

# Star CRICKET WORLD CUP SPR

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DHAKA FRIDAY, 20 JULY, 2012  
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Tillakaratne Dilshan (L) and Kumar Sangakkara combined together to torment the Tigers at the MCG yesterday. The pair added 210 runs for the unbroken second wicket.

PHOTO: AFP



CHOL  
BANGLADESH

grameenphone



## TODAY'S MATCH

**South Africa v West Indies**  
Time: 9:30am  
Venue: Sydney  
**SATURDAY'S MATCHES**  
**New Zealand v Australia**  
Time: 7:00am  
Venue: Auckland  
**India v UAE**  
Time: 12:30pm  
Venue: Perth



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## Loss no big deal

SPORTS REPORTER from Melbourne

In the 90,000-capacity stadium, more than half was vacant as only 30,000 fans turned up to watch the Bangladesh-Sri Lanka match of the ICC World Cup yesterday, but there was no shortage of festivity in and around the MCG -- the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Sri Lankan supporters' popular musical instruments -- Paare bands -- dominated the stands and their celebrations continued even after the match justifiably as Sri Lanka posted a 92-run victory, but the red and green flags also made their presence felt as it was an occasion for the Bangladeshi fans to celebrate, no matter whether their beloved Tigers had lost the match or not. For them, their long-cherished dream to see the Tigers playing at

the famous MCG finally came true. They have been waiting for this day for so long. Many had taken leave from their jobs to be part of this occasion. Many came with their little babies and many defied their old age to be part of it.

A young team arrived in the stadium with a car-rally of two hundred vehicles. To cheer up the team Bangladeshi fans did

their best although the Sri Lankans were big in numbers as Melbourne is the most populated place for the

Lankans after Colombo. And in the end, the Tigers fans were not disheartened at all though their team failed to rise to the occasion.

"Yes, little bit frustrated with the performance, but we are not disheartened at all. It was a long-cherished dream for me to see our team playing in this ground and today was the day," said Nazrul Hossain.

Shakib Al Hasan (C) grimaces after yet another sloppy finding during Bangladesh's World Cup match against Sri Lankan at the MCG yesterday.

## 'We didn't play well'

BISHWAJIT ROY from Melbourne

"Like batting, bowling also needs partnerships to become successful."

This was the way how Mashrafe Bin Mortaza expressed his frustration when he was asked about his brilliant bowling effort after his side's 92-run defeat against Sri Lanka at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) yesterday.

The Bangladesh captain's bowling was the only silver lining in the Tigers' poor showing in the much-anticipated game and he was unlucky to finish his first spell at 6-0-20-0 without any success as

A manul Haque dropped a regulation catch in the slips in the very first over. He however didn't get any support from the other end and as a result Sri Lanka piled up 332 runs for the loss of just one wicket, which Mashrafe thought was a difficult task to achieve.

"It was frustrating," were the words from the skipper when he summed up his team's performance in the match. The sloppy fielding apparently seemed to be one of the main reasons behind the defeat as three catches were dropped and one easy stumping chance was wasted, but Mashrafe blamed all three departments for the poor outcome in the match.

"We can't look for excuses. We failed

to play good cricket which is why we suffered the heavy defeat," said the braveheart cricketer.

Regarding the talking point of dropped catches, he said: "Yeah, definitely catch-dropping is costing us, but it happens in cricket. At the same time I think as a bowling group we have not been up to the mark today. We need to work it out, and hopefully, the next game, we'll come up with good things."

Mashrafe also denied that the expectation regarding the match and the big

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ground played any part behind this defeat.

"There was no pressure. I think the boys didn't take any pressure. Of course the expectation was there, but at the same time our focus was to play good cricket, but we couldn't do that; can't hold the big ground for an excuse, but yes, it was disappointing with the fielding today. It's very difficult to explain, but as I said we couldn't play well and that's it," said Mashrafe.

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Shakib Al Hasan (C) grimaces after yet another sloppy finding during Bangladesh's World Cup match against Sri Lankan at the MCG yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## 'Win gives back our confidence'

SPORTS REPORTER from Melbourne

On way to making an unbeaten 161, Tillakaratne Dilshan overtook Aravinda de Silva as Sri Lanka's highest individual scorer in a World Cup match. De Silva hit 145 against Kenya in the 1996 World Cup which the in-form Dilshan erased from the record books yesterday in style, but the right-hander said he did not know about the record until the post-match conference.

"I don't know. I came to know only now that I broke the record [of Aravinda]. I'm not thinking of records, I just try to bat as long as possible for the country. But it's great creating records as well. I will try to do a lot more in this tournament," Dilshan said when his attention was drawn about the mark.

He however refused to label Bangladesh's bowling as his happy hunting ground as this was his fourth hundred in last nine innings against the Tigers.

"Not only Bangladesh, I think in the last two months I scored four hundreds; two in New Zealand, just missed one last time by four or something. I'm really enjoying every team, not only Bangladesh, every bowling attack. When I go in to bat I just try to do my things and just go forward and bat as long as possible," Dilshan responded to a question with a smile.

Dilshan said that the game against Bangladesh was important for them after losing the first game against New Zealand and posting a hard-fought victory against Afghanistan and said the win gave back the team its confidence, especially the bowling unit.

Dilshan also highly praised the effort of Kumar Sangakkara, who hammered an aggressive hundred and associated 210 runs in the unbroken second wicket stand to dismiss Bangladesh's any hope of making their first appearance at the famous MCG a memorable one.

Dilshan was however not ready to judge their win against Bangladesh as a turning point for them.

Most 6s hit by a player

Chris Gayle

West Indies

17

Most 4s hit by a player

T Dilshan

Sri Lanka

24

6s  
144  
4s  
801

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**SRI LANKA V BANGLADESH**

R/B 4/6

Thirimanne c Taskin b Rubel 52/78 3/0  
Dilshan not out 161/146 22/0  
Sangakkara not out 105/76 13/1  
Extras: (b-3, lb-2, w-9) 14  
Total: (For 1 wkt in 50 overs) 332  
Did not bat: Karunaratne, Jayawardene, Mathews, Chandimal, Perera, Herath, Malina, Lakmal.

Fall of wickets: 1-122.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Mashrafe 10 0 53 0  
Rubel 9 0 62 1  
Taskin 10 1 82 0  
Shakib 10 0 55 0  
Mahmudullah 7 0 49 0  
Sabbir 4 0 26 0

**BANGLADESH** R/B 4/6

Tamim b Malinga 0/2 0/0  
Anamul run out 29/43 1/1  
Soumya c Sangakkara b Mathews 25/15 5/0  
Mominul c Jayawardene b Lakmal 28/46 3/0  
Mahmudullah c Herath b Perera 48/46 1/0  
Shakib c Malinga b Dilshan 46/59 4/1  
Mushfiqur b Lakmal 36/39 2/1  
Sabbir c Sangakkara b Malinga 53/62 7/0  
Mashrafe st Sangakkara b Dilshan 7/7 1/0  
Rubel not out 0/5 0/0  
Taskin lbw b Malinga 0/1 0/0  
Extras: (lb-9, w-6) 15  
Total: (All out in 47 overs) 240  
Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-40, 3-41, 4-84, 5-100, 6-164, 7-208, 8-228, 9-240.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Malina 9 0 35 3  
Lakmal 8 0 49 2  
Mathews 5.4 0 36 1  
Herath 10 0 43 0  
Perera 6.2 0 33 1  
Dilshan 8 0 35 2

**Result:** Sri Lanka won by 92 runs.

**Player-of-the-match:** Tillakaratne Dilshan.

**Toss:** Sri Lanka

**SCOTLAND V AFGHANISTAN**

R/B 4/6

Coetzer b Zadran 25/41 5/0  
MacLeod c Zadran b Zadran 0/5 0/0  
Gardiner lbw b Hassan 5/20 0/0  
Machan b Nabi 31/28 4/0  
Mominson c Zazai b Nabi 23/36 4/0  
Berrington c Zazai b D Zadran 25/46 2/0  
Cross c Zazai b S Zadran 15/26 1/0  
Davey c Hassan b S Zadran 1/9 0/0  
Haq c Nabi b S Zadran 31/51 3/0  
Evans c Nabi b S Zadran 28/37 3/0  
Wardlaw not out 1/2 0/0

**Extras:** (lb-12, w-12, nb-1) 25

Total: (All out in 50 overs) 210

Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-28, 3-40, 4-93, 5-95, 6-132, 7-134, 8-144, 9-206.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Zadran 10 1 38 3  
D Zadran 10 1 29 3  
Hassan 10 1 32 1  
Nabi 9 0 53 1  
Nabi 10 0 38 1  
Ahmadi 1 0 8 0

**AFGHANISTAN** R/B 4/6

Ahmadzai c Machan b Berrington 51/51 5/0  
Mangal b Evans 7/13 0/0  
Stanikzai c Cross b Evans 4/3 1/0  
Shewzai c Davey b Haq 96/147 7/5  
Nabi lbw b Davey 1/3 0/0  
Zazai lbw b Berrington 0/1 0/0  
N Zadran c Haq b Berrington 4/5 1/0  
Nabi c Haq b Davey 0/1 0/0  
D Zadran c Mominson b Berrington 9/25 1/0  
Hassan not out 15/39 1/0  
S Zadran not out 12/10 2/0

**Extras:** (lb-12, w-10, nb-1) 12

Total: (For 9 wkt in 49.3 overs) 211

Fall of wickets: 1-42, 2-46, 3-85, 4-88, 5-89, 6-96, 7-97, 8-132, 9-192.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Wardlaw 9.3 0 61 0  
Davey 10 1 34 2  
Evans 10 1 30 2  
Haq 10 0 45 1  
Berrington 10 0 40 4

**Result:** Afghanistan won by 1 wicket.

**Player-of-the-match:** Samiullah Shenwari.

**Toss:** Afghanistan

**GPH ispat**

the game it seemed as though they were overwhelmed with their opposition.

It's not as though the Tigers weren't aware of this problem. A glance at the stats would immediately make it clear how much the Sri Lankans, especially the seniors, have enjoyed playing against Bangladesh.

Mashrafe even brought in the field to Sangakkara, with an aggressive aim to get him out early instead of just trying to keep him quiet. However, while the skipper had the right idea, the fielders unfortunately failed to execute the plan.

Bangladesh's horrible ODI-run last year began after they lost to Sri Lanka in bizarre

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