

QUICK SINGLES

The following are a few samples of stories that did not make the print edition. However, if they pique your interest, you can always read them online on The Daily Star website by simply scanning the QR codes listed below:

India rattle Aussies after Pujara heroics

Cheteshwar Pujara scored a patient double hundred as he and fellow centurion Wriddhiman Saha put India in a commanding position against Australia in the third Test at Ranchi.

Misbah wants life bans for fixers

Pakistan's Test captain Misbah-ul-Haq calls for life bans on anyone found guilty of fixing, adding that an investigation into five players threatened years of work to clean up the country's image.

PM calls Mushfiq, Shakib over historic win

President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina congratulated all the players and officials of Bangladesh cricket team for their historic victory against Sri Lanka in the 100th Test match.

NZ get Taylor, Boult boost

A thoroughly outplayed New Zealand received a glimmer of hope that Ross Taylor and Trent Boult could be fit for the third Test after announcing the pair will rejoin the squad.

Federer to meet Wawrinka in final

Roger Federer and Stan Wawrinka set up an all-Swiss showdown for the ATP Indian Wells Masters title with straight-sets semifinal victories.



While Tamim Iqbal played the most crucial knock in Bangladesh's historic chase in Colombo yesterday, Sabbir Rahman's contribution could hardly be overemphasied. His fluid 41-run knock in a 109-run third wicket partnership was a perfect foil to Tamim's measured approach, laying the platform for the four-wicket victory.

PHOTOS: AFP

## Tigers take the next step

SPORTS REPORTER from Colombo

A lot may know him as Sri Lanka's strategic consultant, but Asanka Gurusinha will forever be known to cricket fans over 30 as the bearded, bespectacled Sri Lanka number three who hit a half-century in a century partnership in the 1996 World Cup final to deliver the island's first World Cup in only their 14th year as a Full Member nation.

But today, two days after the anniversary of that triumph, Gurusinha was busy conducting Sri Lanka's batting practice at the P Sara Oval in Colombo, half an hour before their last two wickets would try to add as many runs as possible to their overnight lead of 139 and try to ruin Bangladesh's plans to win their 100th Test match.

Stepping aside for a short chat, Gurusinha had generous words of praise for his opponents, the youngest of the 10 Test nations, but sounded a warning when asked what he thought would happen yesterday.

"My prediction [is that] it is going to be a very close game because Bangladesh don't bat very well in the second innings. And Sri Lankans have been defending small totals in the last four-five years in Sri Lanka.

"We won against India when India were chasing 175, and against Pakistan when they were chasing 160. We still need some runs, these guys are very confident still of doing something and Bangladesh will be the same.

"So this will show whether Bangladesh have taken the next step or not. That will be shown today," said the affable Gurusinha with a smile.

Around six hours later, Gurusinha was walking out of a press conference after Sri Lanka's first ever defeat to Bangladesh. When asked whether the step has been taken, he did not say much, but just smiled.



ASANKA GURUSINHA

## Shakib back to his old self?

SPORTS REPORTER from Colombo

Three days before the Test started, Bangladesh coach Chandika Hathurusingha bemoaned the lack of experience in the Bangladesh bowling ranks, saying that apart from Shakib Al Hasan, the other bowlers had played just 15 Test matches as of the Galle Test match that ended in a 259-run defeat for Bangladesh.

What he said then was taken by many to be a slight directed at Shakib, perhaps to fire up Bangladesh's highest-wicket-taker.

"Shakib is not the same bowler from 2010 who used to run through teams on helpful conditions," he had said on March 12.

Exactly a week later, Shakib had accepted a player-of-the-series trophy which had as much to do with second-innings bowling figures of four for 74 as his first-innings hundred. To top it off, it was not a really helpful pitch and Shakib displayed all his guile and cricketing intelligence to get those wickets.



HATHURUSINGHA

"It's nothing like that," said Shakib when asked whether the coach's comments fired him up. "I always try to perform my best for the team; sometimes it clicks, sometimes it doesn't. Maybe after this match the coach will say I am bowling like I used to again," finished Shakib with a chuckle that was echoed in the press conference room.

With it being an auspicious occasion and everyone in good cheer, there was the opportunity to ask the coach about Shakib's bowling in light of his most recent performance. He first smiled and asked, "Who said that? Me? Do you have a record?" When assured that there was in fact a record, he proceeded.

"I had seen him bowling against South Africa in 2010 or 2011. He was a different bowler, and he showed it to me.

We had a very good discussion on what he is not doing now. We discussed after seeing video footage. He bowled very well in this game. When Fizz was bowling from one end, he checked on the runs from the far end. At that time, he came back to the game."

So Shakib is indeed back to his old self, according to the coach.

## Tigers take ownership of their fate

FROM PAGE-S4

and every game from now. I think that was the game changer," said Bangladesh opener Tamim Iqbal, whose innings of 82 was instrumental in Bangladesh exorcising their fifth-day hoodoo. "We might lose games doing the same thing, but at least we are trying to do something different. So all the players got together on the night before the game and we discussed how we want to play this game and how we can win this game. There were a lot of discussions and there were very honest discussions in that room. I think that changed things."

Close observers of the match will have noticed the changes. Tamim himself was instrumental in pumping up the likes of pacer Subhashis Roy -- one of the newer members of the team -- on the first day and on the fifth morning, when Sri Lanka's total seemed to be swelling a little out of control, there was not a moment when Bangladeshi fielders hung their heads, instead constantly goading up the bowlers. Mustafizur Rahman and Shakib Al Hasan's bowling effort against a Test line-up on a flat pitch on the fourth

afternoon -- the best time to bat on this pitch -- is not something that has been seen before from this team. Debutant batsman Mosaddek Hossain having a vital say in the win in both innings is a sign of the future holds.

There were only two fielding lapses throughout the whole match -- Mushfiqur Rahim dropping a very tough chance off eventual centurion Dimuth Karunaratne in Sri Lanka's second innings and Mustafizur's drop off tailender Lakshan Sandakan in the first innings. Otherwise, every catch was held, and the fielding was uniformly sharp -- think Imrul Kayes's sharp interception of a pull shot, a swivel and a direct hit at the non-striker's end to almost run Dinesh Chandimal out, or indeed Subhashis's recovery after a misfield to gather the ball for a fast throw that produced the first wicket yesterday. Try to think whether field settings like the man positioned between deep third man and deep point who saved a lot of runs off the spinners would have been possible by players not dictating their own destinies.

"If you see the fielding setup, and the way each and every player talked

and supported. So these were the things that we discussed," said Tamim.

Most importantly the individuals coalesced into a collective. Just like Bangladesh have done in ODIs from late 2014 onwards, they have shown in this game that they can respond to difficult setbacks within a game, and that has been the pad from which Bangladesh's graduation into an outfit to reckon with was launched.

"I didn't do much. They decided they need to change. I prompted the questions. They had a heart-to-heart in the dressing room and said that they were going to do things differently. They used to give up in certain situations, but in this game I saw that they were in the game in all five days. And after making four changes, to get a result like that...total credit to the boys to respond."

So, unlike what all the players were saying yesterday and all the headlines will declare today, the four-wicket win in Colombo was not special because it was in the 100th Test. Instead, the 100th Test was special because it was the match from which the Tigers took ownership of their own fate.

## Man Utd ease past Middlesbrough

AFP, London



Marouane Fellaini scored his first Premier League goal for 15 months as Manchester United extended their unbeaten Premier League run to 18 games to move up to fifth with a 3-1 victory at relegation-threatened Middlesbrough on Sunday. Jesse Lingard added a stunning second and Antonio Valencia a stoppage-time third after an embarrassing mistake by former United keeper Victor Valdes as Jose Mourinho's side ended a 19-week stay in sixth by climbing a place.

Their latest victory as they became the first club to record 600 Premier League wins puts them a distant 17 points behind leaders Chelsea and two points ahead of their nearest rivals Arsenal and Everton in seventh.

Middlesbrough pulled a late goal back through substitute Rudy Gestede, but they remain second-bottom, five points adrift of

safety after an 11th league game without victory.

Gestede initially appeared to bite defender Eric Bailly in a stoppage time melee on the edge of the visitors' area in an altercation missed by referee Jon Moss and his assistants.

Replays showed there was no contact as the pair engaged in an angry clinch, but punches appeared to be thrown afterwards in the players tunnel as both sides left the pitch.

United were last beaten in the league at the end of October, a record which rarely looked under threat once they took a deserved 30th minute lead through Fellaini.

The Belgian international had scored his previous league goal in a 2-1 defeat at Bournemouth in December 2015.

Ashley Young cut in from the left to send over a searching cross to the far post, and as Valdes and former Manchester United defender Fabio hesitated, Fellaini was left with the simple task of heading the ball into an unguarded net from close range.



Jesse Lingard celebrates after scoring Manchester United's second goal with a thunderous effort against Middlesbrough at the Riverside Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

## QUICK FACTS

Yesterday's win was Bangladesh's 4th overall in 47 away Tests. Their previous away win came against Zimbabwe at Harare in 2013 while the other two came during the tour of West Indies in 2009.

This is Bangladesh's 9th win overall in 100 Tests. They have 15 draws and 76 defeats.

Only 3 other teams before Bangladesh won their 100th Test match. The teams are: Australia, Pakistan and the West Indies.

This is Bangladesh's 1st win over Sri Lanka in 18 Tests. The Tigers have drawn two and lost the other 15 matches.

This is Bangladesh's 6th drawn series. Bangladesh also have 3 series victories under their belt.

## SINGER LED TVs

More than a TV



PERFORMER OF THE DAY

### TAMIM IQBAL



Whatever the nature of the pitch, a fifth-day chase of 191 runs was always going to be a tough one, especially with Bangladesh's tendency of collapsing under pressure despite continued improvement in Test cricket over the last couple of years. And to chase down the target, Bangladesh needed a solid platform from a top-order batsman. Opener Tamim Iqbal provided just that bit of calmness mixed with aggression with his 82-run knock in Colombo yesterday. The 28-year-old left-hander was exemplary in his footwork, something crucial against spin on a fifth-day pitch in Sri Lanka, as he successfully smothered the turn with a step or two forward. Even when he played off the back foot, he made sure he played the ball late, reading the variations off the bowler's hand. His 125-ball 82, where he mixed caution with aggression, made sure Bangladesh chased down the total, despite late hiccups, to set a landmark victory in their 100th Test.

### BD-SL SCOREBOARD

SRI LANKA: First innings 338			
BANGLADESH: First innings 467 (Tamim 49, Soumya 61, Imrul 34, Sabbir 42, Shakib 116, Mosaddek 75, Mushfiqur 52, Mehedi 24; Herath 4-82, Sandakan 4-140, Lakmal 2-90)			
SRI LANKA: Second innings R/B 4s/6s (overnight 268 for 8)			
Karunaratne c Soumya	126/244	10/1	
b Shakib	26/40	3/0	
Tharanga b Mehedi			
Mendis c Mushfiqur b Mustafizur	36/91	2/0	
Chandimal c Mushfiqur b Mustafizur	5/13	1/0	
Gunaratne lbw b Shakib	7/15	1/0	
De Silva c Mushfiqur b Mustafizur	0/7	0/0	
Dickwell c Mushfiqur b Shakib	5/15	0/0	
Perera run out	50/174	6/0	
Herath lbw b Tajjui	9/32	0/0	
Lakmal c Mosaddek b Shakib	42/48	4/0	
Sandakan not out	0/1	0/0	
Extras: (b-4, lb-8, w-1)	13		
Total: (All out in 113.2 overs)	319		
Fall of wickets: 1-57, 2-143, 3-165, 4-176, 5-177, 6-190, 7-217, 8-238, 9-318, 10-319.			
Bowler			
Subashis	16	4	36
Mehedi	24	0	71
Mustafizur	23	3	78
Shakib	36.2	9	74
Mosaddek	3	0	10
Tajjui	11	1	38
BANGLADESH: Second innings R/B 4s/6s			
Tamim c Chandimal b Perera	82/125	7/1	
Soumya c Tharanga b Herath	10/26	2/0	
Imrul c Gunaratne b Herath	0/1	0/0	
Sabbir lbw b Perera	41/76	5/0	
Shakib b Perera	15/43	1/0	
Mushfiqur not out	22/45	1/0	
Mosaddek c Dickwell b Herath	13/28	2/0	
Mehedi not out	2/3	0/0	
Extras: (b-4, lb-1, w-1)	6		
Total: (For 6 wickets in 57.5 overs)	191		
Did not bat: Tajjui Islam, Subashis Roy, Mustafizur Rahman.			
Fall of wickets: 1-22, 2-22, 3-131, 4-143, 5-162, 6-189.			
Bowler			
Perera	22	1	59
Herath	24.5	2	75
De Silva	2	0	7
Sandakan	6	1	34
Lakmal	2	0	7
Gunaratne	1	0	4
Result: Bangladesh won by 4 wickets and 2-match series drawn 1-1.			
Player-of-the-match: Tamim Iqbal.			
Player-of-the-series: Shakib Al Hasan.			

## Ghosts of the past put to rest

FROM PAGE-S2

new history by beating Sri Lanka in Sri Lanka," Bashar reminded of the forgettable records against Sri Lanka, adding that: "Don't forget it's a 100th Test match, man!"

However, Bashar had little doubt over the win after the Tigers were set a 191-run target.

"I was bit nervous when the two tailenders batted brilliantly but once Sri Lanka were dismissed for a below 200-target, I had no doubt. And now we have achieved the belief that we can

win Test matches away from home against tough opponents."

In that ill-fated match in 2001, Mohammad Ashrafu made his debut and entered the record books by becoming the youngest batsman to score a hundred. However, when it comes to tours of Sri Lanka, it's still all about the bitter memories. He was the captain when Bangladesh made their lowest total at the P Sara Oval. And he shared Bashar's feelings yesterday.

"It's very special for those of us who

had have gone through humiliation against Sri Lanka. It all began when we drew the Galle Test in 2013, but a win against Sri Lanka in Sri Lanka is not a joke when even teams like Australia struggle. I doubted whether we could get 20 wickets but the bowlers proved me wrong and I give full credit to them. It's a great comeback after the Galle Test defeat."

Both former captains also shared in the belief that up and coming talents like Mosaddek Hossain would continue and take the baton even further.