



England players Gary Cahill (L), Joe Hart (C) and Dele Alli are dejected after losing the Euro 2016 Round of 16 match against Iceland in Nice on Monday. PHOTO: AFP

England in the pits Hodgson steps down

AFP, Paris



England were at one of their lowest points on Tuesday after Iceland's battlers dumped them out of Euro 2016, coach Roy Hodgson quit, and the abject failure added to the national sense of post-Brexit turmoil.

Ragnar Sigurdsson and Kolbeinn Sigthorsson claimed their place in sporting history with the goals on Monday that secured a 2-1 win in Nice for the smallest nation ever to play in a major tournament.

Wayne Rooney gave a full-strength England the perfect start with a fourth minute penalty, but Hodgson's men rapidly ran out of ideas and energy against a nation ranked 34th in the world.

"Clueless. Utterly clueless," said The Times newspaper.

Goalkeeper Joe Hart, who let the second Iceland goal squirm under his fingers, said the humiliation had left English football "in a low place".

"We will get a lot of flak and we deserve it," said the Manchester City stopper.

A shellshocked Hodgson read out a

statement announcing his resignation straight after the game – the performance was "obviously not acceptable" and "now is the time for someone else to oversee the progress of this young, hungry and extremely talented group of players", he said.

The 68-year-old departed without answering a single question, but his critics filled the vacuum after England crashed out prematurely again just two years after exiting the World Cup in Brazil at the group stage under his tutelage.

Many asked how Jamie Vardy, whose 24 goals helped Leicester win the Premier League last season, Tottenham's Harry Kane, who netted 25 league goals, and Liverpool's often lethal Daniel Sturridge had failed to find the net when it mattered most.

Former England striker Alan Shearer said it was "the worst performance I have seen from an England team".

Another ex-international forward, Gary Lineker, tweeted that England, with a population of 53 million and the world's wealthiest league, had been beaten "by a country with more volcanoes than professional footballers".

England U-21 coach Gareth Southgate was the early favourite to replace Hodgson.

'No Italian trauma'

AFP, Evian



Germany coach Joachim Loew insists the world champions have no Italian complex as die Mannschaft attempt to break their Azzurri curse in Saturday's Euro 2016 quarter-final.

In eight previous attempts, Germany has never beaten Italy in the finals of a major tournament and will need to make history Bordeaux to reach the semi-finals.

German fans will at least take heart from a 4-1 rout of a lacklustre Italy in their most recent meeting in a friendly in March.

But Loew knows Saturday's clash with a place in the last four at stake will be an utterly different proposition.

"We have no Italian trauma," Loew told reporters at the German's training base in Evian.

"We don't have any fear of them, just trust in our own skills."

"For me that's cold coffee. I'd rather have a fresh espresso. We'll see how it tastes on Saturday," he added when reminded of Germany's previous results against Italy on the big stage.

Loew has experienced Germany's pain first hand as assistant manager when Italy spoiled their World Cup party on home soil in 2006 and four years ago when a Mario Balotelli double took the Azzurri to the final

of Euro 2012 at Germany's expense.

Yet, Loew says he learnt his lesson from that semi-final defeat and, in particular, his inability to restrict Italian playmaker Andrea Pirlo, before leading Germany to a fourth World Cup two years later.

"Everyone makes mistakes, I wanted to shut Pirlo down and looking back, one must say the plan didn't work," admitted Loew.

"I have to take responsibility for that, none of us put in the performances we should have."

"The defeat helped in my personal development, especially for the 2014 World Cup. It was a good lesson for me."

Neither Balotelli nor Pirlo are with the Azzurri in France, but Loew knows the challenge Antonio Conte's side will post.

And he insisted the experience of an Italian side captained by veteran goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon and the presence of Daniele de

Rossi in midfield must be respected.

"Form on the day will make the difference, it's going to be a tight game and the outcome is open," said Loew.

"This is a much better Italian than in 2008 or 2010."

"They have mentally strong players."

"They can switch quickly from defence to attack, it's automatic, even without Pirlo."

"Buffon brings tremendous calm and their experienced defence is well co-ordinated."

Hazard sits out training

REUTERS, Bordeaux

Eden Hazard missed training on Tuesday with an injury suffered in Belgium's 4-0 Euro 2016 victory over Hungary on Sunday but should return for their quarter-final against Wales.

Hazard scored and contributed an assist in an excellent individual performance when Belgium crushed Hungary in Toulouse but picked up a quadriceps injury in the first

quarter-final against Wales.

Hazard scored and contributed an assist in an excellent individual performance when Belgium crushed Hungary in Toulouse but picked up a quadriceps injury in the first

Liverpool sign Mane

AFP, London

Senegal striker Sadio Mane has joined Liverpool from Premier League rivals Southampton on a "long-term contract" for an undisclosed fee, the Anfield club announced Tuesday.

British media reports suggested Mane had signed a five-year contract in a deal worth some £30 million.

That would make Mane Liverpool's third-most expensive signing behind Andy Carroll and Benteke.

Iceland erupts with joy

AFP, Reykjavik



More than 10,000 people packed a Reykjavik square to watch Iceland beat England at Euro 2016 in the country's greatest sporting moment.

The 2-1 victory in Nice on Monday unleashed national celebrations. "There are no words, only tears of joy," Iceland's foreign ministry said on its Twitter account.

But there were many words to make fun of the big neighbour across the Atlantic.

"This was the real Brexit," said Asta Helgadóttir, a deputy in the Icelandic parliament for the Pirate Party, on her Twitter account.

"Our boys sent England home," the Frettabladid internet news site said.

Iceland's team are known as Our Boys.

The Iceland capital erupted in

widespread celebrations as the crowd of more than 10,000 returned home after watching the win on a giant screen.

Iceland has rarely had such international sports triumphs to celebrate. Its men's handball team won the silver medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

It has also had run-ins with Britain. A "Cod War" over fishing rights ran from 1950 until 1970 and ended with an Iceland win.

Iceland also won an international court battle with Britain over who should pay compensation to savers for the collapse of the Icesave bank that failed in 2008, costing millions to a large number of British savers.

Iceland's president Olafur Ragnar Grimsson and his successor, Gudni Johannesson, who won an election Saturday, were at the match in Nice.

Iceland's players celebrated in joyous disbelief with their 3,500 fans in the stadium.



Iceland fans celebrate goals at a public screening of their Euro 2016 Round of 16 match against England in Reykjavik on Monday. PHOTO: AFP

Podolski slates new format

REUTERS, Paris

Germany forward Lukas Podolski has criticised the new 24-team format for the European Championship, labelling it 'stupid' as it created a great deal of confusion among the players.

European soccer's governing body UEFA have added eight places to the finals tournament since it was last hosted in 2012, when only the top-two sides from the four groups advanced straight into the quarter-finals.

The expansion means four of the best third-placed teams joined the top-two from each of the six groups in the Round of 16 and Podolski believes sides have been forced to wait too long to discover who their opponents were in the knockout stages.

"The group stage was a little bit strange, because UEFA did some stupid things with the system. It's not about the smaller teams, it's about the decisions. Some teams waited three days in the camp for a decision," Podolski told

PSG appoint Emery

AFP, Paris



Paris Saint-Germain on Tuesday named Spaniard Unai Emery as their new coach on a two-year contract.

Emery, 44, takes over from Laurent Blanc, who left his role with the Qatari-backed French giants on Monday, and his contract includes an option for an additional season.

Emery had terminated his contract with Sevilla earlier this month, having guided the Spanish side to three successive Europa League titles.

"It is with great pride that I agreed to become the Paris Saint-Germain coach," said Emery.

"The club has become one of the biggest in Europe over the past few seasons and I am both happy and honoured to be able to help realise its great ambitions."

Alves reveals his Juve goal

AFP, Rome



Brazil international Dani Alves said Tuesday that his ultimate goal was to win the Champions League with his new Serie A club Juventus.

"Juventus have a dream which is to win the Champions League, and I want to help them achieve this," Alves told a press conference after signing a two-year deal with the Italian champions.

The 33-year-old full-back left Barcelona in June at the end of his contract, after eight seasons with the Catalan giants produced 23 trophies.

"The history of the club strikes me. And then to live a new experience in a new country, that interests me," explained Alves.

After leaving Sevilla for the Camp Nou in 2008, the Brazilian claimed six La Liga titles and three Champions League winners' medals.

SHARP

পবিত্র মাহে
রমজানে
সেরা অফার সেরা পণ্যে

নগদ মূল্য ছাড় **১০%** পর্যন্ত অতিরিক্ত বাস্তব মূল্য ছাড়*
স্পেশাল ফ্রি গিফট* ০% ইন্টারেস্ট এ 12EMI*
এবং আরো অ-নে-ক কিছু

তার দেরি নয়, আজই যোগাযোগ করুন

AGUOS | androidtv | J-TECH INVERTER

*নির্দিষ্ট মডেলের জন্য

Sole Distributor

Esquire Electronics Ltd

+880 9602 333 888 | info@esquirebd.com | /esquire.eel
www.esquireelectronicsltd.com

Showroom: Stadium, Dhaka. Cell: 01730-087005, 01713-367520, 01730-087008, 01709-636176 | Elephant Road: 01713-367519 | Dholaipar: 01709-636175 | Panthopath: 01713-367521 | Kawranbazar: 01713-365495 | Mohammadpur: 01730-700797, 01755-689980 | Shewrapara: 01713-367527 | Mirpur 11: 01709-636177 | Moghbazar: 01713-367509 | Rampura: 01713-365477 | Bashabo: 01730-792234 | Mohakhali: 01713-367528 | Gulshan: 01713-367518, 01713-367522 | Middle Badda: 01730-059008 | Bashundhara R/A: 01755-519966 | Uttara: 01713-367523, 01777-757998 | Gawair: 01713-384869 | Tongi: 01777-757995 | Savar: 01777-757994 | Gazipur: 01762-684091 | Nobabgonj: 01777-757990 | Narayanganj: 01713-367526 | Bogra: 01713-246450 | Natore: 01777-757996 | Munshigonj: 01713-384850 | Barisal: 01730-783808 | Khulna: 01713-367516 | Jessore: 01713-384874 | Sylhet: 01713-384851 | Pabna: 01730-792231 | Chittagong: 01713-367517, 01730-700796 | Rajshahi: 01730-792230 | Mymensingh: 01777-757992 | Dinajpur: 01777-757993 | Rangpur: 01755-689988 | Tangail: 01709-636119 | Comilla: 01709-636118 |

For Dealers Inquiry. Please Call: 01713-367505, 01713-240162, 01730-087000, 01713-367515, 01713-240163 |