# U.S. Diplomats Impressed by Bangladesh's Football Passion



Collected photo

Two U.S. diplomats stationed in Dhaka have expressed admiration for the passion and excitement Bangladeshis show for the FIFA World Cup, saying the country's love for football is remarkable despite its reputation as a cricket-loving nation.

U.S. Consul General Albert R. Seay said he was amazed to see Bangladesh filled with national jerseys, flags, and a festive atmosphere during the World Cup. While Argentina and Brazil have the largest fan bases, he said the enthusiasm reflects Bangladeshis' deep knowledge and appreciation of football.

He also said he hopes to witness the celebrations in Dhaka if Argentina and Brazil meet in the final, adding that he expects the United States to gain more football supporters in Bangladesh in the future.

Scott Hartman, Director of Public Engagement at the U.S. Embassy in Dhaka, said that even though Bangladesh does not compete in the World Cup, people celebrate the tournament as if it were their own. He added that seeing members of the same family support different teams was especially fascinating.

Both U.S. diplomats expressed hope that the United States will one day reach the World Cup final and attract even greater support from football fans in Bangladesh.