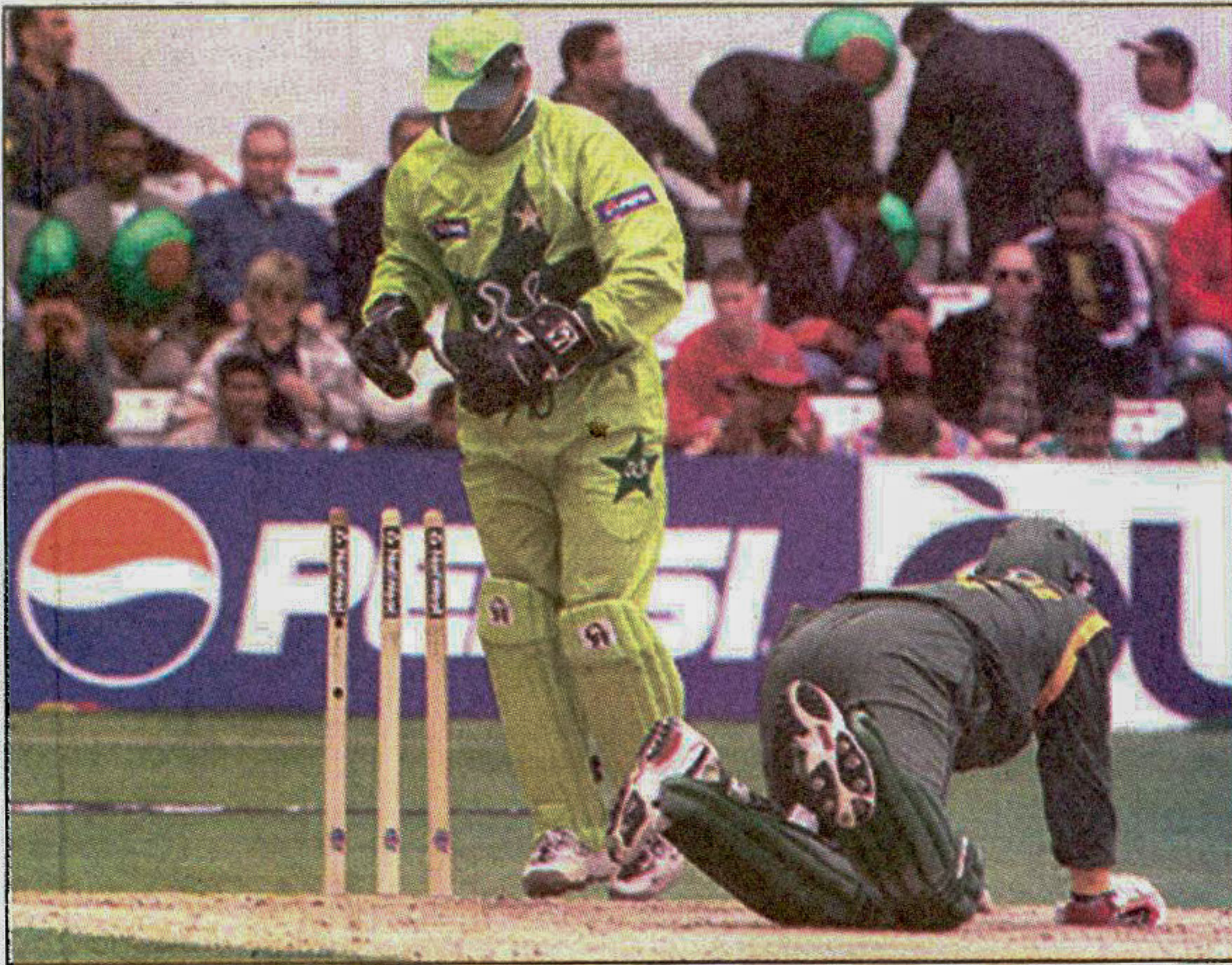
Source: Islamic Foundation



World Cup Super Six second round fixtures:

June 4: India v Australia (the Oval), June 5: South Africa v Pakistan (Trent Bridge), June 6: Zimbabwe v New Zealand (Headingley), June 8: India v Pakistan (Old Trafford), June 9: Zimbabwe v Australia (Lord's), June 10: South Africa v New Zealand (Edgbaston), June 11: Zimbabwe v Pakistan (The Oval), June 12: India v New Zealand (Trent Bridge) and June 13: South Africa v Australia (Headingley).

Tigers roar at last



Bangladesh opener Mehrab Hossain being stumped by Pakistan wicket keeper Moin Khan yesterday. — AFP photo

From Nizamuddin Ahmed

NORTHAMPTON, May 31: The Bengal tigers did what the Australians, the West Indians, the New Zealanders could not do. The boys from Bangladesh defeated tournament favourites Pakistan by 62 runs to record a famous victory in the last group match of the World Cup.

Unprecedented scenes followed at the Northampton ground as umpire Doug Cowie signalled for the intervention of the third umpire when the Bangladesh fielders appealed for Saqlain Mushtaq's run-out, the 10th Pakistani wicket. Over the moon Bangladeshi fans invaded the pitch with flags, drums and banners thinking it was all over. Desperate calls over the public address system appealed for calm as police and ground stewards tried to ward them off.

The game could have been marred and it could have been postponed had not the replay showed that indeed Saqlain

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For Long Lasting Fresh Breath and Sparkling White Teeth

Greenidge fired

NORTHAMPTON, (England), May 31: Bangladesh today sacked former West Indies opener Gordon Greenidge as the national coach after the team was expectedly eliminated from



the cricket World Cup, reports AP.

Greenidge's roller-coaster tenure ended when Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) directed him to step down in a letter delivered Sunday, board president Saber Hussain Chowdhury told The Associated Press.

He said Greenidge will, however, keep his job as BCB's coaching director.

Chowdhury, who is also a minister in the Bangladesh government, said the letter to Greenidge was signed by Tanveer Mazhar, the BCB's senior vice president and the team manager.

Greenidge did not immediately comment on the sacking.

He was not part of the management that picked the eleven for the match against Pakistan today and was not on view in

See Page 12 Col 1

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KHALED MAHMUD
(Bangladesh)
Man of the Match
Bangladesh vs Pakistan



GEOFF ALLOTT
(New Zealand)
Man of the Match
New Zealand vs Scotland

New Zealand in Super Six

EDINBURGH, May 31: New Zealand reached the second round of the cricket World Cup at the expense of the West Indies after a high-speed victory over group B minnows Scotland here today, reports AFP.

Chasing Scotland's 121, which they had to overhaul inside 20 overs in order to reach the Super Six, they made their target for the loss of four wickets in 17.5 overs.

"It went to plan," said New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming. "We were very fortunate to win the toss. It's anybody's game from here on in."

Left-hander Roger Twose, born and bred in England, survived three dropped chances to score an unbeaten 54 and seal the win, which was completed when Chris Cairns hit a huge

See Page 12 Col 2

Another chapter in gold

By Al-Amin and Rabeed Imam

May 31 -- Monday the day and 1999 the year. The red-letter day of Bangladesh's sporting existence.

Cricketers have done this nation proud. It is the ultimate gift of the millennium and the mortal Bangladeshis would like to relish the 62-run victory against Pakistan for the rest of their lives.

The historic win, Bangladesh's first against any of the nine Test playing nations, has not only firmly planted a milestone in the annals of the country's sporting history, but also opened up a whole new vista about the future of the country's cricket.

The fantastic win and that too against a team which looked invincible the other day with four straight wins in the tournament, immensely enhanced Bangladesh's plea for Test status.

"We have lost to our brothers. The better team won today. See Page 12 Col 8

Sartaz Aziz to visit Delhi Pakistan to use 'any weapon', India deploys Mirage

ISLAMABAD, May 31: Pakistan is prepared to use any weapon available in its defence, a top official reportedly said today as border tensions in Kashmir increased amid an Indian air strike campaign, reports AFP.

Meanwhile, India deployed Mirage 2000 jets in aerial strikes in Kashmir today, Indian defence sources said.

"We will not hesitate to use any weapon in our arsenal to defend our territorial integrity," the Jang newspaper quoted Pakistan foreign secretary Shamsah Ahmad as saying in an interview.

Heavy Indian shelling in the Bhimber sector into the Pakistani side of disputed Kashmir on Sunday killed 12 people and wounded 35. The News daily

said, while other newspapers put the toll at 15 killed.

Pakistani forces are on full alert to give an appropriate response to any aggression, he said, referring to border clashes and an Indian "buildup" along the Line of Control.

India's Defence Minister George Fernandes said today he was sure Pakistan's military chiefs would not resort to the use of nuclear weapons against India because they would "liquidate" their own country in the process.

"I am sure Pakistani generals may have other ideas about themselves but I don't think they are also long to liquidate their whole country," Fernandes said.

Indian air force source told See Page 12 Col 5

A view from the Gully

By Tawfiq Aziz Khan

The 'tigers' roared in Northampton and it could be heard across the world, loud and clear.

Warm congratulations to Bangladesh cricketers for their truly historic achievement against a strong Pakistan cricket team on Monday.

India successfully came back from the precipice on Sunday at Edgbaston.

Azhar's brinkmanship almost backfired as rains threatened a washout that would push his side high and dry. Mercifully the rain gods busied themselves somewhere else doing overtime on a weekend.

India's entry into the second stage or the Super Six has soothed the nerves of the players and their supporters for the time being but their position ahead of the Zimbabweans in the group because of a better run-rate, do not bring any relief for them. They find themselves See Page 12 Col 6

Beyond the boundary A Nation Salutes

By Shakil Kasem

Take a bow, gentlemen. This nation salutes you.

This is confession time. There are tears in my eyes as I write this column. As a player who was proud to have donned the Bangladesh colours, but more importantly as a Bangladeshi, I am overwhelmed beyond measure. Samuel Beckett once said, "Words are all we have, so we must be careful about how we use them." No words could be enough or remotely adequate to describe how this nation felt as the tigers from Bangladesh stalked the serene surroundings of the English countryside.

For the benefit of meaningless statistics this match would go down in the record books as Bangladesh beat Pakistan. But

it goes much, much beyond merely that. Let us not lose sight of the bigger picture. This victory was for pride, for redemption, for putting one across to the old country. For far too long, the people of this country had to look for a team to support at the international level. The wait is over. Our own team is there, in flesh, in blood and with the glint of battle in our eyes. For the second time in the last 28 years, Pakistan was brought down to its knees, by a nation that is fiercely proud of itself. The cricketers have reminded us all over again of our identity. Sit up, world, and take notice.

Bangladesh saved its finest hour for its match against Pakistan. See Page 12 Col 5



Apparels exported to US by 10 manufacturers seized

By Rafiq Hasan

Ten garments manufacturers exported apparels valued at USD 1.43 million to the US recently by forging export visas and quota documents.

The consignments were seized by US customs last month after it suspected that 31

Visa and quota forgery

textile visas of the ten exporters were not genuine, Commerce Ministry sources told The Daily Star yesterday.

The visas were sent to Bangladesh embassy in Washington for further checking.

The Commercial Councillor at Bangladesh Embassy informed the Commerce Ministry and the Export Promotion Bureau about the matter and asked for enquiry.

The EPB probed it and found that all the documents sent with the consignments were "false and fictitious". See Page 12 Col 8

"We verified the 31 textile visas. The EPB did not issue the visas. These bear counterfeit stamps and forged signatures of EPB officials," the EPB said in a reply to the Commercial Councillor and asked him to inform the US customs accordingly.

The garments manufacturers are: Alcom International, Eldorado Garments, Excel Apparels, Khowai Fashion, Mlaco Ltd, Shawn Apparels, Unirupex Apparels, Bismillah Garments, Bengal Apparels and Sung Jin BD Ltd.

When contacted, Director General of EPB Abdur Razzak said, "We are enquiring whether the consignments were sent by those manufacturers or somebody else did it, the name of those manufacturers".

"It was earlier found that some unscrupulous garments traders were engaged in forging visa and quota documents. See Page 12 Col 8

Internal affairs

Foreign bodies to be asked to refrain from comments

By Nurul Kabir

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has asked her Cabinet colleagues concerned to communicate to foreign organisations working in Bangladesh that they should not make any public comment on the country's internal affairs.

The PM gave the directive while presiding over the weekly Cabinet meeting yesterday morning, Cabinet sources said. A recent comment of World Bank Country Director Federico Temple about the government claim of 5.2 per cent growth rate in fiscal 1998-99 prompted the PM to issue the instruction.

Temple said on Sunday, "5.2 per cent looks miraculous, if you look at broad economic situation and the last floods". See Page 12 Col 1

Golden jubilee AL invites 100 leaders from 50 countries

By Nazmul Ashraf

Awami League has invited some 100 leaders from 50 countries to attend its golden jubilee celebration programmes in Dhaka.

The three-day programme is due to begin at the city's Paltan Maidan on June 23, the day AL was born.

The invitees include heads of state and government and opposition leaders.

US President Bill Clinton, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, President of Turkey Soleiman Demirel, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, South African President Nelson Mandela, Sri Lankan President Chandrika Kumaratunga, Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Bajpaye and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan are among those invited.

"All the invitations have already been sent through diplo-

See Page 12 Col 6

Zia's anniversary of death: BNP distributes food among destitutes

By Staff Correspondent

BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia distributed food among distressed people at eight places in Lalbagh, Kamrangirchar and Hazaribagh thanas in the city yesterday.

Local units of BNP organised the food distribution programme in observance of 18th death anniversary of founder of the party late president Ziaur Rahman.

Begum Zia started distribution of food at 11 am and continued till 2 pm. She also attended milad mahfils and special prayers. The eight places are: Moulvibazar Community Centre, Posta, Reazuddin Road, See Page 12 Col 5

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