



**BD-AFG SCOREBOARD**

BANGLADESH		R/B	A/6		
Tamim c Naveen b Nabi	118/118	11/2			
Soumya c Shahzad b Ashraf	11/11	1/0			
Sabbir c Mangal b Shah	65/79	6/3			
Shakib c Shahzad b Zadran	17/35	1/0			
Mushfiqur lbw b Rashid	12/13	1/0			
Mahmudullah not out	32/22	4/0			
Mosaddek st Shahzad b Rashid	4/4	1/0			
Mosharraf c Zadran b Nabi	4/14	0/0			
Mashrafe c Mangal b Ashraf	2/4	0/0			
Shafiqul not out	2/1	0/0			
Extras (lb-2, w-8, nb-2):	12				
Total (For 8 wickets in 50 overs)	279				
Did not bat: Taskin Ahmed.					
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-163, 3-212, 4-226, 5-230, 6-235, 7-248, 8-270.					
BOWLER		O	M	R	W
Nabi	10	1	41	2	
Zadran	10	0	58	1	
Ashraf	8	0	43	2	
Shenwari	3	0	28	0	
Rashid	10	0	39	2	
Shah	8	0	59	1	
Mangal	1	0	9	0	
AFGHANISTAN		R/B	A/6		
Mohammad b Mashrafe	0/7	0/0			
Mangal lbw b Mosharraf	33/38	4/0			
Shah c Nasir b Taskin	36/73	1/0			
Shahidi c Iqbal b Mosharraf	0/3	0/0			
Stanikzai run out (Shakib)	1/4	0/0			
Shenwari c Mushfiqur b Taskin	13/18	1/0			
Nabi c b Mosharraf	3/10	0/0			
Najibullah c Sabbir b Mosaddek	26/19	0/4			
Rashid run out (Mosharraf)	17/22	3/0			
Ashraf not out	4/3	1/0			
Dawlat c b Shafiqul	0/6	0/0			
Extras (b-1, w-4)	5				
Total (All out in 33.5 overs)	138				
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-52, 3-52, 4-55, 5-83, 6-88, 7-89, 8-132, 9-132, 10-138.					
Bowler		O	M	R	W
Mashrafe	6	2	15	1	
Shafiqul	5.5	0	28	1	
Shakib	6	0	34	0	
Mosharraf	8	1	24	3	
Taskin	7	0	31	2	
Mosaddek	1	0	5	1	

Result: Bangladesh win by 141 runs and



Centurion Tamim Iqbal (L) and half-centurion Sabbir Ahmed enjoyed their time in the middle during Bangladesh's 140-run second-wicket partnership against Afghanistan in the third ODI at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

## 'We should be scoring 150s'

SAKEB SUBHAN

Tamim Iqbal became the first Bangladesh batsman to score seven ODI centuries in yesterday's third ODI against Afghanistan which the home side won by 141 runs at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium. Three of those have come since 2015, a period in which he has averaged 50.52 in 21 matches, as opposed to 29.85 in the 135 matches before 2015.

There have been two crucial changes that have brought about Tamim 2.0. He is fitter than his earlier incarnation, which has enabled him to bat for longer periods -- he had 27 fifties and four hundreds up to 2015, but has since converted three of his nine 50-plus scores into centuries.

This change in stamina, and therefore attitude, was reflected in his words at the post-match press conference. "We should hit more big runs like 150-160," Tamim said when asked if they should be looking to score bigger hundreds. "I always say that you have to maximise the opportunity when you are in good form. When we will do this on a regular basis as batsmen we can progress. It was my opportunity today and I missed it."

The other thing that has helped him score his last three hundreds was the fact that he has been dropped by Afghanistan skipper Asghar Stanikzai when on one in the third over of the match, Mohammad Nabi being the unfortunate bowler. The question about his luck drew a chuckle from Tamim.

"Normally if I get a life I don't play very well; I get out soon," Tamim said. "I didn't even expect that he would drop that catch. So I was trying to forget about that and start afresh, and tried to keep playing cricketing shots."

বাংলাদেশের #1 পেস্ট ব্র্যান্ড  
BERGER Robbialac  
বাজও কঁচন ইচ্ছেন

## Mash gives credit to Afghanistan

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza expressed his satisfaction with the way his side played in the third and final match to clinch the series 2-1 but he did not hesitate to say that their opponents played better than them in the first two games. On the other hand, Afghanistan skipper Asghar Stanikzai was happy with this team's performance and branded it a successful tour as they gathered enough experience by playing only their second bilateral series against a Full Member nation after their 3-2 victory over Zimbabwe last October.

"The good thing is that we won the series and that's why it feels good. After the second match there was a bit of pressure, it's nice that we came out of that. The upcoming series [against England] will be more challenging but if we can play confidently we will have a chance. We have a record of playing good cricket at home so that confidence is there," Mashrafe said during the post-match press conference.

## When Mirpur lost its voice

NAIMUL KARIM

It was a virtual final. The stadium was nearly packed. Around 20,000 supporters tirelessly screamed out their lungs in support of the home side. Bangladesh might have been playing against an Associate Member nation, but it was a match that they had to win to spare their blushes.

The intensity was as high as when Bangladesh had played some of the bigger nations last year -- the South Africans, the Indians and the Pakistanis.

However, on two occasions during the third ODI between Bangladesh and Afghanistan yesterday, the result of the match seemed to take a back seat. That at least seemed to be the case amongst the Bangladeshi supporters in the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

The first incident took place when skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza was running in to bowl the second ball of his second over. He had just removed Mohammad Shahzad with a brilliant inswinger and the crowd was behind him.

However, all of a sudden, the roars from the crowds were replaced by sounds of despair. Mashrafe slipped just as he was about to deliver his second ball. His right leg slipped and then came to a jarring halt, causing him to twist his ankle at the crease and he fell in a heap.

Almost all the players on the field converged towards him, one of the players immediately removed his sock, the physio came charging in and insisted that

he have a look despite Mashrafe brushing him away. The physio eventually did get his way and managed to make a quick inspection, after which he allowed him to continue.

"He should just complete this over and get off the field," moaned one journalist. "Why does he need to continue? We have a big series coming up," lamented another.

A player who has overcome so many injuries in his career managed a wry smile during the post-match press conference when asked about his health.

"Actually, right after that fall, I started bowling with a short run up. I can't say exactly as to how the injury is at the moment, but there is a bit of a swelling. Hopefully the pain will go and it will be okay," he said.

"Actually, ever since the morning, I don't know why but I was feeling a little odd. I was a little scared and feared an injury for some reason. That was going through my mind all of a sudden," he added with a smile.

Mashrafe then spoke about the second incident

that stunned the crowd. Around the 30th over, a pitch-invader ran into the field from the VIP gallery end and charged towards Mashrafe, who was fielding at mid-on. As soon as the young man entered the field, six to seven other security personnel started running behind him.

When Mashrafe observed that scene for the first time, he was slightly taken aback and took a little back-

ward jump. Seconds later though, he was seen hugging the pitch-invader and he even tried to protect him from the security personnel and asked them to calm down.

"Actually these kinds of things happen all over the world. Maybe this is the first time that it happened in Bangladesh. He first came to me and said that he was my fan. I took it very simply. I hope that nothing bad happens to him," said the skipper.

## Ctg Abahani move to 3rd

SPORTS REPORTER

Chittagong Abahani moved up to third position on the JB Bangladesh Premier League table with a 3-1 win over Team BJMC as the ninth round was wrapped up at the Sylhet District Stadium yesterday.

Leonel Saint Preux scored twice to give the port city side their fifth win in nine matches, taking their points tally to 18, one ahead of Dhaka Abahani and one behind joint leaders Rahmatganj MFS and Sheikh Jamal DC.

After a rather indifferent first 45 minutes, the game sprang into life with two goals coming at either end in the stoppage time of the first half.

Preux, the Haitian striker, broke the deadlock in the second minute of stoppage time with a towering header on a corner from Zahid Hossain, but Team BJMC hit back immediately, with Zakir Hossain's shot taking a wicked deflection off a Chittagong Abahani defender, leaving goalkeeper Ashraf Islam Rana completely wrong-footed.

The port city side turned up the ante after restart and kept the Team BJMC defenders on their toes. Skipper Mamunul Islam, who saw a brilliant volley brush the crossbar in the first half, teed up the second goal for substitute Mohammad Ibrahim in the 69th minute. Preux then wrapped up the victory in the final minute of stoppage time, stabbing home Mamunul's cut-back from close range.

Meanwhile, Arambagh Krira Sangha moved up to seventh position after a 5-1 victory over Feni Soccer Club -- their second victory in the league -- in the last match of the round.

TEAM BJMC	1 - 3	CTG ABAHANI
FENI SOCCER	1 - 5	ARAMBAGH

## Five pacers in BCB XI to face England

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) announced five pacers in its team for the one-day practice match against England set to take place on October 4 at the Khan Saheb Osman Ali Stadium in Fatullah.

Soumya Sarkar is the only player who played all three matches against Afghanistan to feature in the team.

The players have been asked to report to Shariful Islam Salim, the Deputy Manager of Cricket Operations at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium on October 3 at 3pm.

**BCB XI**  
Imrul Kayes, Soumya Sarkar, Najmul Hossain Shanto, Nasir Hossain, Shuvagata Hom Chowdhury, Md. Al-Amin (Jr), Nurul Hassan Sohan, Sanjamul Islam, Kamrul Islam Rabbi, Alauddin Babu, Al-Amin Hossain, Ebadat Hossain, Md Manik.

## England settling in nicely

SPORTS REPORTER

While Bangladesh's national team battled it out against the Afghans during their must-win encounter at Mirpur yesterday, England's national team enjoyed their rest day at the team hotel in the capital.

As per their schedule they are expected to begin training from today and yesterday was about settling down and resting following a long journey.

After two days of training, they will play their first practice match at the Khan Shaheb Osman Ali Stadium on October 4, which will be followed by the first ODI on October 7.

Upon their arrival, team director Andrew Strauss spoke to a reporter from The Telegraph yesterday and said that the team were happy with the security arrangements.

"We are really happy to be here. We feel very comfortable and satisfied with the security," said Strauss. "It was a long journey to get here physically and metaphorically. The players had concerns over security but Reg Dickason (security officer) has done a fantastic job allaying those concerns."

"It was great to see the guys in a positive frame of mind when they met up at the airport. Once you have made that decision it becomes a lot easier mentally and now the guys are thinking about the tough cricket they are going to have to play over the next month.

"Bangladesh have come a long way in terms of their level of performance. They have beaten us a couple of times, including when I was captain, and they are getting increasingly more competitive every year and every series they play. In their home conditions they are going to be a very tough assignment for us," he added.

A day after touching down in Dhaka, some of the England cricketers, officials and coaching staff spent time at the Kurmitola Golf Club on Saturday. (L) All-rounder Ben Stokes is seen trudging off, while ECB director of cricket, Andrew Strauss (R), and the team's batting coach Paul Collingwood take a stroll across the course.