



# ICC CRICKET WEEK 2000

2 - 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2000



**PRIME MINISTER**  
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S  
REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

### MESSAGE

I am very happy to know that the International Cricket Council designated 2nd to 8th of April 2000 as a 'Cricket Week', to be observed all over the world in association with the United Nations.

Those of us who follow the game passionately know that cricket has been the medium which unites peoples, absorbing everyone with a spirit of friendship and trust, sportsmanship and competitiveness. The phenomenal growth of cricket all over the world makes it the perfect vehicle for carrying messages and programmes as a means of ushering in social change.

I observe with deep pleasure that the Bangladesh Cricket Board is going to organise a week-long festival to highlight the cause of humanity, development and of course, cricket itself. The week is to be celebrated all over the world in a similar manner culminating in the grand finale at Dhaka on the 8th when the best of ASIA play the rest of the WORLD. I appreciate the effort of the organisers to provide an excellent opportunity to the millions of Bangalee and overseas fans to enjoy the exciting match.

I take this opportunity to wish the ICC success in its commitment towards globalisation of the game.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu  
May Bangladesh Live Forever

Sheikh Hasina

15 Chaitra 1406  
29 March 2000

## A NEW BIRTH OF CRICKET

— A S M Roquibul Hasan

The world is changing at lightning speed. The continuing development of information technology and international brand marketing have created a new concept of globalisation. The whole world has become one global village. Not wanting to be out of the picture in this changing scenario, the International Cricket Council (ICC) has also joined in to play its part. Cricket will spread among various countries. The sport will be played all over the world. Determined to globalise cricket, ICC is going forward with the motto "One World, One Game". With this end in mind, the Cricket Week will be observed all over the world from April 2-8. Its official name is ICC Cricketnext.com Cricket Week 2000.

This cricket festival will be organised in 36 member nations of ICC. The main attraction, of course, is Bangladesh, because the week will culminate with the day-night one-day match between Asia XI and Rest of the World XI on April 8 in Bangabandhu National Stadium in Dhaka. Bangladesh Cricket Board is organising a series of programs for the week that will play a special role in the rejuvenation of cricket in the country.

A development plan is behind this globalisation of cricket. This started with the Wills International Cup Cricket that took place in Dhaka in 1998. Even then, there was a plan for a Cricket Week, but it was not implemented because of the post-flood situation in Bangladesh. But now it is being observed all over the world with great enthusiasm, and this trend will continue in the future. More and more countries will unite under the flag of ICC. Cricket will emerge as the sport of this millennium. The name of Dhaka is synonymous with development of cricket, because Dhaka is one of the focal points of this process.

Expressing solidarity with the noble endeavors of ICC, the United Nations has extended its helping hand. This newly forged bond will not only spread the game of cricket but will also play a unique role in eradicating illiteracy, poverty and ignorance and in upholding the rights of women and children.

We sincerely hope that the globalisation and development efforts of ICC will be a complete success.

(A S M Roquibul Hasan is former captain of National Cricket Team and Coordinator, Working Committee, ICC Cricket Week 2000)



**SECRETARY - GENERAL**  
UNITED NATIONS

### MESSAGE

Dear fellow cricket fans all over the world, I am very happy to join you in celebrating **Cricket Week**. We can share our joy in everything we love about the game: its grace and subtlety, and the premium it puts on sportsmanship, team spirit, and fair play.

I was an avid cricket player when I was young, so I know the game's value as an educational tool. To succeed as a batsman, you need concentration, and a certain inner calm-qualities which are valuable in any walk of life, but which I find I need especially in my work as Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Also, the very essence of cricket is that both sides agree on the rules, and they respect each other. Which is precisely what peoples of the world need to do, if this new century is to be more peaceful and civilised than the last one.

All of us know what is **not** cricket: racism, prejudice, intolerance and hostile behaviour. We know that what unites us - the love of the game - is far more important than what separates us.

So let us resolve to live our lives as good cricketers, both on the field and off it. On behalf of the United Nations, I wish all you players and lovers of cricket a very happy **Cricket Week** wherever you are.

Howzat?

Kofi Annan

27 March 2000



**STATE MINISTER**  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH & SPORTS  
and MINISTRY OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

### MESSAGE

I am delighted to join the cricket community of the world in the celebration of the Cricket Week during the millennial transition. This is an opportunity for all the cricket-lovers to share the enthusiasm and joy in everything they love about cricket - its elegance and subtlety, the importance it attaches on sportsmanship, team spirit and respect for the rules.

Cricket is the game in which excellence is achieved through harmonising concentration and technique with patience and power. The virtues and qualities of a good cricketer on the field take off-field effect for those who love the game. Thus, cricket leads us to developing fairness, calmness and acquiescence to the rules in the society.

Bangladesh is going to make its mark in the cricket playing world to be on the focus of celebration of the first ever International Cricket Week. We are proud to host the main event of the Week - the cricket match between the Asia Eleven and the Rest of the World Eleven at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. Besides, Bangladesh Cricket Board has taken up elaborate programme to observe the Week with fervour and festivity.

I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to the ICC for their initiative to globalise cricket through yet another step and to the UN for their cooperation to this initiative.

I wish all cricketers, organizers and cricket-lovers a very happy occasion, and all success of the week.

Obaidul Quader

31 March 2000



**PRESIDENT**  
INTERNATIONAL CRICKET COUNCIL

### MESSAGE

Cricket has to survive as a major sport amidst competition in the new millennium. The world body of cricket - the International Cricket Council (ICC) - has identified that the answer to the challenges is the game's globalisation. Such globalisation must be simultaneous to the game's development in proper perspective. A number of significant steps have been taken up by the ICC to ensure qualitative blossom of the game side by side with quantitative proliferation.

It is with this purpose that the ICC is observing the first edition of "Cricket Week" from 2 to 9 April 2000. A number of live events and extensive television programming are directed to spread the wings of the game and to create its awareness from Jamaica to Japan and from Headingley to Cape Horn.

One of the main features of the Cricket Week is a one-day clash between the best players of Asia and the Rest of the World. It is yet another feather in the cap of Bangladesh as the Bangabandhu National Stadium in Dhaka hosts the match on 8 April 2000.

The ICC was certainly inspired by the enthusiasm of the people of Bangladesh and the enormous success of the ICC knockout tournament that was staged by Dhaka in 1998. There is no doubt that the nation has been gripped by cricket fever since the 1998 competition was hosted. While the ICC is ensured of similar enthusiasm and support of the cricket loving people of Bangladesh for the one-day match, it is also of special significance to Bangladesh cricket especially when it is on the threshold of Test status.

The ICC is not working alone in this project. The United Nations and its agencies have come forward to join hands with the ICC. Both ICC and UN are committed to producing better world citizens for tomorrow and this is why they are batting together for friendship and development.

I appeal to all concerned to come forward and make this noble endeavour of ICC a grand success.

Jagmohan Dalmiya

31 March 2000



**PRESIDENT**  
Bangladesh Cricket Board  
**DEPUTY MINISTER**  
Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Co-operation

### MESSAGE

The new millennium is about new challenges and exciting opportunities. For cricket - the most noble of sports - the imperative is one of growth, development and globalisation. World cricket's governing body, International Cricket Council, ably led by its enterprising President Mr. Jagmohan Dalmiya, rightly acknowledged a few years back that cricket, if not globalised, will in course of time become insignificant.

For the first time in cricket's illustrious and glorious history, a Cricket Week is being organised and celebrated and thanks to the welcome participation and involvement of the United Nations, it has a true international flavour. The Week will culminate in a commemorative Asia vs. Rest of the World match in Dhaka on 8th April - a unique event and historic "first" which the Bangladesh Cricket Board with the active support of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Government is proud to host.

It is indeed gratifying that through the hosting of this Event in the Bangabandhu National Stadium, Bangladesh is once again occupying centre stage of world cricket - as it had done during the Wills Cup in 1998. We are now indeed the focal point of global cricket growth and development.

This is a fitting and appropriate tribute to Bangladesh, a country which has already achieved One Day International status and is now as close as it has ever been to become the tenth Test Nation, a country where cricket is now the number one sport and ever increasing in popularity. Cricket enjoys a privileged position in our society and I see it as being the perfect opportunity for any boy - rich or poor - to make it to the top and live the cricket dream. As during the 1999 World Cup, the game will no doubt provide in future more sporting heroes and deeds of epic and legend that will inspire our future generations. We all look forward to the day when the game of cricket and its spirit of fair play, tolerance, abiding by the rules and respect for opponents will be woven into the fabric of our culture and be a treasured part of our heritage and the Bangladesh way of life.

As Bangladesh awaits expectantly to welcome the world to Dhaka on 8th April, the cricket family of Bangladesh invites and welcomes you to experience and participate in Cricket Week 2000.

Saber H Chowdhury MP



**UN Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh**

### MESSAGE

Dear fellow Cricket fans,

It is a great pleasure for me to share the excitement of the International Cricket Week. Like other sports, cricket and its rules, the reciprocal respect and team spirit between the players, their patience, decency and calmness in handling the opponent, are a reflection of our everyday life where we also need to concentrate on these qualities.

The very spirit of sports plays a pivotal role in healing division, prejudice and discrimination between peoples and communities and contributes to the very enhancement of world peace.

The spirit of sports should not be confined to the field; rather it should be spread and practiced beyond the boundary of the sports ground.

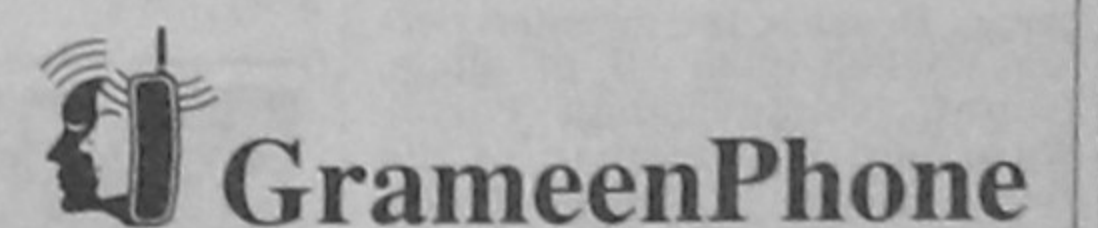
We in the UN-system are proud that the Bangladesh Cricket Board cooperates with us and that jointly we can associate our admiration for this exciting game with the challenge of our work towards the betterment of mankind.

Werner Kiene



*Trond Moe*

**TROND MOE**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR  
GRAMEENPHONE LTD.



On behalf of GrameenPhone I would like to thank the United Nations and the International Cricket Council for taking the initiative to observe the International Cricket Week in Bangladesh along with other 35 countries all around the world. I also thank Bangladesh Cricket Board for organizing the Cricket Week in Bangladesh.

GrameenPhone is truly honored to be associated with this grand event. We believe that the Cricket Week will play a major role in bolstering the ongoing activities regarding the development of cricket in Bangladesh.

GrameenPhone has tried in its own humble way to contribute to the development of sports and cultural activities in the country. As a socially responsible organization, GrameenPhone is ever-prepared to promote such events that may enhance the country's image in the world arena.

We believe that sports can bring significant international recognition and prestige and help build the national pride, and GrameenPhone is delighted to be involved with such developments.

I wish the Cricket Week every success.