



**ICRC**  
**CRICKET**  
**TOURNAMENT**



**FOR PEOPLE WITH**  
**PHYSICAL**  
**DISABILITIES**  
**BANGLADESH 2015**



**ICRC**



**ICRC**

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## **ICRC INTERNATIONAL CRICKET TOURNAMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES BANGLADESH 2015**

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# st: H.E. SHEIKH NA

Honorary Minister  
Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh





بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



প্রধানমন্ত্রী  
গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

06 Ashwin 1422  
21 September 2015

## Message

I am happy to learn that the opening ceremony of the ICRC International T20 Cricket Tournament for People with Physical Disabilities Bangladesh 2015 will be held in Dhaka on 02 September 2015.

Co-hosting of the 5-Nation Cricket Tournament is a matter of great pride for us. This, I hope, will help provide much encouragement for the People with Physical Disabilities. Our government is providing the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) with all the necessary support to make this first ever tournament a great success.

I extend my sincere thanks to the ICRC and BCB Officials, players and the countries of cricket loving people for their relentless efforts and assistance to hold the tournament successful.

I wish the joyful opening ceremony of the ICRC International T20 Cricket Tournament for People with Physical Disabilities Bangladesh 2015 and the matches to be held at BKSP a grand success.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu  
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Sheikh Hasina



**Bangladesh  
Cricket Board**



## MESSAGE

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is pleased to be part of the first ever multi-nation ICRC International T20 Cricket Tournament for People with Physical Disabilities 2015. The Event is pivotal in the historical backdrop of Bangladesh and a tribute to all, particularly the Physically Disabled Cricketers from five countries who have played with pride.

Cricket is the most popular sport in the country and cricket made our flag fly high with pride. I welcome the participating teams from Afghanistan, England, India and Pakistan and the host, Bangladesh. I wish the occasion to be a glorious achievement.

We express our sincerest appreciation to the Government of Bangladesh, whose support is always crucial in such events. We owe a debt of gratitude to the Prime Minister of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Also we want to convey our deepest gratitude to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Delegation in Dhaka for the great initiative to organize the first ever multi nation cricket tournament for people with physical disability.

I anticipate an energizing tournament played with passion. I am rest assured that cricket will win over all the physical incapability.

Sincerely,

**Nazmul Hassan, MP**

President

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB)



## MESSAGE

I am extremely proud to be a part of such a momentous occasion in the history of our nation – the hosting of the opening ceremony of the ICRC International T20 Cricket Tournament 2015.

This tournament is a huge one if we think of its impact upon our society, upon our minds. Physically challenged people will show how capable they are in throwing out so called physical difficulties. This tournament will help us to change our mentality towards disability. It will help us to open our eyes; we will be more careful, more loving, and more positive towards children who are physically challenged.

I congratulate the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Members of the Bangladesh Cricket Board, BKSP, Sponsor partners and the Organizing Committee for their relentless efforts to make this event a success.

**Dr. Shri Biren Sikder, MP**

State Minister  
Ministry of Youth & Sports  
Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh



## MESSAGE

I am intensely delighted to know that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Bangladesh in association with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, and Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is going to arrange a grand ICRC International Cricket Tournament for People with Physical Disabilities 2015 with the participation of Afghanistan, England, Pakistan, India and the host, Bangladesh. It is my pleasure to be part of this great event. It is also a great joy for me that ICRC is going to bring out a souvenir to mark the occasion.

I hope this tournament will make a milestone in the world cricket arena. It is also anticipated that this tournament will help the common people to change their outlook regarding people with physical disabilities. This tournament will make us realize that these physically disabled people are no longer a liability to themselves or to the society rather they can be turned into an asset if we can create scope for them.

As the Director General of BKSP, I assure that all the members of BKSP would extend their wholehearted support and do their best to assist ICRC in organizing the grand event in a befitting manner.

I wish all the participating teams to have a pleasant and comfortable stay in Bangladesh and also wish the event a grand success.

**Ali Murtoza Khan, ndc, afwc, psc**  
Brigadier General  
Director General  
Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishtan



# ICRC

## MESSAGE

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Bangladesh, through its Physical Rehabilitation Project (PRP), was delighted to organize the first ever five nation 'ICRC International Cricket Tournament for People with Physical Disabilities 2015', in Bangladesh.

The approvals and support received from the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, through the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS), the professional guidance and support from the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), the assistance from the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP – Bangladesh Institute of Sports) to host the matches at the BKSP venue and not forgetting the fantastic response of the participating teams, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, England, India and Pakistan made this International Tournament a real success.

Often, people with physical disabilities (PwDs) are stigmatised by society and do not benefit from the same opportunities as "abled" persons do. The general public often believes that PwDs are not able to perform in the same way as any abled bodied person can. On the contrary, we have seen during the tournament that Persons with Physical Disabilities can do it too!!!

The ICRC – PRP has a "Social Inclusion" objective to create "equal Opportunities for all". With this in mind, the ICRC will continue to strive to organize similar ICRC activities in 2016 and a new ICRC International Cricket Tournament for Persons with Physical Disabilities, with even more participating countries, being endorsed by their respective cricket boards!

Mr. Md. Mahfuzur Rahman / ICRC Assistant Physical Rehabilitation Project Manager and myself would like to thank H.E. Sheikh Hasina, the Prime Minister of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Bangladesh Cricket Board, the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan, the International Cricket Council and the Cricket Teams from Afghanistan, England, India and Pakistan for their presence and support during the Tournament.

See you in Bangladesh in 2016!

Sincerely,

**Gerd Van de Velde**

ICRC Physical Rehabilitation Project Manager  
Bangladesh



Mr. Mashrafe Bin Mortaza (Right), Captain of the National Cricket team of Bangladesh and the Brand Ambassador of the ICRC International Cricket Tournament, together with Mr. Alam Khan (Left), Captain of the BCB Physically Challenged Cricket Team.



# ICRC

## MESSAGE

The ICRC International Cricket Tournament for People with Physical Disabilities 2015 has concluded successfully and we are overwhelmed by its accomplishment! Indeed, the players have displayed to the world that **“they can do it too!”**

I am delighted to convey my words of thanks to the ICRC’s partners involved in this endeavor: The Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Bangladesh Cricket Board and the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishtan. Without their support and cooperation, this historic event would not have been attainable.

I would like to reiterate my admiration and profound respect to the participating teams from five countries – Afghanistan Physical Disabled Cricket team, Bangladesh Cricket Board Physically Challenged Cricket Team, England Physical Disability Cricket Team, All India Cricket Association for the Physically Challenged team and Pakistan Disabled Cricket Association. We will always remember you for the amazing team spirit that you displayed on the field!

On behalf of the ICRC, I would like to express my tremendous gratitude to Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, Honorable Prime Minister of the Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh for inaugurating this event. Her presence and her words of assurance for support was a great source of inspiration for Persons living with Physical Disabilities.

The ICRC will continue to work through its Physical Rehabilitation Project (PRP) to help Persons with Physical Disabilities regain their mobility so that they can lead a dignified life and play an active role in the society.

We look to the future with anticipation of great possibilities. The success of this very first ICRC Cricket Tournament for People with Physical Disabilities permits only one course of action for 2016 and beyond: the same passion and determination of Persons with Physical Disabilities from more participating nations.

Let us take that course together!

Thank you!

**Christine Cipolla**

Head of Delegation

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Bangladesh

## SHER-E-BANGLA NATIONAL CRICKET STADIUM

The Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium also called Mirpur Stadium, is a cricket ground in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh. Located 10 kilometres away from the city centre in Mirpur, the ground holds approximately 25,000 people, and is named for the Bengali statesman A. K. Fazlul Huq, who was accorded the title Sher-e-Bangla ("tiger of Bengal").

The ground was originally constructed for football in the late 1980s, and first hosted matches at the 1987 Asian Club Championship. The venue was taken over by the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) in 2004, replacing the Bangabandhu National Stadium as the home of both the men's and women's national teams.

The stadium has a field dimension of 186 m X 136 m. The stadium hosted 4 group matches and 2 quarter finals during the 2011 Cricket World Cup which took place in 19 February – 2 April, jointly hosted by Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India. [1]





## **BANGLADESH KRIRA SHIKKHA PROTISTHAN (BKSP) CRICKET STADIUM**

Bangladesh Kira Shikkha Protisthan Cricket Grounds abbreviated as BKSP Stadium (Bangladesh Institute of Sports). The stadium is located in Savar in Dhaka. It has held many cricket matches. The ground hosted ICC Under-19s Cricket World Cup matches in 2004.

Also the ground hosted the women's practice matches in the ICC World Twenty20 in 2014 and the Dhaka Premier League in 2013-14 and 2014-15. [2]

[1] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sher-e\\_Bangla\\_National\\_Cricket\\_Stadium](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sher-e_Bangla_National_Cricket_Stadium)

[2] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangladesh\\_Kira\\_Shikkha\\_Protisthan\\_Ground](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangladesh_Kira_Shikkha_Protisthan_Ground)





AFGHANISTAN PHYSICAL  
DISABLED CRICKET TEAM, ACB



The Afghanistan PwDs (people with disabilities) Cricket structure came into being in the year 2012.

In the initial stages, the teams were playing on a regional level once in a year. Currently, there is a very solid structure existing for the players' development at the level of each region and province. Based on the outcome and performance of the players at the regional level event, the PwDs department succeeded to select a squad of 16 players to the National PwDs team.

The team went on their first official tour to Pakistan and played a series of ODI and T-20 matches against the Pakistan National PwDs team. This was the first successful event for the Afghanistan National PwDs team.

As the interest of cricket is increasing amongst PwDs day by day, more and more players are coming together on a regional and provinces basis for learning professional cricket.

With the aim of providing each player with opportunities of learning professional cricket, the PwDs Cricket Department of Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) is regularly organizing training camps and regional level events for players.

During these events, the ACB selection committee is selecting players for the National level structures of PwDs Cricket.





BCB PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED CRICKET TEAM, BANGLADESH



The BCB Physically Challenged Cricket Team is the first team to ever participate in an international cricket tournament. The 15 men squad was announced and endorsed by the Bangladesh Cricket Board in August 2015. These players were of course selected after a long and rigorous process of selection.

In March 2015 the ICRC organized a Talent Hunt Camp to identify 26 physically disabled cricketers from amongst 149 participants from all over the country, to participate and represent Bangladesh in a 5-nation Int'l tournament. 18 out of the 26 disabled cricketers practiced daily at a training camp in BKSP, Savar in preparation for the ICRC International T20 Cricket Tournament for People with Physical Disabilities.

It was a proud moment indeed for these players to be able to finally represent their country in the 5-nation ICRC International T20 Cricket Tournament for People with Physical Disabilities from 2nd to 10th of September 2015 in Bangladesh with participating teams from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, England, India and Pakistan.





ENGLAND PHYSICAL  
DISABILITY CRICKET, ECB



Cricket has been played by people with Physical Disabilities in England for over 25 years. The game was so popular that in 1999 the British Association for Cricketers with Disabilities organised a National County Championship, initially with just 8 counties participating. In 2015 we now have 22 different counties entering a two tiered competition, one tier plays with the hard ball and the other with a soft ball. The England team was set up by the ECB (England & Wales Cricket Board) in 2010 and played its first series against Pakistan in Dubai in 2012 and we repeated the series again in 2014.

England were Runners Up to a strong Pakistan side in both series and we look forward to playing them again in Dhaka. Our players come from all over England, some play for

their County Disability team and some play mainstream club cricket. We have recently introduced Regional Talent Development Centres that are aimed at taking the best young disabled players and educating them into what is required to wear the Lions.

The team do not represent a disability cricket association, they are a fully integrated team supported by the England and Wales Cricket Board in the same way that the senior men's and women's teams are. We look forward to participating in this first ever multi-team tournament and to making new friends and renewing old friendships.





ALL INDIA CRICKET  
ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED, AICAPC



The game of cricket has greatly influenced every individual irrespective of their age, caste, creed and ability. Then, why should people with some disability or physical challenge be deprived of playing cricket? They also deserve and are completely entitled to enjoy the game like any other normal person.

It is a strong belief that the handicapped are those with different abilities and not disabilities. If the right opportunity combined with guidance is given to a differently abled person, then he may learn the tricks of the trade better. The physically challenged community perhaps loves the game of cricket more than a normal person as they derive immense pleasure, joy, thrill and ultimate satisfaction which in turn helps them recharge their mind, body and soul.

The All India Cricket Association for the Physically Challenged (AICAPC), a registered non-governmental organization has been contributing greatly towards the realization of skills amongst the handicapped persons to play cricket. Their relentless efforts have yielded wonderful results with many learning the art of playing cricket, and getting a lot more opportunities to display their skill which in turn has also increased their level of motivation and self-confidence.

The AICAPC was founded by Mr. Ajit Wadekar, a successful cricket player of international reputation and ex-captain of the Indian Cricket Team. He was moved by his experience interacting with students of Fellowship of Physically Handicapped Mumbai, when they had come to wish him during the victory parade after his successful tour to England in 1971. His resolve to motivate individuals with physical disabilities made him partner with Mr. T.P. Mirajkar and establish the All Indian Cricket Association for Physically Challenged in 1988.

Over a period of 27 years, AICAPC has garnered support from various local organizations. Today AICAPC is affiliated with 26 local organizations across India, which makes AICAPC the largest representation for physically challenged cricketers in India. AICAPC conducts 9 competitive tournaments at the local and national level on the same format as Ranji Trophy, Duleep Trophy and Irani Trophy, that helps players showcase their talent on a national level. AICAPC has also arranged invitational tournaments with international teams in India, which not only gave the players a global exposure, but also offered them a taste of different cultures.

AICAPC has evolved as an organization over time, adopting newer technology for the safety of players and made adopted rules, which would accommodate players with up-to 75-80% disabilities. These efforts of AICAPC had been greatly appreciated by business organizations who have contributed to our effort as sponsors for various events organized by AICAPC.

The AICAPC will continue to strive for providing a platform to Players with Physical Disabilities to prove their skills and give them an equal opportunity in the field of sports especially Cricket.





PAKISTAN DISABLED CRICKET  
ASSOCIATION, PCB



In November 2006, Mr. Saleem Karim, President of the Pakistan Disabled Cricket Association (PDCA) proposed to form a cricket team for the physically disabled people in Karachi. A polio affected person, he himself had missed the chance of playing cricket during his childhood. In January 2007, he succeeded to form the first ever cricket team for the physically disabled in Karachi. The ICC has awarded the Centurion Medal to Mr. Saleem Karim in recognition of his services and efforts towards introducing the sport of cricket for people with physical disabilities both at the national and international levels.

#### ABOUT PDCA

The Pakistan Disabled Cricket Association (PDCA) is responsible for the promotion and expansion of cricket for physically disabled players, through its associate and affiliate members throughout the country for all the Physically Disabled Cricketers of the country. The PDCA is also recognized by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) which is the governing body of cricket in Pakistan.

The Pakistan Disabled Cricket Association is working in synchronization with the principles and guidelines as laid down by the Pakistan Cricket Board. The PDCA responsibilities include management of the game at the highest

level and the organization of various domestic tournaments at both national and international levels.

The PDCA is also in charge of the administration of the system that looks into the maintenance of discipline amongst its constituent members that basically comprises of the cricketing bodies and individuals under their control. The PDCA is also responsible for coordinating activities with respect to the game of cricket for people with physical disabilities in all manners and ways, including the formulation of the laws of the game. It decides on and manages its constituent members and other subordinate bodies. It is also responsible for organizing national tournaments and International matches within the country.

The PDCA is responsible for the selection of players for the physically disabled cricket teams who go on to represent Pakistan in cricket matches and tours, both within Pakistan and abroad. It is also in charge of acquiring, constructing, developing and maintaining stadiums, grounds and other properties that may come under it.

The registered head office of PDCA is established in Karachi having branches in Hyderabad, Quetta, Lahore, Faisalabad, Multan, Sialkot, Rawalpindi/Islamabad and Peshawar. These branches are controlled by local coordinators of respective cities under the guidance of a Cen-

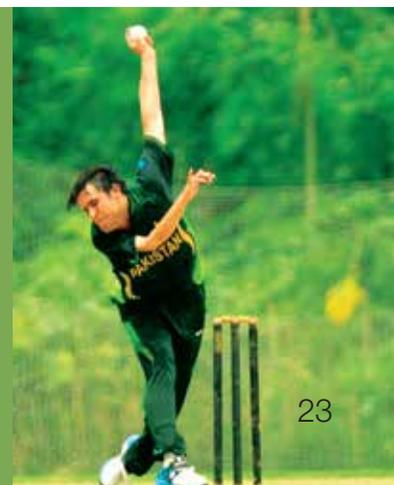
tral Managing Committee.

The PDCA is governed by a Central Managing Committee comprised of a President, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer and five Committee Members. Specific Disabled Cricket Clubs are established in all the major cities of Pakistan monitored by local coordinators.

At present more than 600 disabled players play regularly for their respective clubs and an active Website, [www.disablecricket.com](http://www.disablecricket.com), is online since seven years.

#### EVENTS ORGANIZED BY PDCA (NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL)

- Tour of Pakistan Disabled Cricket Team of Malaysia & Singapore - March 2010.
- Tour of Dubai for 1st International Disability Cricket Series 2010 against England.
- Tour of Dubai for 2nd International Disability Cricket Series 2012 against England.
- International Disability Cricket Series Pakistan Vs Afghanistan 2015 here at Karachi.
- Four National T-20 Disabled Cricket League August 2008.
- One Day National Championship 2009, 2010 and 2013.
- Five NBP Disabled T-20 Pentangular Cup (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014).





## A TOURNAMENT LIKE NEVER BEFORE!!!

“...all over the world the ICRC initiates sports activities for people with physical disabilities that are designed to strengthen the rehabilitation services in countries where the ICRC operates.”

People with disabilities often experience limited opportunities in society such as difficulties in access to health care, education, employment and even obstructions in living a normal family life. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Physical Rehabilitation Project (PRP) helps disabled persons to regain their mobility to lead a dignified life and play an active role in the society.

Cricket stands out from amongst the other predominant and very much played sports in this Region. In Bangladesh, cricket is a much loved and popular sport and is mostly played by able bodied players. As part of its social inclusion programmes all over the world the ICRC initiates sports activities for people with physical disabilities that are designed to strengthen the rehabilitation services in countries where the ICRC operates.

In 2013, the ICRC in Bangladesh supported the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP) with the creation of a cricket team for physically challenged people to play against the Disabled Sporting Society (DSS) of India. In the same year, the ICRC supported the CRP again in organising a three-day Indo-Bangla Physi-

cal Disabled Cricket Tournament.' The tournament was held from March 17 to March 20 in Bangladesh between the Disabled Sporting Society of India and the CRP Disabled Cricket Team.

In 2014, the CRP Cricket Team for Physically Disabled Persons, Bangladesh Physical Challenged Disabled Association, and Physically-challenged Development Foundation (PDF) took initiatives to promote cricket for such persons. Throughout 2014, the ICRC held discussions with the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishtan (BKSP), the Paralympics, and the Special Olympics Committees to promote cricket in Bangladesh.

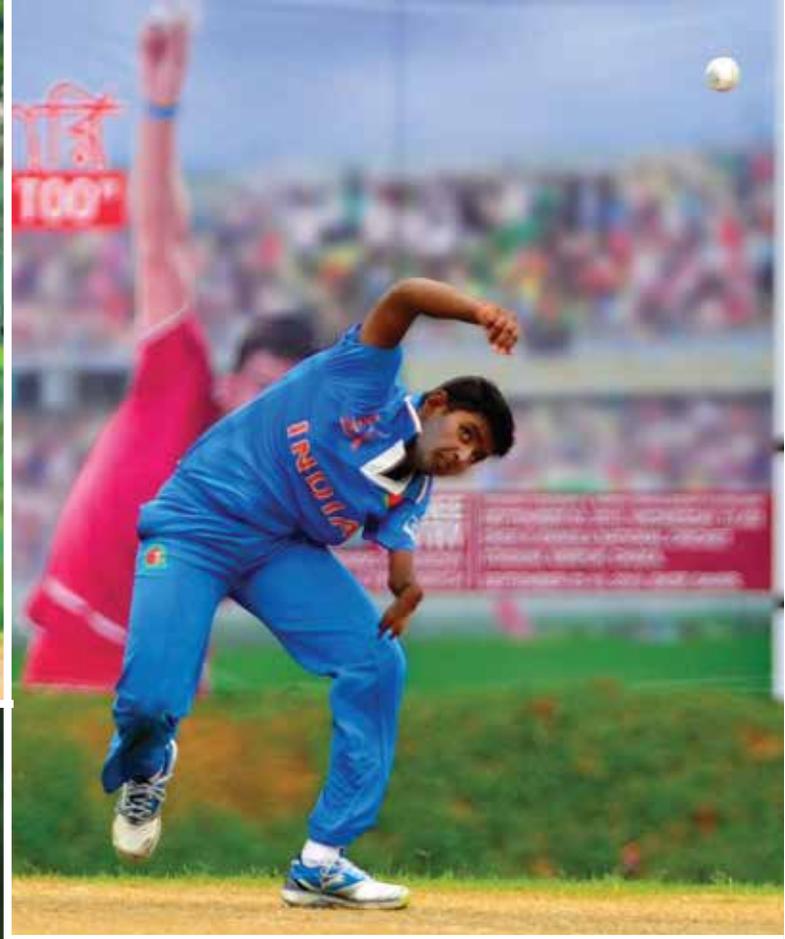
In November 2014, the ICRC facilitated the first-ever national seminar on 'Cricket for Physically Disabled Persons' and a training workshop for the players and coaches. The Bangladesh Cricket Board, the British High Commission and the England and Wales

Cricket Board helped to organise the event. Physically challenged cricketers, coaches, officials, physiotherapists and other interested persons learned about cricket for people with physical disabilities at this event.

In February 2015, the ICRC provided equipment required for playing cricket to the top five academic institutions created and supervised by the Physically-Challenged Development Foundation (PDF) and the CRP. In March 2015, the ICRC organized a 'Talent Hunt Camp' to identify 26 Physically Challenged Cricketers from amongst 149 participants to represent Bangladesh as the BCB Physically Challenged Cricket Team in the five-nation international tournament to be held from 02 to 10 September 2015.











**ICRC  
CRICKET  
TOURNAMENT**



**FOR PEOPLE WITH  
PHYSICAL  
DISABILITIES**  
BANGLADESH 2015





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FOR PEOPLE WITH  
PHYSICAL  
DISABILITIES  
BANGLADESH 2015

# CHAMPION

ICRC T20 CRICKET TOURNAMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES



স্বাস্থ্য পারি  
"WE CAN DO IT TOO"

CHAMPION

WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES BANGLADESH 2015

ORGANISED BY



Bangladesh  
Cricket Board



ICRC



**Bangladesh  
Cricket Board**



## MESSAGE

I am delighted to note the publication of the ICRC International T20 Cricket Tournament for People with Physical Disabilities, Bangladesh 2015 which celebrates the victorious moments of the tournament.

I wish to acknowledge the contribution of everyone associated with this event. We express our genuine appreciation to the Government of Bangladesh and the Honorable Prime Minister of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Additionally, we pass on our profound gratitude to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Delegation in Dhaka for the immense activity to organize the first ever multi-nation cricket tournament for people with physical disability.

May this success continue in the near future and beyond!

Thank you.

**Nizam Uddin Chowdhury**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB)



# ICRC

## MESSAGE

This tournament was organized for the people with physical disabilities, yet, on display we had only competitive athletes, of agile body and avid spirit. Like with any contest, it was about winning, but this time, we had everyone a deserved victor, even before the first match.

Because, for the organizers and the cricketers alike, this tournament was beyond cricket, beyond sport. It was ultimately about removing boundaries for people with physical disabilities -- be they real or perceived.

With the cooperation of the esteemed co-organizers, in particular with the untiring support and advice from the Bangladesh Cricket Board, this tournament made all of us in the ICRC proud for bowling a positive message out of Bangladesh to the world: We can do it too!

**Boris Kelečević**

Deputy Head of Delegation  
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)  
Bangladesh



আমরাও পারি  
“WE CAN DO IT TOO”



ICRC

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