



“The country’s entire criminal justice system is operating in constant violation of fundamental rights cited in the constitution.”

EMINENT JURIST DR SHAHDEEN MALIK AT A DISCUSSION PAGE 3



“The government knows its forest department is inefficient, non-transparent and corrupt. So it goes after forest land whenever it needs land.”

SYEDA RIZWANA HASAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF BELA, AT A DISCUSSION PAGE 5

“It [war with Iran] wouldn’t last very long. I can tell you that.”

US PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP
PAGE 8



Rohingya crisis may disrupt security: PM

Warns Bangladesh’s stability may be at stake if the refugees are not repatriated

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said Bangladesh’s security and stability may be hampered if the Rohingya refugees cannot be repatriated to Myanmar soon.

In reply to a query from Awami League lawmaker Nur Mohammad in the Jatiya Sangsad, Hasina said, “The displaced Rohingyas, who have been deprived of basic rights by Myanmar, are dissatisfied. If we cannot send them back soon, there is apprehension that our security and stability will be hampered.”

The PM also slammed Myanmar for making excuses for delaying repatriation of the refugees though it signed three pacts with Bangladesh, pledging to complete the repatriation process within two years.

“They [Myanmar] are delaying the process on various excuses,”

Bangladesh and the international



community are putting pressure on Myanmar to create conducive conditions in Rakhine State, but unfortunately the situation there has not improved due to Myanmar government’s rigid stance, the PM noted.

In a scripted answer, the premier told the House that Myanmar is carrying out propaganda in the international arena that the Rohingya repatriation is being delayed due to Bangladesh’s non-cooperation.

“We are continuing bilateral efforts with Myanmar to resolve the crisis. We are also making diplomatic efforts with international and regional forums to mount pressure on Myanmar to take the Rohingyas back.”

Since August 2017, 741,000 Rohingyas fled to Bangladesh to escape military crackdown in Rakhine. They joined some

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

ROHINGYA CRISIS
ICC lawyer
seeks probe
into atrocities

AFP, The Hague

The International Criminal Court’s prosecutor wants to open a full investigation into Myanmar’s alleged crimes against Rohingya Muslims, including killings and forced deportations, the court said yesterday.

Fatou Bensouda’s move comes after she launched a preliminary examination in September into Myanmar’s 2017 military crackdown, which saw around 700,000 people flee into neighbouring Bangladesh.

The Ghanaian-born prosecutor will now “submit a request for an authorisation to open an investigation into this situation”, the Hague-based ICC said in a statement.

Judges will then “decide whether or not to authorise” her request for a full-scale probe, the court said, without saying when that decision would

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

Man killed in front of wife

The brutal incident captured on phone camera; police have identified culprits

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A woman’s screams, as she desperately tries to stave off two men attacking her husband with sharp weapons, punctuates the air. She tries to hold back one of the attackers, while the other continues to hack her husband, Rifat Sharif, 25.

At one point, Rifat breaks free of his attackers. While his wife Ayesha Siddika clings onto an attacker, her husband fights the other one off with what appears to be a red shopping bag. It is too little and too late. By then his white shirt has turned into a bloody rag.

In the ensuing struggle, Ayesha drops her purse and forcefully pushes back one of the attackers. The two attackers then throw one last chop at Rifat, before running away.

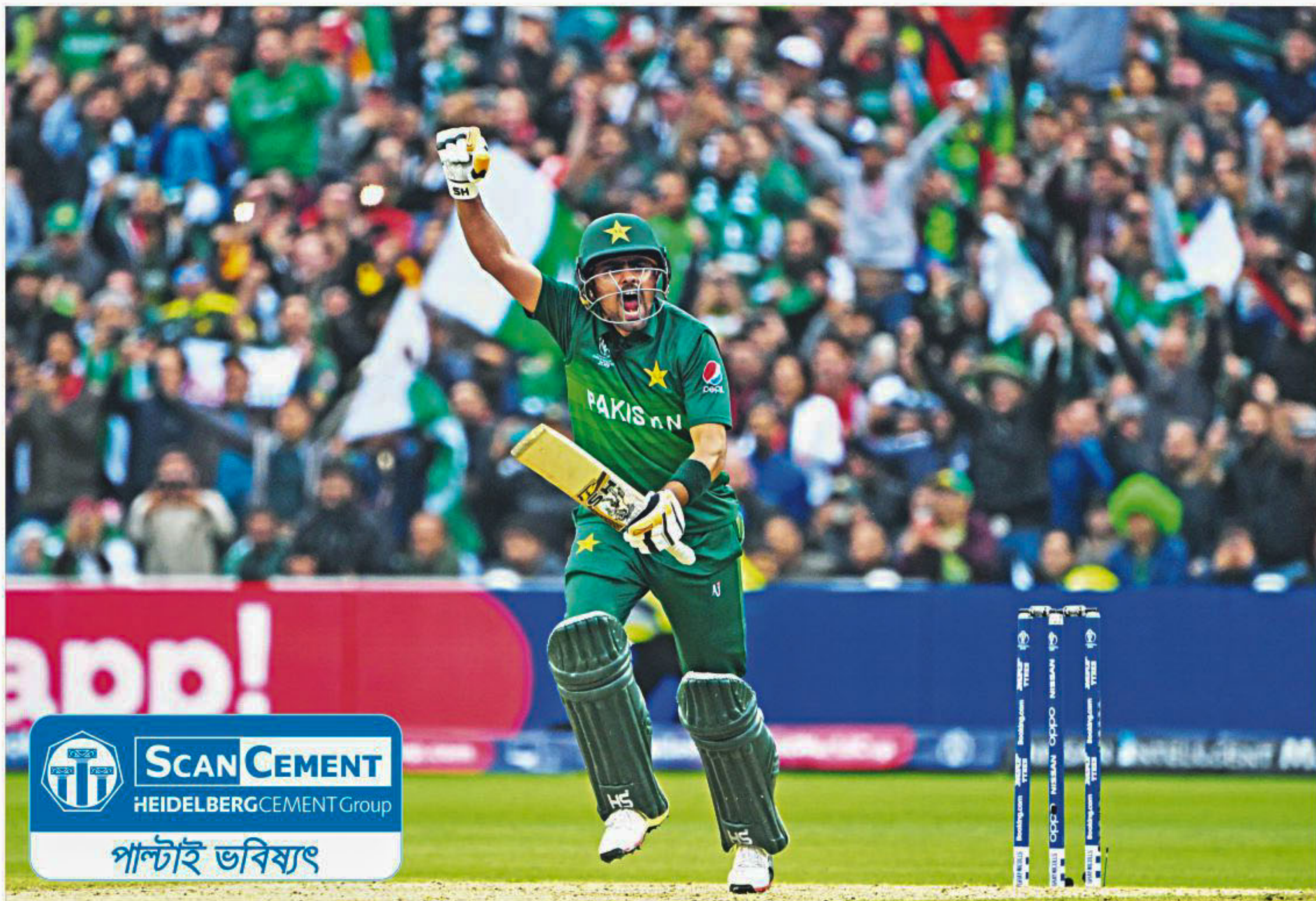
Bystanders can be seen at a distance the whole time. They do not intervene, save one man in a striped polo, whose gestures cannot be interpreted.

The entire incident, which was captured possibly on a mobile phone, shows the attack on the youth in Barguna town in front of Barguna Government College around 10:30am yesterday, where Rifat went to drop-off his wife.

Footage of the incident went viral on social media yesterday.



SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Babar Azam celebrates his century during Pakistan’s six-wicket win against New Zealand at Edgbaston in Birmingham yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

পদ্মা সেতুর মূল কাঠামোতে
ব্যবহৃত হচ্ছে শুধুমাত্র

স্ক্যানসিমেন্ট

ভিভিসিহ পুরো বাড়ি তৈরিতেই
ব্যবহার করুন স্ক্যান সিমেন্ট
মজবুত হোক আপনার বাড়ির ভবিষ্যৎ

Pakistan thump New Zealand by six wickets to stay alive

AFP, Birmingham

Babar Azam hit a sparkling century as Pakistan kept alive their hopes of reaching the World Cup semi-finals with an impressive six-wicket win against New Zealand on Wednesday.

Sarfraz Ahmed’s side appeared down and out with only one win in their first five matches but they have bounced back strongly to beat South Africa and now previously unbeaten New Zealand.

Their victory at Edgbaston means they are level on seven points with Bangladesh and just one point behind faltering hosts England, with matches against bottom side Afghanistan and Bangladesh to come.

Man-of-the-match Babar was the star of the show, scoring a measured 101 off 127 balls in

front thousands of fanatical fans in Birmingham as Pakistan surpassed New Zealand’s total of 237 for six in the final over.

Pakistan’s revival after three defeats earlier in the tournament recalls memories of the 1992 campaign, when they won the trophy after a sticky start.

“Whenever we are in a corner we play our best, it was a great team effort,” said winning captain Sarfraz.

“All the bowlers bowled well and there was some of the finest batting I have ever seen. The target of 240 was not an easy and we just wanted to play the 50 overs. Babar played one of the best innings I have ever seen. They handled the pressure so well.

“We are not thinking about 1992, we are going match by match.”

Pakistan were wobbling at 110-3 when Mohammad Hafeez was out for 32 in the 25th over but 24-year-old Babar anchored the innings and was ably supported by Haris Sohail, who hit 68.

During the course of his knock, Babar became the second-fastest to reach 3,000 one-day-international runs -- in 68 innings.

Babar took 11 innings more than South Africa’s Hashim Amla but overtook West Indies great Viv Richards (69 innings).

“The wicket was difficult but my aim was to bat for 50 overs and if I did I knew Pakistan would win the match,” said Babar.

“We know we’d need to score runs off the pace bowlers. Once (Mitchell) Santner came on it was doing stuff off the pitch so Hafeez told me to stick at it and score three or four runs an over.”

Sohail was run out in the 49th over, leaving Sarfraz to hit the winning runs.

Earlier, Jimmy Neesham hit a career-best 97 not out while Colin de Grandhomme made 64 after New Zealand won the toss and chose to bat.

Left-arm seamer Shaheen Shah Afridi (3-28) starred with the ball as Pakistan reduced New Zealand to 83-5, with in-form captain Kane Williamson dismissed by leg-spinner Shadab Khan for 41.

“The fight we showed in the back end was outstanding and we were in a competitive position,” said Williamson. There are so many games in the round robin you can’t win them all.”

New Zealand are second in the 10-team table on 11 points behind Australia (12 points), the only team who have qualified so far.

SAUDI VISA CENTRES

Two recruiting agencies at loggerheads

PORIMOL PALMA

Two groups of recruiting agencies are at loggerheads over the Saudi embassy move to start visa service centres in Dhaka under two leading recruiting agents.

A section of the agencies, who are general members of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira), says the plan to set up two Saudi visa centres is nothing but a ploy to create a cartel in the labour recruitment sector of Saudi Arabia.

But the Baira executive committee, which is supporting the visa centres, says such accusations are nothing but hypothetical statements. It also claims that the move will ease the procedural problems and benefit all the recruiting agents.

Usually, individual agents search job offers from Saudi employers, and once the workers are matched and deals are final, the employers send the visa numbers to the agents online.

The agents then prepare all the documents including passports of the aspirant migrants and submit those to the Saudi Embassy for visa stamping.

Recently, the embassy has decided to open two visa service centres in Dhaka -- one on Kamal Ataturk Avenue in Banani and the other on Gulshan North Avenue in Gulshan-2.

The embassy no longer wants to allow gathering of the agents on its premises as it is moving to the diplomatic

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



‘Spinners have to control the middle overs’

SAKEB SUBHAN from Birmingham

Bangladesh have been impressive in the World Cup so far and are still in contention for a semifinal place. However, when a five-day break following a 62-run win over Afghanistan ends, they will be preparing for their toughest challenge. To stay alive in the World Cup, they will have to win against India in Birmingham next Monday, and it should be expected that their frailties will be exposed by the strongest team of the event so far.

While the batting has held up well in each of the six completed matches that the Tigers have played, the main concern surrounds their bowling as opponents have run up scores of 300 or more in four of those six matches. A closer look at

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

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