

SPORT

Will Kamal episode affect BCB?

SPORTS REPORTER

How will AHM Mustafa Kamal's dicey relationship with the ICC chairman affect the Bangladesh Cricket Board? This was a question that was on everyone's mind when Kamal, while announcing his resignation, openly criticised the ICC top brass.

While he was cautious enough not to name the ICC chairman, Narayanaswamy Srinivasan, during his bouts—he instead preferred to address a 'person' or the 'man' behind it all – it was quite clear to all as to who Kamal referred to as the person who 'reeked' or the man who had an 'ugly mindset'.

And so the eventual question did come about. Would his statements affect Bangladesh's international fixture? The Tigers after all are expected to spend a busy 2015 with games against Pakistan, India, South Africa and Australia. "Why would it?" Kamal retorted. "No such thing would happen," he added.

The BCB is yet to release an official statement with regards to Kamal's resignation. The directors are waiting to discuss the issue with the BCB president Nazmul Hassan Papon, who returned to Dhaka at 11 pm last night. Their individual opinions though reflect a mixed opinion. "Why should his resignation affect our relationship at all? We had made our complaint to the ICC with regards to the umpiring issue right after the match. And the issue was handled properly over there. This won't affect our series' or the Future Tours Programme," a director said preferring not to be named.

There, however, also have been talks about how the 'Kamal episode' could prove to be a backlash for the BCB. "There is a way to address these issues. Even we have argued with Indian officials in the past. But there is a procedure to do that," said another director.

Regardless of the end result, the one thing that the BCB could be lauded for is the way it handled this issue. Kamal's outburst has every chance of putting the BCB in an uncomfortable position. While he had every right to protest the controversial moments during the Bangladesh-India quarterfinal; it was the manner in which he stated those issues that created the problems.

One would feel that Kamal crossed the line when he said that 'it seemed as though the umpires had an agenda on the field.' It was a scathing allegation.

On the contrary, the statements provided by both Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza and the BCB president were full of substance and wisdom.

"You all saw what happened out there, there's no point speaking about it. I don't want to talk about it," was what skipper Mashrafe said. While he may not have used as many tough words as Kamal, it was enough to prove his discontentment.

The BCB president said that they would file a complaint and so they did. And as the BCB's CEO, Nizamuddin Chowdhury, put it earlier this week, they believe that the ICC had heard their complaints successfully. Nizamuddin, however, did not elaborate much on why he believed that the BCB were successful. However, it is understood that their complaint might have had something to do with the fact that one of the more experienced ICC umpires Aleem Dar, who had called the no-ball against Rubel Hossain, did not get a knock-out game after the Bangladesh-India quarterfinal.

With Kamal having resigned and the next ICC board meeting scheduled in mid-April an interesting few weeks lie ahead.



The Tigers, fresh after a satisfying World Cup campaign, are getting ready for their next assignment, a home series against fellow World Cup quarterfinalist Pakistan later this month. Here spinner Arafat Sunny (L) shares a light moment with young pace bowler Taskin Ahmed at the indoor facilities of the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Recall Srinivasan

INTERNET

Cricket Association of Bihar secretary Aditya Verma yesterday shot off a letter to BCCI president Jagmohan Dalmiya and secretary Anurag Thakur, asking the duo to "recall the nomination" of N Srinivasan from the powerful post of ICC chairman.

"The BCCI did not care about institutional integrity and had no hesitation in nominating a person who was asked by the Supreme Court to step down as BCCI president," Verma wrote in his letter.

"Since the endorsement was prior to the election of the new office bearers of BCCI and now that new office bearers have taken charge it is requested that an urgent AGM of BCCI may be convened to recall Srinivasan's name from the post of ICC chairman to maintain institutional integrity and demonstrate respect which BCCI holds for the Hon'ble Supreme court."

World Cup parodies

SHAQUIB TAYEEM AHMED



The Cricket World Cup of 2015 generated tremendous public interest as it created more spoofs than any previous World Cup. The following are the top five parodies that stirred the internet:

TAMIM VS MAGGIE NOODLES

Maggie Noodles can be cooked in two minutes but unfortunately for Tamim Iqbal, he didn't last as long at the crease. The idea was that by the time one prepared the noodles, Tamim was back in the pavilion. The hilarious comparison was the talk of the town during his poor run of form in the tournament, before he redeemed himself in the match against Scotland. However, his salvation was only momentary as he threw his wicket away against New Zealand, followed by a similar display against India in the quarterfinals.

THE MAUKA REVENGE

A popular advertisement which aired during the World Cup, showing a Pakistani fan's endless wait to beat India at the tournament, came back to bite the Board of Control for Cricket in

To watch the parodies from the World Cup, scan this QR code with your smart phone.



TO USE QR CODE ON YOUR SMARTPHONE, INSTALL FREE QR READER SOFTWARE LIKE "I-NIGMA BARCODE SCANNER" FROM GOOGLE PLAYSTORE OR APPLE STORE. TURN ON THE SOFTWARE AND HOLD THE PHONE CAMERA OVER THE QR CODE TO GET THE VIDEO LINK.

aired the "Mauka mauka" advertisement to poke fun at Bangladesh, Bangladesh fans did not lie down. They replied in kind and returned the fireworks meant for Bangladeshi supporters to the Indian fans as they waited their turn to beat the Tigers.

DHONI AND KOHLI MAUKA DANCE

After India's loss to Australia in the semifinals, popular Facebook page "Moja Loss" came up with this video to give Indian fans a taste of their own medicine. Now the shoe was on the other foot as Australia burst India's bubble of not giving back the cup they won in 2011.

REACTION TO INDIA'S VICTORY OVER BANGLADESH

After some dubious umpiring decisions went against Bangladesh in the quarterfinal against India, Bangladeshi fans filmed some clips that quickly went viral. The full-toss from Rubel Hossain that umpire wrongly called a no-ball and resulted in Rohit Sharma scoring 47 more runs was the eye of the storm, along with Riyad's dismissal. In this video, Bangladeshi supporters show how India plans to win the World Cup by unfair means.

India (BCCI) a day after India's 95-run loss to Australia in the semifinal. The BCCI's office was overwhelmed by phone calls with the callers singing: "Mauka mauka!" Here, Naved disguises himself as an Australian and makes his famous call heard all around the world. Due to the astonishing number of calls, BCCI had to disconnect their telephone line for some much-needed relief.

BANGLADESH'S REPLY TO MAUKA

After the sports channel Star Sports

IN A NUTSHELL

McCullum honoured

INTERNET

Brendon McCullum's galvanising leadership and explosive batting has seen him hold off strong challenges to be named the Sir Richard Hadlee Medal winner at this year's NZ Cricket Awards.

Lost in the World Cup hubbub, perhaps, was the fact that McCullum had a brilliant year with the bat, becoming the first New Zealander to score 1000 Test runs in a calendar year.

He backed up his 302 against India in Wellington last season with a brilliant double century against Pakistan and a blazing 195 against the touring Sri Lankans to christen Hagley Oval as a Test opener.

Under McCullum's leadership, the Black Caps recorded their most successful Test season, claiming five wins.

McCullum won the supreme award ahead of Kane Williamson, who claimed the Redpath Cup for first-class batting, and Trent Boult who was the winner of the Winsor Cup for bowling.



Starc to miss part of IPL

INTERNET

Royal Challengers Bangalore will start Pepsi IPL 2015 without their star fast bowler Mitchell Starc, who is nursing a knee injury post his man-of-the-tournament winning performance in the World Cup final.

"Mitchell had some knee soreness during the latter stages of the World Cup," Australian physio, Alex Kountouris said.

"He will have a short period off to rest and recover, before being reassessed by CA medical staff. We estimate his recovery time will be between two-three weeks."

The 24-year-old Aussies speedster will join RCB in the middle of the IPL depending on his recovery and rehabilitation.

Haddin offers apology

AFP, Sydney

Australian wicketkeeper Brad Haddin has offered an unusual half-apology after his final World Cup sledging of New Zealand, suggesting that liquid celebrations may have fuelled his frank comments during a radio interview.

The arch sledger had been at the forefront of big "send-offs" for Kiwi batsmen after their dismissals in Sunday's final in Melbourne, before going on local radio and adding a few more remarks.

But Haddin has since tempered his words and suggested the celebrations after winning the tournament might have had something to do with his comments.

"We were celebrating a World Cup win and enjoying ourselves after a long tournament," he said.

"In hindsight, we should have stayed off the radio. If I offended anyone, it was never my intention."



Mills retires

AGENCIES, Wellington

New Zealand pace bowler Kyle Mills announced his retirement from all cricket. Mills was consistently ranked among the world's top 10 one-day bowlers throughout his illustrious 14-year career, and for a long time was ranked number one.

"The time is right for me to step away from playing this great game and devote more time to my family who have sacrificed so much for me to keep playing the game I love."

BATTING & FIELDING

Mat	Inns	Runs	HS	50	4s	6s	Ct
Tests	19	30	289	57	1	37	3
ODIs	170	101	1047	54	2	76	38
T20Is	42	19	137	33*	0	11	5

BOWLING

Mat	Inns	Balls	Runs	Wkts	4w	5w
Tests	19	31	2902	1453	44	2
ODIs	170	169	8230	6485	240	8
T20Is	42	42	897	1228	43	0

Wahab bout Watto's best

FIRST POST



Australian all-rounder Shane Watson said his unbeaten knock of 64 against Pakistan in the World Cup quarterfinal is the "most important innings" of his ODI career as he was plain "lucky" to survive the hostile spell from Wahab Riaz.

Watson was not in the best of form going into the tournament, but ended up being a crucial cog in the wheel for Australia in the knockout stages as the hosts lifted their fifth World Cup trophy on Sunday.

His biggest challenge came when Watson had to negotiate some fiery bowling from Pakistan paceman



Wahab Riaz during the quarterfinal, where Watson was dropped and took his chance to take Australia over the finish line. Wahab and Watson

shared some choice words with each other and were both fined after the end of the match for their animated discussions.

"I thought about it as loud as it can get. I had a lot of luck specially to be able to get through that couple of overs in that spell. It worked well for me. It is the most important innings that I have played in ODI cricket as I said that I had a lot of luck through that phase because I was able to stay in win the match for my team," an ecstatic Watson said at a media interaction after the team's victory celebration in Melbourne's Federation Square.

Watson has now been a part of two World Cup teams and said in jest that it can be associated with joys of having a second baby.

Retractable roof & 4-day Test

AGENCIES, London



As Colin Graves, Yorkshire's outgoing chairman, prepares to take over the chairmanship of the ECB and press for radical changes in the future direction of the game, he has already begun to make big plans to shake-up world cricket.

His first plan is to construct a retractable roofing system installed at Headingley, which will become the first stadium in the world to have this facility, Yorkshire announced yesterday.

The roof will become the centrepiece of Headingley's new North/South Stand,

and is due to be built in time for the 2019 World Cup and an Ashes Test against Australia.

The new technology will retract across the entire playing area ensuring that no days' of play will be lost to inclement weather.

Recent England internationals at Headingley have been dogged by bad weather and Yorkshire have concluded that only such a daring solution can make cricket in the north of England financially viable.

The All Sip Roof system has been developed over the past three years in the city of Gelsenkirchen in the Ruhr Valley, the industrial powerhouse of Germany.

Graves also confirmed that he is con-

sidering tabling proposals to shorten Test matches from five days to four.

"Personally, I think we should look at four-day Test cricket and play 105 overs a day starting at 10.30am in the morning, and finish when you finish as all the grounds now have lights," Graves, who takes up his role in May, told the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) website.

The ECB could not itself introduce four-day Test matches, but it could push for changes to the Test format in international negotiations.

"From a cost point of view, you'd lose that fifth day, which would save a hell of a lot of money from the ground's point of view and the broadcasters. I would look at that."