

## Tigers out, but not down

Poor umpiring decisions spark uproar

BISHWAJIT ROY from Melbourne

Bangladesh's ICC World Cup campaign ended with a 109-run defeat in the quarterfinals at the hands of India at Melbourne Cricket Ground yesterday. Riding on opener Rohit Sharma's brilliant 126-ball 137, helped by a favourable decision from umpire Aleem Dar, the defending champions sailed into the semifinals in a much-hyped match following the Tigers' impressive run in the tournament.

Bangladesh's dream run ended in a forlorn way and left many searching for answers to why the Mashrafe Bin Mortaza-led team suddenly lost their composure and why they so meekly surrendered the chase of 303; especially as their batting was nowhere near the level of their previous performances which ultimately saw them suffer a heavy defeat.

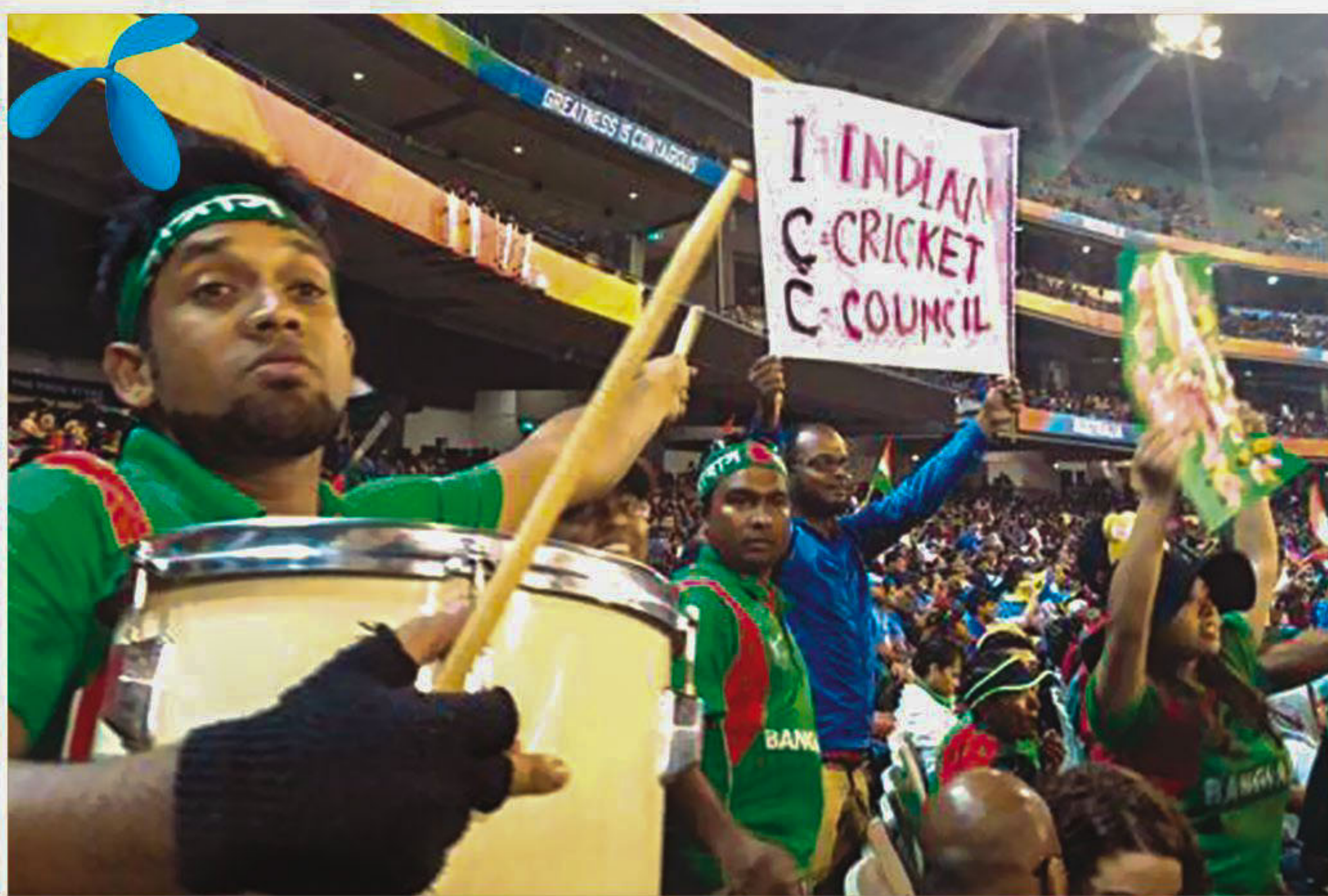
Perhaps it was the nerves of competing in their first knockout match on the World stage. But the controversies which for sure will continue for many more days was whether an umpiring error helped Rohit to score his first World Cup hundred and denied the Tigers from seizing momentum at a crucial stage or whether inform Mahmudullah Riyad was a bit unlucky when he was given out in dubious circumstances.

THE NO-BALL THAT WASN'T - SEE STAR SPORT

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Do you need a caption for this? A Bangladesh fan displays a placard mocking cricket's governing body ICC during the second quarterfinal of the World Cup against India at the Melbourne Cricket Ground yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED



TOP QUOTE

"Bad decision from Ian Gould; was definitely not above the waist. This can be the difference in getting an extra 20 runs."

FORMER INDIA BATSMAN VVS LAXMAN ON THE CONTROVERSIAL NO-BALL DECISION AGAINST RUBEL HOSSAIN

## Act fast on MRP

Govt asks contractor to operationalise all passport enrolment centres in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Malaysia in a week

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday issued a seven-day ultimatum to IRIS Corporation Berhad to start enrolling Bangladeshi expatriates in Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Malaysia in full swing for providing them with machine readable passports (MRPs) by November 24.

The Malaysian company has also been asked to increase its

MRP service centres in the three countries, where around 44 lakh Bangladeshis live, and operationalise them within a week.

Otherwise, the IRIS may lose its contract and may have to pay "a hefty compensation", warned Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Khandker Mosharruf Hossain at a meeting of the advisory committee on the MRP at Probashi Kalayan Bhaban in the capital.

According to meeting sources, he also said he wanted to see immediate progress in the MRP issuance process.

The IRIS officials at the meeting promised to meet the deadline, sources said.

Last year, the company was awarded three contracts to enrol expatriates in Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Malaysia by the November 24

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## SALAHUDDIN MISSING FOR 10 DAYS

Wife seeks PM's intervention

Police search in Gaibandha chars on tip-off from unknown caller

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The wife of BNP leader Salahuddin Ahmed, who has been "missing" since March 10, submitted a memorandum to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday, seeking her intervention to trace him.

Hasina Ahmed handed over the 3-page letter to the PM

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## Petrol bomb takes trucker's life

5 others suffer burns; mob beats BNP man for hurling crude bombs in Rajshahi

STAR REPORT

After a brief pause for a few days, the country yesterday witnessed two grisly petrol bomb attacks in which a trucker was burnt alive and five others were injured in Chandpur Sadar upazila.

The deceased was identified as Jahangir Hossain, 40, a resident of Jhikargacha in Jessore. He was charred to death inside the vehicle after unidentified criminals hurled petrol bombs at the truck at Chandra intersection in the upazila shortly after midnight.

With the latest death, 87 people have so far been killed, mostly in arson

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## Bangladesh on track despite all obstacles

Says prime minister

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said people would tackle the prevailing obstacles with courage and strength like in 1971 and take the country forward in every sphere, including science and technology.

"We are now facing some problems. Children are barred from attending their exams. A clique of evil force in the name of siege and hartal is creating the obstacles."

"But the people have strength and courage to overcome any barrier," she said while addressing a function at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital.

Earlier, she distributed this year's Bangabandhu Fellowship, National Science and Technology Fellowship and research donation among the students and researchers at the function.

Hasina, also chief of the ruling Awami League, lamented the criticisms of a

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## Panicked expats fly home for passports

M ABUL KALAM AZAD and BELAL HOSSAIN BIPLAB

Fearing he would lose his job in Malaysia, Mohiuddin flew to Dhaka just to get a machine readable passport (MRP), an

expensive trip for a migrant worker but he had to because of government mismanagement.

Mohiuddin works at a plastic factory in Kelantan province of Malaysia and he blamed none but the government for not ensuring the new passports for about seven lakh Bangladeshi expatriates living in Malaysia.

"My job at the Chinese company was threatened when the management in November last year told me that I must have a digital passport [MRP] for extension of my work permit," he told The Daily Star at Agargaon passport office.

The young man from Munshiganj got scared as only a handful of migrant workers were getting the new passports in Malaysia and that too months after filing the application.

The old passport he was carrying was valid

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Mohiuddin with his old passport at the passport office in Agargaon. He flew home from Malaysia just to get a machine readable passport. PHOTO: STAR

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