

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Herschelle Gibbs

(South African batsman)
"I'm not very proud of myself. I let my country down, I let my teammates down, I let my family down and I let myself down."

Testifying before the King Commission.

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Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
July 14, 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

1	When did ICC recognise Bangladesh as the tenth Test playing nation?	June 25	June 26	June 22
2	Who is the new ICC president?	Gray	Blue	Green
3	When did Bangladesh become ICC's associate member?	1977	1987	1997
4	When will the next cricket World Cup be held?	2002	2003	2005
5	Which country will host the next cricket World Cup?	Zimbabwe	New Zealand	South Africa
Name _____				
Class Roll No.				
School Address				
Phone: (If any)				

Miandad, Moin retained

KARACHI, July 13 (AFP): Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman General Taqir Zia Thursday said captain Moin Khan and coach Javed Miandad would continue to serve for another eight months.

Moin as captain and Miandad as coach have given good performances and have lifted the team so they are retained," Zia said.

Pakistan's team Thursday returned home after a round of matches in Sharjah, the West Indies, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Moin and Miandad took over in March during the third Test in Karachi against Sri Lanka after Pakistan lost the first two Tests of the home series.

Miandad accepted the extension saying, "I am keen to continue as coach."

Kenya preparing for ICC knockout

NAIROBI, July 13 (AFP): Kenya, hosts of the second International Cricket Council (ICC) knockout tournament in October, launch their preparations with a series of one-day internationals against a Pakistan 'A' team this weekend.

The coastal town of Mombasa, where cricket was first played in 1896, has been fittingly chosen as the venue of the first game on Saturday.

The Kenyan selectors have named an unchanged team from the one that took part in the World Cup in England last year.

Former Pakistan Test player Saleem Elahi leads his young side on their first tour of Kenya, where they will play five one-day matches and four four-day games against the Kenyans in Mombasa and Nairobi.

The ICC tournament will also feature 10 Test-playing nations, including Bangladesh, who were granted Test status last month.

After Pakistan 'A', the Kenyans are set to host India's Karnataka State and the Plascon Academy from South Africa.

Fatullah ready for action



A new national stadium, reported to have been built exclusively for cricket, is all set to be declared open in the first week of August.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is likely to inaugurate the venue at Fatullah. Although the stadium is located at about 15 kilometres from the city, sports fans might find it a tough ride down there due to the routine ordeals of traffic jam and hazardous communication system.

The 25,000 capacity stadium will be named after Khan Shaheb Osman Ali, says a report of BSS. State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader yesterday visited the third national stadium to see progress of the work at the stadium.

The minister was informed that gallery, playing ground, fencing, drainage system, car parking, VIP lounge and um-

pires room have been completed.

It costs Taka 24.85 crore.

Finishing touches are being given for the formal opening of the stadium, said officials of the National Sports Council (NSC) the apex body of Bangladesh sports.

A K M Shamim Osman MP, Advocate Nazma Rahman MP, secretary general of Bangladesh Olympic Association Zafar Imam, general secretary of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Syed Ashraf Hug, Director (planning and development) of NSC Habibur Rahman, NSC Director Khondaker Anwarul Islam were also accompanying the minister during the visit.

BCB general secretary meanwhile expressed his satisfaction over facilities made in the stadium and hoped that the domestic cricket matches could be held in this stadium this year.

Another national stadium is under construction at Sayedabad area. The minister said the divisional stadium at Rajshahi is nearly complete while the divisional stadiums at Chittagong and Khulna is under construction.

NSC started the construction works of the stadium in 1996

on 25 acres of land at Fatullah under Narayanganj district.

The minister was informed that the capacity of the stadium would be increased up to 80,000 along with flood-light facilities on completion of the second phase of the Khan Shaheb Osman Ali Stadium at an estimated cost of Taka 30 crore.

The two existing national stadiums are Bangabandhu National Stadium and Sher-Bangla National Stadium at Mirpur.

The present government took up decisions to construct stadium and grounds following growing demand of venues for different disciplines, football and cricket in particular.

The minister said the divisional stadium at Rajshahi is nearly complete while the divisional stadiums at Chittagong and Khulna is under construction.

It was a morale-boosting win for the youngsters prior to their opening match in inaugural under-17 Asian Championship beginning from Saturday.

Bangladesh will take on hosts Pakistan at the Karachi National Stadium tomorrow. A total of ten teams, split into two groups for the first round, are taking part in the tournament.

Bangladesh have been placed in Pool A along with Nepal, Kuwait, Maldives and hosts Pakistan while the other group comprises Sri Lanka, UAE, Singapore, Malaysia and Saudi Arabia.

Top two teams from each group will play the semifinals on July 22 and 23. The final is on July 25.

BRIEF SCORES

AO Academy: 99 all out in 40.2 overs (Shahid Ayub 33, Danish Javed 13; Ashraf 4/20, Sharif 2/25, Mazharul 1/14, Ali Arman 1/14)

Bangladesh Under-17: 103 for 3 in 32.1 overs (60 n.o., Nasiruddin 17; Syed 1/13, Wasti 1/15, Javed 1/30)

Result: Bangladesh under-17 won by seven wickets.

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