

Dhoni denies Tigers

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Karthik, who showed poise and a lot of courage to score 58 not out of 60 balls.

But their innings could have been nipped in the bud when Karthik slipped in the middle of the crease but Aftab Ahmed's sharp throw from point was muffed by Abdur Razzaq and the two worked their way through the chase.

Dhoni, who survived a close lbw decision by umpire Ashoka de Silva when he was on 10 off Abdur Razzaq's first delivery, struck seven boundaries in his 106-ball essay.

"It was one of my best innings as it helped me win the game for my team," said Dhoni at the post-match press conference.

"It was quite tough out there but during that partnership everything worked for us as we got the odd boundary whenever we needed them."

He had to use a runner for most of his innings but thanked the man who did the donkey swork for him.

"Only option was to play at that moment, but I must thank Yuvraj (Singh) for running for me," said the longhaired wicketkeeper-batsman.

It was left-arm pacer Syed Rasel who got the breakthrough for Bangladesh when he had left-handed opener Gautam Gambhir lbw for 21.

Soon, Bangladesh's man of the day Shakib took a brilliant catch, again off Rasel, to get rid of the other opener Virender Sehwag who fell for 20 off just 21 balls.

India lost their way when Yuvraj (1) and Dravid (22) were out in quick succession and then Dinesh Mongia was dismissed for 17. That left the tourists struggling at 144 for five in the 29th over.

But skipper Habibul Bashar took the foot off the gas and that left Dhoni and Karthik with a lot of gaps to work with as both batted with utmost ease in the dying stages.

Apart from Rasel, Shakib took two wickets while Shahadat Hossain picked up one.

In the morning, opener Tamim Iqbal gave the hosts a good start when he flayed the Indian medium-pacers to score 45 off 53 balls that included half-dozen boundaries.

But it was the partnership between Javed and Shakib that gave Bangladesh the score that could have ensured a win. After both batsmen were dismissed,

Ctg Port dynamic

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of the actions taken by the joint forces and demanded continuation of the reforms and the system to be made permanent so that the premier port never went back to the previous dismal condition after changes in the national politics.

Earlier the premier port was a headache for the nation for long as it was termed one of the most insecure, inefficient and costliest ports of the world.

It is going to be a model for other sectors to follow as the long congestion of the ships and containers were untangled with three-month's effort, the sources said.

At the moment, there is no ship congestion at the port. Sometimes 5-8 berths remain empty due to lack of ships. Most ships enter the Karnaphuli channel without wasting any time waiting at the outer anchorage. In the month of January this year, the average waiting time of ships at the outer anchorage was over 14 days.

A medium-sized ship's per day cost of waiting is around \$10,000-15,000. Sometimes ships wait at the outer anchorage due to technical reasons like low tide.

"We are happy and every sensible person should be happy not only because the corruption has been stopped but also for the port as it is moving towards maintaining a proper system," said MA Latif, senior vice president of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI).

Due to the bad image of the port abroad, the local business community has to pay at least 20-22 percent higher freight charges than other ports of similar distant, he pointed out.

Latif said the port got a bad name as political parties used the port as a tool to make their demands heard. "We want relief from the anarchy created in the name of a democratic movement," he said.

Referring to the politicians, Latif further added that they have their democratic rights for a political movement but they do not have any right to create panic in order to realise their demands.

There should be a law made so that people who lost properties and suffered due to these political movements could be compensated, he stated.

"The port has gone through a revolutionary change in the last three months and we are moving in the right direction," said Mahbub Ali, chairman of Bangladesh Shippers Council-a platform for exporters.

He said it would take more time to make everything all right but whatever changes took place in last three months were never thought possible.

Sarkozy, Chirac appear at slavery commemoration

AFP, Paris

Mohammad Ashraful (29) and Aftab Ahmed (16) batted slogged well to get their side to 250.

Part-time spinner Mongia was the best of a mediocre bowling effort taking three for 49 in 10 overs.

Off-spinner Ramesh Powar took two wickets.

Barapukuria

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underground in the mine.

The three-member probe body was formed by Petrobangla, parent organisation of the BCMCL, on April 27. It was asked to submit its report within seven days but it took 11 days to do the job.

The probe report recommended that Chinese developer of the mine CMC and the BCMCL should take measures to maintain a standard temperature and humidity in the mine. Otherwise, more accidents might occur, it warned.

It confirmed that during the April 26 incident, temperature was 40 to 42 degrees Celsius in the mine, and suggested steps to keep the temperature within 30 to 33 degrees Celsius.

The probe body noted that the mine authorities failed to maintain either ideal temperature or humidity in the mine.

Considering the high temperature in the mine, the report recommended curtailing working time of the 600 mine workers to less than seven hours a day. It also advised mandatory physical fitness certificate of all workers.

It said BCMCL failed to appoint a mining inspector as required under the Coal Mine Act, 1923 to monitor mining activities, and recommended appointing one.

The report suggested installing high-powered wireless equipment for intra-mine communication and forming an efficient rescue team of the BCMCL alongside CMC rescue team.

The probe body pointed out that the mine workers do not have life insurance coverage, and suggested introducing this for all of them.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Abdur Rashid Khan, chairman of Petrobangla, held several meetings with CMC officials at the mining site and returned to Dhaka yesterday.

Restrictions

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interview with the BBC Bangla Service will be followed properly.

He said for security reasons the law enforcers are not letting everyone in the residence.

Jalil along with three other senior leaders, was kept waiting before being allowed to enter the Sudha Sadan Wednesday night.

However, restrictions were still in place for the journalists seeking to meet the AL president.

Talking about the security layers to face before going to see Hasina, an AL leader said the law enforcers allow the party leaders in only after being sure about their identities.

AL Presidium Member Suranjit Sengupta, who too went to the Dhondomoni residence yesterday, thanked the government for not preventing leaders and workers from meeting the party chief.

"Yesterday [Wednesday], our leaders could not meet her but today it was possible after the chief adviser's interview with the BBC," Suranjit told reporters yesterday.

About many drawing comparisons between the security measures undertaken for Sheikh Hasina and Khaleda Zia, Jalil observed that it won't be fair to compare their leader [Hasina] with her [Khaleda].

"She [Khaleda] lives inside a cantonment and quite understandably, security is considered a major issue there. So, no comparison is acceptable between the two as long as she continues to be there," the AL leader observed calling on the government to take measures to shift Khaleda from his Moinul Road house.

The question of the government having the same attitude towards the two leaders comes, only if Khaleda moves to her Gulshan residence, that is, from a restricted area to a free one, Jalil noted.

AL leaders Syed Ashraful Islam, Abdul Mannan, Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Rahmat Ali, Dr Dipu Moni, Yafez Osman, and a Bangladeshi Observer Editor Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury called on Hasina yesterday.

According to sources, the port situation started improving after the appointment of Saif Powertec to undertake an integrated operation at the exclusive container jetty, Chittagong Container Terminal (CCT).

Earlier, the company operated four sophisticated gantry cranes at the CCT. Operations at the CCT were done by various groups and each group had different jobs. As a result, the pace of container handling suffered.

The number of ships handled a month doubled at the CCT after all the groups' operations were integrated. A total of 31 container ships were handled at the CCT in April this year whereas 15 ships were handled in December last year.

Nine imported items are now taken directly off docks from ships helping a long way in reducing container congestion. The items are rice, wheat, beans, mastered, chickpeas, scraps, wet paper, cotton and poultry feed.

More than 1,000 trucks and over 2,000 labourers used to get inside the port to handle these goods creating traffic congestions inside the port.

The container keeping capacity at the port jetty was increased to 22,000 TEUs from 12,000 TEUs a few months ago by expanding the yard area. The space increased as the yard of newly constructed New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT) was added to the available space.

The port authority hoped the capacity would be increased to 30,000 TEUs by July this year when the park yard and under construction yard inside the port become available.

Earlier, lunch, dinner and prayer time used to be long in Chittagong port. The authorities enforced a duty roster at each station where the name of an employee and the duration of his or her duty time were mentioned. The duty officer goes on inspections to ensure that the right man is at right place at the right time.

The authorities also opened two complaint cells at the terminal building and at the girls' school to respond to complaints. This worked well as problems could be addressed faster, a source said.

The joint forces also took an initiative to stop power cuts inside the port. The Power Development Board (PDB) connected the port jetty with the national power grid and no disruption of power occurred at the terminal in the last three months.

6 robbers killed

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Trying to snatch him, Mohsin's cohorts engaged in a gunfight with the police and retreated after half an hour, leaving behind six of their fatally injured associates.

The six were rushed to Barisal SBMCH where they were declared dead and the bodies were sent to the morgue for autopsy.

Sub-inspectors Farid and Abdul Alim, assistant sub-inspector Sarwar, constables Bhaborjan, Sadek and Nafiz, who received minor injuries, were admitted to Banaripara Upazila Health Complex.

Doctors suggested sending seriously injured OC Abdul Hye Sarkar to Dhaka immediately for better treatment.

Aminul Islam, deputy inspector general of police of Barisal range told the journalists that police and local people were on vigil round the clock after several robberies in Banaripara, Babuganj and Uzirpur upazilas of Barisal district in recent days.

Milon Molla was a listed robber and wanted in many cases and the others were members of an inter-district gang, he added.

Local people caught a gang member Mamun Sardar of Birmahol under Nalchitupi upazila while he was trying to flee at Banna village under Uzirpur upazila and

US wants govt

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On Awami League President Sheikh Hasina's return home, the spokesman said it's positive action that the government has allowed her back into Bangladesh.

"We encourage that development. What needs to happen in Bangladesh is that this caretaker government needs to move as quickly and effectively as it can to elections so that you continue the momentum of Bangladeshi democracy," he said.

McCormack said: "We are in contact with those officials who are essentially running the government right now and encouraging them to move forward with the elections."

Referring to his earlier meetings with other trade bodies, Karim said: "I failed to find anything positive, except appeal to extend the time at successive meetings."

He asked the factory owners to set up ETP within six months to neutralise the industrial wastes.

"Why are you so greedy? If ETP seems too costly for you and you cannot afford that, you better leave the business. You don't have any right to pollute the environment and force people to live in hazardous condition," the adviser told the textile mill and factory owners.

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