

Same old Bangladesh

Cricket

AGENCIES, Karachi

Pakistan beat Bangladesh by 102 runs in the one-off Twenty20 international played at the National Stadium yesterday, the first-ever match of this kind staged in the country.

The defeat completed a miserable tour for the visitors after their 5-0 whitewash on Saturday in the preceding one-day series.

Chasing a target of 200-plus score, the Tigers were never in the hunt and apart from the opening stand of 41 runs between Tamim Iqbal, 23, and Nazimuddin, the rest of the batting was once again a display of insensitivity. The Tigers were bowled out for 101 in 16 overs.

Playing his first match of the tour Nazimuddin top-scored with a strok 42. Captain Mohammad Ashraful was the only other batsman to have reached double figures with 13.

Earlier Misbahul Haq smashed a career-best 87 to lift Pakistan to a record 203-5 against Bangladesh.

The 33-year-old shared two important stands of 78 for the third wicket with Younis Khan (47) and 63 for the fourth wicket with captain Shoib Malik (37) after Pakistan won the toss and elected to bat.

Misbah hit five towering sixes and three boundaries off just 53 balls to build Pakistan's highest total in a Twenty20 international,

beating 191-7 also against Bangladesh at Nairobi last year.

Pakistan, who blanked the visitors 5-0 in the preceding one-day series, lost opener Salman Butt (one) and Kamran Akmal (nought) in paceman Mashrafe Mortaza's first over but Misbah put the team back on track.

Butt was run out after he failed to regain his crease off the second ball, while Akmal was bowled off Mortaza's sixth delivery.

Younis matched Misbah stroke for stroke, hitting seven boundaries during his 28-ball knock before left-arm spinner Shakib Al Hasan caught him off his own bowling.

Malik upped the tempo as Pakistan made 90 off their first 10 overs. He hit two boundaries and three sixes before he was stumped off left-arm spinner Abdur Razzak.

Misbah lifted Razzak for a six over long-on to cross his previous highest Twenty20 score of 66 made against Australia.

SCOREBOARD

Full scorecard in the Twenty20 international between Pakistan and Bangladesh at National Stadium in Karachi on Sunday:

PAKISTAN

Butt run out	1
Akmal b Mortaza	0
Younis c & b Shakib	47
Misbah not out	87
Malik st Dhiman b Razzak	35
Afridi b Shahadat	10
Fawad not out	16
Extras: (w-7)	7

Result: Pakistan won by 102 runs. Man-of-the-match: Misbahul Haq.

Toss: Pakistan

Umpires: Zameer Haider (PAK)

Nadeem Ghouri (PAK)

Total: (For five wkts in 20 overs) 203

Did not bat: Amjad, Tanveer, Gul, Riaz.

Fall of wickets: 1-6, 2-6, 3-84, 4-147, 5-168.

Bowler O M R W

Mortaza 3.5 0 38 1

Shahadat 4 0 44 1

Razzak 4 0 46 1

Reza 4 0 41 0

Shakib 4 0 33 1

Mahmudullah 0.1 0 1 0

BANGLADESH

Tamim b Tanvir 23

Nazimuddin c Amjad b Riaz 42

Ashraful c Younis b Malik 13

Aftab run out 3

Shakib c Amjad b Afridi 0

Farhad run out 2

Dhiman run out 1

Mahmudullah st Akmal b Amjad 2

Mortaza c Gulb Amjad 2

Razzak not out 1

Shahadat b Amjad 0

Extras: (lb-3, w-4, nb-5) 12

Total: (All out in 16 overs) 101

Fall of wickets: 1-41, 2-64, 3-85, 4-88, 5-92, 6-94, 7-96, 8-99, 9-101, 10-101.

Bowler O M R W

Gul 3 0 19 0

Tanvir 3 0 23 1

Malik 3 0 27 1

Afridi 4 0 19 1

Riaz 2 0 7 1

Amjad 1 0 3 3



PHOTO: AFP

Bangladesh left-arm spinner Abdur Razzak jumps in vain to stop a slog swipe from Pakistani captain Shoib Malik (C) during the lone Twenty20 international at the National Stadium in Karachi yesterday.

Siddons looks on the bright side

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Jamie Siddons, Bangladesh's coach, was expecting to be whitewashed by Pakistan, but said he can take a few positives out of this series. Bangladesh were competitive in only two of the five matches, losing the last one-day international in Karachi on Saturday by 150 runs.

"Realistically I came here thinking we might lose 5-0," said Siddons. "You guys might think that is negative thinking but I think it is realistic. I know where we stand, where we are and where we need to get."

Most of the positives were to be found in Bangladesh's batting, where Shakib Al Hasan, Tamim Iqbal and Mahmudullah Riyad flickered, though not as often as Siddons would have liked. "I'm disappointed in the last two games where our top four kept letting us down badly. We're very disapp-

pointed with that.

"But we can take something from this. We made 200 three times in this series and we haven't done that against Pakistan. We'll take that, we'll take Shakib's hundred, a couple of innings from Tamim and Mahmudullah as well. Mashrafe Mortaza (Bin Mortaza) was world class for us through the series."

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"If you compare them to

Zimbabwe who we played earlier, I think Zimbabwe's batting was better than Bangladesh's," said Malik. "They batted according to the match situation whereas

us through the series."

Though Siddons was happier with his batting performance, he might take objection to Shoib Malik's assessment of their skills.

Malik, Pakistan's captain, was celebrating an 11th successive ODI win, thus beating Pakistan's previous most successful run of 10 matches under Imran Khan and Javed Miandad in 1990.

"If you compare them to

Zimbabwe who we played earlier, I think Zimbabwe's batting was better than Bangladesh's," said Malik. "They batted according to the match situation whereas

us through the series."

"I want a chance to serve the country's football. Everything

would now depend on the

councilors but I can assure everybody that we will try our best to bring back the golden days of the game in the

country if we are voted," said

Siddons, whose panel submitted 33 nomination papers for 21 posts.

"I had no problem with any

member of the previous committee except the president. Actually I

want to make a new start and work

for the improvement of the game in the

country," he said while defending the inclusion of his former

33 nomination papers for four vice-presidents posts.

The presence of Molla and

Mohiuddin Bulbul in the

Salahuddin-led panel meant a shot

in the arm for the country's football

icon because of their past records

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