



Mominul Haque (L) and Imrul Kayes prepared a good lunch for the Tigers but it was the South Africans who feasted on it on the opening day of the second Test at Mirpur yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED




SUPERCRETE CEMENT

SUPER PERFORMER OF THE DAY

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DALE STEYN



That he scalped his 400th wicket yesterday wasn't enough for Dale Steyn. Despite crossing the mark he kept banging in those deliveries on the line consistently. He had plenty of hunger in him and that was something quite obvious from the way he bowled. He barely let Bangladesh's batsmen get away with his tight approach and eventually got rewarded. He finished with figures of 3 for 30 and bowled at an economy rate of just 1.85. It was his persistence that eventually got him the wickets he got. Mahmudullah Riyad was set up beautifully before the batsman was caught at mid-wicket. Towards the end of the day, with the ball reversing, the batsmen were merely content with blocking him. With the way he has been bowling, it looks quite obvious that Bangladesh's tail will face a hard time today morning when they come out with a target of scoring at least 300 runs.

BCB sets the BPL ball rolling

SPORTS REPORTER



The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has started their mission to stage the third edition of the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) as they ran advertisement seeking expression of interest (EOI) from interested corporate houses or organisations to buy franchise ownership rights for a period of four years from 2015 to 2018.

The BPL governing council's member secretary IH Mallick, who is also a director of the BCB, said that they decided to go for a fresh tender process because the contracts with the previous franchise owners had been terminated.

The BCB is planning to organise the third edition of the trouble-hit Twenty20 competition with a new structure from the last week of November. Mallick also informed that the old franchise owners would only be able to stay in the tournament

after clearing their dues.

The BCB will invite new franchises from the regional teams of Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka, Khulna, Rajshahi, Rangpur and Sylhet. As per the advertisement, the interested parties have until August 7 to submit their expression of interest.

"The contracts with the previous franchises stand terminated at this point of time. The board has floated the new tender to bring in new owners for each of the franchises. The old owners, whose contracts were terminated by the BCB, can bid only if the board takes any decision after they clear the dues and settle all legal complications," said BCB's chief executive officer Nizamuddin Chowdhury.

"We have decided to move to a new format so that we can avoid the problems we had faced in the first two editions. This time we will not designate any company to run the show, rather it will be the BCB itself who will sell everything and control everything," said Mallick.

BD-SA SCOREBOARD				
BANGLADESH: First innings				
Tamim c Amla b Steyn				6
Imrul lbw b Duminy				30
Mominul c Vilas b Duminy				40
Mahmudullah c Bavuma b Steyn				35
Mushfiqur c Vials b Elgar				65
Shakib c Elgar b Morkel				35
Liton c Elgar b Duminy				3
Nasir not out				13
Shahid b Steyn				1
Extras: (b-5, lb-11, nb-2)				18
Total: (For 8 wkts in 88.1 overs)				246
To bat: Mustafizur, Jubair				
Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-81, 3-86, 4-180, 5-215, 6-220, 7-245, 8-246.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Steyn	16.1	4	30	3
Philander	11	2	25	0
Morkel	14	2	45	1
Harmer	23	3	76	0
Van Zyl	2	1	5	0
Elgar	7	0	22	1
Duminy	15	4	27	3
SOUTH AFRICA: Amla (capt), Van Zyl, Elgar, Du Plessis, Duminy, Vilas, Bavuma, Morkel, Philander, Steyn, Harmer.				
Toss: Bangladesh				
Umpires: Richard Kettleborough (ENG), Paul Reiffel (AUS)				
TV umpire: Joel Wilson (WIS)				
Match referee: Chris Broad (ENG)				

'Our decisions were wrong'

SPORTS REPORTER



Top-order batsman Mominul Haque lamented the 'wrong decisions' taken by Bangladesh's batsmen on the first day of the second Test in Mirpur yesterday. While the hosts began well and managed to put up two partnerships, they lost their wickets while attempting to play shots that weren't required.

Tamim Iqbal for instance, played at a full delivery outside and became Dale Steyn's 400th victim. Litton Das, Mominul and Mahmudullah Riyad got out while playing similarly unnecessary strokes.

In fact, during the post-day press conference yesterday, Steyn said that it was the mistakes made by the Bangladeshi batsmen that played a part for the visitors to gain advantage on Day One.

On his own rash shot, an attempted cut to a delivery that was too close to his body, Mominul said, "I took a wrong decision on that ball. That's why I got out. It was also a wrong decision in the last game. I hope to overcome it quickly. I don't think I am losing concentration.

"The cut is one of my scoring shots, so I am playing those shots from which I get runs. Sometimes your best shot doesn't work for you. When it doesn't happen for you, even the half chances go to hand. I have to be more careful next time," explained Mominul.

"Mine and Litton's weren't really great wickets. Imrul got out to a good ball. I think some of us gifted them wickets but Shakib [Al Hasan] bhai's dismissal was a good ball.

"They hardly give you balls off which you can score



runs. They are always bowling stump-to-stump. They have three of the best fast bowlers in the world. I had a hard time scoring runs. Their spinners bowled well as well," he added.

The left-hander reckoned that the hosts had handed the advantage to South Africa and that a score of 350 to 400 would have been par on this track.

"We will try to get to 300, which I think will be a fighting score. I think 300 is possible if Nasir [Hossain] bats well. Our tail can defend the ball. Then if we can bowl in the right areas... anything can happen," hoped Mominul.

"The wicket will turn from the second and third days. It will help our spinners," he added.

Steyn on the other hand credited his bowlers for not letting Bangladesh's batsmen get off the hook and bowl at a good economy rate.

"The game just doesn't get away from you. You just manage to contain and hold them. You have got to wait and see who is more patient. This morning Tamim just wasn't patient enough and threw his bat at it and kind of started it for us... it was a bad shot, but I will take it.

"And then one or two little sneaky wickets here and there. It's just a patience game really. I think Bangladesh have gotten better over the years, but over all we were

Pakistan 175 for 5

AFP, Colombo

Umar Akmal smashed 46 off 24 balls to lift Pakistan to 175-5 in the first Twenty20 international against Sri Lanka at the Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on Thursday. Akmal hit three boundaries and as many sixes during an entertaining fourth wicket stand of 81 from just 45 deliveries with Shoaib Malik, who remained unbeaten on a 31-ball 46.

Ahmed Shehzad was the other notable contributor with 46 off 38 balls after Pakistan captain Shahid Afridi won the toss and elected to bat in the day-night match.

Pakistan lost opener Mukhtar Ahmed in the second over, but Shehzad and Mohammad Hafeez revived the innings with a 42-run partnership for the second wicket.

Pakistan plundered 70 runs in the final six overs to set up a challenging total for the hosts.

Debutant left-arm seamer Binura Fernando conceded 17 runs in the 16th over which included two consecutive sixes by Akmal.

SCORES IN BRIEF
PAKISTAN: 175 for 5 in 20 overs (Shehzad 46, Hafeez 17, Malik 46 not out, Akmal 46; Perera 2-30)

'It's cool to have 400 wickets'

NAIMUL KARIM

There isn't much of a difference between a Dale Steyn press conference and his performance on the field. He shoots those answers

straight, accurate and has no holds barred. Some would say that listening to him speak yesterday, after he became only the second South Africa bowler to take 400 Test wick-

ets, was perhaps as exciting as watching him bowl. The only difference probably was that he didn't have his headband on in the post-day press conference. And in an

attempt to provide our readers with the off-field experience, The Daily Star decided to publish the transcript of Steyn's question and answer session yesterday in Mirpur.

Q: Is this the best moment of your life? How different is it?

DS: No real difference than any of the others I have taken to be honest. That's about it really. No, most definitely not. I have never been a stats person. It's nice to have the numbers but I have had a lot better moments in my cricketering career. Winning games for my country has always been the objective number one so yeah the job's not over. It's cool. It's nice to have 400... (laughs).

Q: You didn't celebrate much. Was it because of the lack of audience?

DS: I don't know. It's a mix of different emotions really. I don't really know what to say. It's pretty cool to take the wickets and get the headband off and get the hair off. That doesn't influence my bowling at all.

Q: Many think you can take 500 wickets. Do you have a target?

DS: Just want to play every game. I want to bowl again tomorrow. I want to bowl again the next time South Africa pick me. Anything can happen. I don't set targets. I would have been happy if I had

taken just one wicket in my international career. It's enough to play for South Africa and take wickets for South Africa. And then I managed to get 400. I never thought that that would happen... ever in my life. So, I just want to bowl man. I have said that many times before, and I probably sound like a broken record. I just repeat myself. But I just love bowling. Just give me the ball and if I am fit and I am strong, I will bowl all day. So there are no targets. It's not like that I want to take 500 wickets or I want to play a 100 Tests. I just want to bowl.

Q: You seemed to get back your flow in the game today.

DS: I had a good break since the IPL. I feel good actually. No worries with my hammies (hamstring); touchwood; nothing wrong. I feel good right now even after bowling all day and spending time in the sun and I have got a good flow. I said before coming here that sometimes if you don't have that love or passion for the game, things kind of don't go for you and I love what I am doing right now, even if it's in 40 degrees heat and the ball is staying ankle



high, it's not bouncing and there's no seam and it's very slow. I would rather be here than anywhere else right now. There was a period when I actually didn't want to have a ball in my hand. I just needed maybe two or three weeks or

maybe four to get that love back again. When you have got it you just don't want to let it go. I might go wicket-less in the second innings, who knows, but I am still going to be enjoying, just love being on the field right now.

Q: Mitchell Johnson got his 300th wicket today as well. How do you rate him?

DS: Mitch? Mitch is a scary bowler. I think he is one of those guys who is never going to be a line and length bowler. His

STEYN'S MILESTONES				
Match	Wkts	Vs	Venue	Year
13	50	Pak	Lahore	2007
20	100	BD	Chittagong	2008
29	150	Aus	Melbourne	2008
39	200	WI	Port-of-Spain	2010
49	250	SL	Centurion	2011
61	300	NZ	Cape Town	2013
69	350	Ind	Durban	2013
80	400	BD	Dhaka	2015

captain is never going to ask him to hit a line and length. He is going to bowl fast. He is going to scare you and make you make a mistake because of his pace and that's his strength and that's why he bowls so well and I think that's why he bowls so well against England and I think that's why they don't like him. Even when he is bowling badly, they still don't like facing him, he still gets wickets. That's his strength. He is quite a scary guy to face. I mean he is quite intimidating with his long moustache, strong eye, left-arm; that's something different.

Q: Who's better?

DS: Who's better? Vernon Philander.