

# 'I've lost 50 kilos'

## Cricket

HINDUSTAN TIMES

Relieved after notching his 100th international century that took over a year to come, Sachin Tendulkar on Friday said it was "mentally tough" to deal with the hype around the milestone and joked that he has lost 50kg after getting to it.

"It hasn't sunk in but I have definitely lost about 50kg," the iconic batsman joked when asked whether the feeling has sunk after getting to a milestone that may never be emulated.

"Obviously I can't think anything at this stage. It has been a tough phase for me. Especially tough as I was doing reasonably well in Australia but felt that at times was a little luckless," he added.

Even in his personal moment of glory, the

diminutive batsman stressed on how significant it was for him that his effort contributes to the team's cause.

"It doesn't matter how many 100s you score, you still put your head down, grind it out and do the job for the team.

"I was not thinking about the milestone, the media started all this, wherever I went, the restaurant, room service, everyone was talking about the 100th hundred. It became mentally tough for me because nobody talked about my 99 hundreds," he said.

Talking about his innings on Friday, perhaps one of the slowest ODI innings by him, Tendulkar said it was tough to score.

"It was difficult because the ball was not coming on to the bat," he explained.

Asked what he would tell his young followers at this moment, Tendulkar said, "Enjoy the game and chase your dream. I had to wait for one for 22 years, the World Cup. So dreams do come true."

## A century for centuries

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ton. He slowed down significantly afterwards, letting Virat Kohli control the partnership. There were phases of attrition, like a man stuck on 99 for 34 minutes or balls, but he fought through them one single at a time.

Once he had reached the ton, incidentally his 49th in ODI cricket, he pulled Shahadat

Hossain first before timing the ball past backward point, his twelfth and final hit to the fence apart from the one six he hit off Shakib over mid-wicket. Five more singles followed before he edged a Mashrafe delivery to Mushfiqur to end his hundredth hundred, an occasion that will finally put Tendulkar on a pedestal that has only his name etched on it.

## A JOURNEY BY TONS

Runs	Format	Opposition	Ground	Date	Runs	Format	Opposition	Ground	Date
119*	Test	England	Manchester	Aug 9, 1990	146	ODI	Zimbabwe	Jodhpur	Dec 8, 2000
148*	Test	Australia	Sydney	Jan 2, 1992	126	Test	Australia	Chennai	Mar 18, 2001
114	Test	Australia	Perth	Feb 1, 1992	139	ODI	Australia	Indore	Mar 31, 2001
111	Test	South Africa	Johannesburg	Nov 26, 1992	122*	ODI	West Indies	Harare	Jul 4, 2001
165	Test	England	Chennai	Feb 11, 1993	101	ODI	South Africa	Johannesburg	Oct 5, 2001
104*	Test	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Jul 27, 1993	146	ODI	Kenya	Paarl	Oct 24, 2001
142	Test	Sri Lanka	Lucknow	Jan 18, 1994	155	Test	South Africa	Bloemfontein	Nov 3, 2001
110	ODI	Australia	Colombo	Sep 9, 1994	103	Test	England	Ahmedabad	Dec 11, 2001
115	ODI	New Zealand	Vadodara	Oct 28, 1994	176	Test	Zimbabwe	Nagpur	Feb 21, 2002
105	ODI	West Indies	Jaipur	Nov 11, 1994	117	Test	West Indies	Port of Spain	Apr 19, 2002
179	Test	West Indies	Nagpur	Dec 1, 1994	105*	ODI	England	Chester-le-Street	Jul 4, 2002
122*	ODI	Sri Lanka	Sharjah	Apr 9, 1995	113	ODI	Sri Lanka	Bristol	Jul 11, 2002
127*	ODI	Kenya	Cuttack	Feb 18, 1996	193	Test	England	Leeds	Aug 22, 2002
137	ODI	Sri Lanka	Delhi	Mar 2, 1996	176	Test	West Indies	Kolkata	Oct 30, 2002
100	ODI	Pakistan	Singapore	Apr 5, 1996	152	ODI	Namibia	Pietermaritzburg	Feb 23, 2003
118	ODI	Pakistan	Sharjah	Apr 15, 1996	100	ODI	Australia	Gwalior	Oct 26, 2003
122	Test	England	Birmingham	Jun 6, 1996	102	ODI	New Zealand	Hyderabad	Nov 15, 2003
177	Test	England	Nottingham	Jul 4, 1996	241*	Test	Australia	Sydney	Jan 2, 2004
110	ODI	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Aug 28, 1996	141	ODI	Pakistan	Rawalpindi	Nov 15, 2004
114	ODI	South Africa	Mumbai	Dec 14, 1996	194*	Test	Pakistan	Multan	Mar 28, 2004
169	Test	South Africa	Cape Town	Jan 2, 1997	248*	Test	Bangladesh	Dhaka	Dec 10, 2004
104	ODI	Zimbabwe	Benoni	Feb 9, 1997	123	ODI	Pakistan	Ahmedabad	Apr 12, 2005
117	ODI	New Zealand	Bangalore	May 14, 1997	109	Test	Sri Lanka	Delhi	Dec 10, 2005
143	Test	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Aug 2, 1997	100	ODI	Pakistan	Peshawar	Feb 6, 2006
139	Test	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Aug 9, 1997	141*	ODI	West Indies	Kuala Lumpur	Sep 14, 2006
148	Test	Sri Lanka	Mumbai	Dec 3, 1997	100*	ODI	West Indies	Vadodara	Jan 31, 2007
155*	Test	Australia	Chennai	Mar 6, 1998	101	Test	Bangladesh	Chittagong	May 18, 2007
177	Test	Australia	Bangalore	Mar 25, 1998	122*	Test	Bangladesh	Dhaka	May 25, 2007
100	ODI	Australia	Kanpur	Apr 7, 1998	154*	Test	Australia	Sydney	Jan 2, 2008
143	ODI	Australia	Sharjah	Apr 22, 1998	153	Test	Australia	Adelaide	Jan 24, 2008
134	ODI	Australia	Sharjah	Apr 24, 1998	117*	ODI	Australia	Sydney	Mar 2, 2008
100*	ODI	Kenya	Kolkata	May 31, 1998	109	Test	Australia	Nagpur	Nov 6, 2008
128	ODI	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Jul 7, 1998	103*	Test	England	Chennai	Dec 11, 2008
127	ODI	Zimbabwe	Bulawayo	Sep 26, 1998	163*	ODI	New Zealand	Christchurch	Mar 8, 2009
141	ODI	Australia	Dhaka	Oct 28, 1998	160	Test	New Zealand	Hamilton	Mar 18, 2009
118*	ODI	Zimbabwe	Sharjah	Nov 8, 1998	138	ODI	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Sep 14, 2009
124*	ODI	Zimbabwe	Sharjah	Nov 13, 1998	175	ODI	Australia	Hyderabad	Nov 5, 2009
113	Test	New Zealand	Wellington	Dec 26, 1998	100*	Test	Sri Lanka	Ahmedabad	Nov 16, 2009
136	Test	Pakistan	Chennai	Jan 28, 1999	105*	Test	Bangladesh	Chittagong	Jan 17, 2010
124*	Test	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Feb 24, 1999	143	Test	Bangladesh	Dhaka	Jan 24, 2010
140*	ODI	Kenya	Bristol	May 23, 1999	100	Test	South Africa	Nagpur	Feb 6, 2010
120	ODI	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Aug 29, 1999	106	Test	South Africa	Kolkata	Feb 14, 2010
126*	Test	New Zealand	Mohali	Oct 10, 1999	200*	ODI	South Africa	Gwalior	Feb 24, 2010
217	Test	New Zealand	Ahmedabad	Oct 29, 1999	203	Test	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Jul 26, 2010
186*	ODI	New Zealand	Hyderabad	Nov 8, 1999	214	Test	Australia	Bangalore	Oct 9, 2010
116	Test	Australia	Melbourne	Dec 26, 1999	111*	Test	South Africa	Centurion	Dec 16, 2010
102	ODI	South Africa	Vadodara	Mar 17, 2000	146	Test	South Africa	Cape Town	Jan 2, 2011
101	ODI	Sri Lanka	Sharjah	Oct 20, 2000	120	ODI	England	Bangalore	Feb 27, 2011
122	Test	Zimbabwe	Delhi	Nov 18, 2000	111	ODI	South Africa	Nagpur	Mar 12, 2011
201*	Test	Zimbabwe	Nagpur	Nov 25, 2000	114	ODI	Bangladesh	Dhaka	Mar 16, 2012

## Kamal's rejoinder, our reply

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agree and are satisfied that the security infrastructure is in place. Now it is my responsibility to convince my government to allow the tour and also request the ICC to approve the tour. Since the ICC governs and regulates the game we have to take this issue to them and must bring it to their notice that we want to send a team."

"We are here for three objectives. One is to see the infrastructure, second to get information about the security plan and third to see the capability to execute the plan, and definitely all of us agree that all the segments were in place.

"We will be approaching the ICC and telling them that we are keen to come to Pakistan. Here lies the difference: earlier nobody approached them, this time we will be approaching them in a positive way. We must get them engaged; we must get their consent. It is the beginning of the process for the return of international cricket to Pakistan."

In the last paragraph the reporter also uses words like 'threatened' and 'rubbed' while describing my views on the ICC Chief Executive Committee's recommendation regarding granting of the special dispensation of non-neutral match officials. I am repeating below what I had said and you may crosscheck with reports published on the topic in other dailies also. I am sure you will not find anything that can be related to the expressions 'threatened' and 'rubbed':

"We won't go if everything doesn't happen within the standard practice, which is allocation of match-referees, umpires and all things by the ICC."

I am disappointed and hurt by the way your esteemed newspaper has projected me in this instance. It would be appropriate if the correct facts on the subject are published with the same prominence in your newspaper. It will also be appreciated if the reporter is advised to state the facts in the correct perspective before publishing such sensitive matters which tend to cause unwarranted damage to the image of an individual and create confusion amongst the public in general, our international partners and a vulnerable section of society in particular.

### OUR REPLY

Our report provided a summary of the press conference that was conducted by BCB President AHM Mustafa Kamal on March 12 where he spoke about the conditions under

which Bangladesh's proposed tour to Pakistan would go ahead.

Firstly, as Kamal himself points out in the rejoinder, while in Pakistan he had expressed satisfaction with the security arrangements and professed himself 'satisfied that the security infrastructure is in place.' He also added that he would now take up the responsibility, 'to convince my government to allow the tour and also request the ICC to approve the tour.'

However during the press conference on March 12, when queried about the critical supplementary issue regarding ICC's CEC's recommendations of non-neutral umpires for the series, Kamal replied by saying: "We will not go. As the president of the cricket board I can tell you that I will not go. If anything happens outside the standard practice, then I will not go...we will not go. The standard practice is that the ICC will allocate [neutral] umpires, match referees and all the other things. Because the ICC also has responsibility. If ICC does not take responsibility then how come or on what basis I will send my players?"

Based on these comments it is clear that there was a change in stance from the BCB president regarding the Pakistan tour. In fact, Cricinfo, also carried a similar report (on March 12) following Kamal's press conference titled "Kamal remarks throw Pakistan tour into doubt." The leading sports website said that "...Kamal has now said there was no question of the tour going ahead if the ICC did not provide officials."

Secondly, while referring to the special dispensation by ICC's Chief Executive Committee that non-neutral umpires could be allowed to participate in matches, Kamal was visibly unhappy at the press conference and stated: "ICC said that it is bilateral, discussion between two countries, but that means we are not going there. Because the ICC also has responsibility."

It was clear from this statement that he presumed that the ICC was shirking responsibility [by not appointing non-neutral officials] about the tour and he had responded to that by saying that Bangladesh would not tour Pakistan if this was so. As such, this was perceived as a 'threat' and also implied that he was critical of the ICC's CEC's stance, hence the use of the word 'rubbed'.

As such The Daily Star stands by its original report.

## BD-IND SCOREBOARD

INDIA					
Gambhir b Shafiul					11
Tendulkar c Mushfiqur b Mortaza					114
Kohli b Razzak					66
Raina c Tamim b Mortaza					51
Dhoni not out					21
Sharma run out					4
Jadeja not out					4
Extras: (lb-6, nb-2, w-10)					18
Total: (For five wkts in 50 overs)					289
Did not bat: Pathan, Ashwin, Kumar, Dinda.					
Fall of wickets: 1-25, 2-173, 3-259, 4-259, 5-267.					

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mortaza	10	1	44	2
Shafiul	5	0	24	1
Shahadat	10	0	81	0
Shakib	10	0	63	0
Razzak	10	0	41	1
Mahmudullah	4	0	24	0
Nasir	1	0	6	0

BANGLADESH					
Tamim c Jadeja b P Kumar					70
Nazimuddin c Sharma b P Kumar					5
Jahurul c Sharma b Jadeja					53
Nasir c Raina b P Kumar					54
Shakib st Dhoni b Ashwin					49
Mushfiqur not out					46
Mahmudullah not out					4
Extras: (lb-7, w-3, nb-2)					12
Total: (For 5 wkts in 49.2 overs)					293
Did not bat: Mashrafe, Razzak, Shafiul, Shahadat.					
Fall of wickets: 1-15, 2-128, 3-156, 4-224, 5-288.					

Bowler	O	M	R	W
P Kumar	10	0	56	3
Pathan	9	0	61	0
Dinda	5.2	1	38	0
Raina	7	1	30	0
R Sharma	2	0	13	0
Ashwin	10	0	56	1
Jadeja	6	0	32	1

Result: Bangladesh won by 5 wickets.  
Man-of-the-match: Shakib Al Hasan.

## Shoulder damage for Shafiul

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh paceman Shafiul Islam suffered an injury on his right shoulder when he dove at fine leg to save a boundary during Asia Cup match against India at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

"The X-ray report cleared him of any fracture in the region. However, as there is some soft tissue damage therefore we will run a scan tomorrow to find out whether he will be fit for the next game," said team physio Vibhav Singh regarding the nature of the injury.

Earlier another paceman Rubel Hossain had suffered a shoulder injury during BPL match and was not available for selection for the Asia Cup and he will require a surgery.

## Thorpe fails in 200m freestyle bid for London

AFP, Adelaide

Five-time Olympic gold medalist Ian Thorpe missed out on reaching the 200 metres freestyle final at the Australian Olympic selection trials Friday with a time well below his supreme best.

Thorpe finished 12th fastest in the semi-finals in Adelaide in one minute 49.91 seconds to miss out on a place Saturday's final, when eight swimmers will compete for the two Australian places available at the London Olympics.

The former world record holder in the event was well placed in second position in his semi-final at the halfway mark but dropped off in the final 50m and struggled home in fifth behind winner and fastest qualifier Ryan Napoleon (1:47.51).

The 200m freestyle, which Thorpe once ruled with a 2001 world record 1:44.06, was considered his best chance of getting into the London-bound team.

But now his hopes ride on the 100m freestyle, starting on Sunday. Even if he cannot finish in the top two, he still has a chance of swimming in the sprint relay in London by finishing in the top-six.

Thorpe, 29, will be up against world champion James Magnussen, Matt Targett, former world record holder Eamon Sullivan and Matt Aboud.

"I am terribly disappointed with that after a really good heat swim this morning," a shattered Thorpe said of his 200m time. "I thought I could and thought I would swim a lot quicker, much quicker."

"I'm not sure why this was slower than my time this morning ... the fairytale has descended into a nightmare."



His Excellency Taiyoung Cho (4th from L) the Ambassador of the Peoples Republic of Korea poses with other dignitaries during the inauguration of the Korean Cup Tournament at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday. The tournament is being co-sponsored by Samsung Mobile.

PHOTO: COURTESY

## Maria, Novak in semis

### Tennis

AFP, Indian Wells

Top seed and defending champ Novak Djokovic stepped up his bid for his third Indian Wells title by easing past 12th seed Nicolas Almagro 6-3, 6-4 on Thursday.

World number one Djokovic has now beaten Almagro in all three career meetings and he has reached the Indian Wells semis for the third year in a row.

Djokovic, who has won the last three Grand Slams, is coming off one of the best years in the history of tennis, as he started off 2011 with 41 consecutive match wins. He is now 14-1 in 2012.

"I have had a lot of success here in the past and won it twice," said Djokovic. "Last year was incredible. I may not be able to repeat what I did but I will try my best."

The Serbian next faces American 11th seed John Isner who defeated Gilles Simon of

France 6-3, 1-6, 7-5 in the other quarterfinal.

Djokovic hammered five aces and won 77 percent of his first serve points in the 82 minute match Thursday.

On the womens side of the draw three time Grand Slam champion Maria Sharapova rallied to defeat fellow Russian Maria Kirilenko 3-6, 7-5, 6-2 to reach the semifinals Thursday.

Sharapova needed three hours and five minutes to dispatch Kirilenko in their first meeting since the opening round of the 2010 Australian Open, which Kirilenko won in three sets.

"I tried to keep my head up today even though I wasn't playing my best," said Sharapova, who won the Indian Wells title in 2006. "Towards the end I started to play better and move better."

Sharapova will face another former Indian Wells winner, Ana Ivanovic, in the semis after the Serbian eased past a stricken Marion Bartoli 6-3, 6-4 in a rematch of their quarterfinal contest from last year.

## S Africa take control

### Cricket

AFP, Hamilton

New Zealand's batting woes against South Africa continued as they slumped to 65 for four at stumps on day two of the second Test in Hamilton, squandering a fine effort with the ball.

The Black Caps, bowled out for 185 on the opening day, looked to have clawed their way back into contention when a five-wicket haul from Mark Gillespie helped restrict the Proteas' first innings lead to 68.

But New Zealand made a disastrous start to the second innings, reduced to seven for three in the first five overs as openers Rob Nicol (1) and Martin Guppitt (1) failed again and Brendon McCullum went for five.

Skipper Ross Taylor was again called on to launch a rescue mission managing a 57-run partnership with Kane Williamson before falling lbw to Dale Steyn for 17 in the second last over of the day.

Steyn took two for 10 and Vernon Philander two for 21 as New Zealand ended the day still three runs short of South Africa's first innings total of 253, facing a mammoth task to get back into the match.

Kane Williamson was unbeaten on 41 for the Black Caps, alongside Daniel Vettori, who was yet to score.

South Africa started the day at 27 for two and endured a torrid spell from Gillespie, struggling at 133 for six in the first hour before AB de Villiers and the lower order steadied the innings.

De Villiers' gritty 83 and a valuable unbeaten 35-run cameo from Morne Morkel helped South Africa overhaul New Zealand's total before the tourists were bowled out for 253 at tea.

Gillespie, recalled into a revamped New Zealand attack after more than three years in the Test wilderness, finished the innings with five for 59.

South Africa added 35 to their overnight total before he dismissed Hashim Amla for 16, the batsman attempting to guide the ball through backward point but sending a low

Boucher b Gillespie					24
Philander b Bracewell					14
Morkel not out					35
Tahir c Gillespie b Williamson					16
Extras: (b-1, lb-9, w-1, nb-1)					12
Total: (All out in 77.3 overs)					253
Fall of wickets: 1-14, 2-18, 3-63, 4-69, 5-84, 6-88, 7-151, 8-185, 9-219, 10-253.					