



(L) Sabir Rahman and Imrul Kayes might have been involved in a fate-changing run-out in the second ODI on Thursday, but there clearly weren't any hard feelings between them off the field as they both smile while posing for a photo outside the team hotel in Nelson. (R) Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, Shakib Al Hasan and Mushfiqur Rahim are on their way back to the hotel following Friday prayers.



# 'Our mistakes will help us'

AL-AMIN from Nelson



The Tigers did not train today. Since it's a Friday they performed the Jumma prayers at a mosque close to the team hotel. Most of the players also enjoyed a trip to the National Park in Nelson in the afternoon. But the crucial run-out that cost Bangladesh the second ODI at the Saxton Oval on Thursday understandably dominated the discussion.

The two players Sabbir Rahman and Imrul Kayes, who were involved in that comical run out, also had their say about the sorry episode that saw Bangladesh stumble to 184 all out from a strong 105 for one chasing New Zealand's 251.

"We batted well in the first game. It you consider that innings then we should have won our second game. Everyone wants to win games; it was a very good opportunity for us to win the game yesterday but we could not do that. If we get an opportunity like that we will definitely try and win the game next time," Sabbir told reporters in the parking area of Trailways Hotel today.

He was playing with a lot of authority on Thursday and hammered three massive sixes and two cracking boundaries for his 38. The way he was getting on top of the bouncing deliveries, it provided him the opportunity of becoming the hero of the match.

But when asked about it, he said: "I never thought of becoming a hero. I tried to play good cricket. The run-out was unfortunate. In cricket anything can happen. We did not bat well on a wicket which was very good. We will try not to commit the same mistake in the next game. I think we have adjusted with the conditions and we hope to play good cricket in the third ODI."

While reflecting on the run-out Sabbir said: I was not thinking of placing my bat first. I just normally tried to place my bat. He [Imrul Kayes] was lucky that he placed his bat first. It's nothing serious. He was the set batsman; I was supposed to forfeit my wicket. Next time I will definitely try not to commit the same mistake."

He also added that there were no hard feelings between them and they are not enemies.

He said that they want to put behind the disappointment of the last game and look forward to do well in the coming games including Saturday's final ODI.

"We have got one game. We have also got the T20s and Tests coming up next. Hopefully we can go neck and neck with them, which was our target when we came here," Sabbir said.

Opener Imrul Kayes had more responsibility after the run-out episode since he was the lucky one of the two. When asked if he should have carried his innings till the end, he said: "Certainly, I should have carried on with my innings. When Shakib got out I thought I will build a partnership with Mosaddek. When Mosaddek got out I became a little nervous. Actually when I was planning to play some strokes we lost wickets at the other end."

He said that the run-out is very much part of the game but admitted that it was the crucial moment of the game.

"Our understanding was very good and you have seen we were playing well. It was certainly the turning point of the game. But if I could have carried on we could have won the game," said the left-hander.

"We batted well in the first one-day and the bowling was not good. We have bowled well in the second game but we did not bat well. I think the mistakes we have committed will help us in the coming games."

## Rajshahi pull off amazing chase

SPORTS REPORTER



An amazing batting performance from Rajshahi on the fourth and final day of the National Cricket League fifth-round matches led them to an unexpected eight wicket win over hosts Chittagong at the Zahir Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium yesterday.

Openers Myshukur Rahman and Chittagong had declared at 299 for three after their batsmen Tasamul Haque and Yasir Ali reached their respective centuries in the morning session. They had set a target of 385 when they declared at 10:30am today and were hoping to put the pressure on Rajshahi. However, Rajshahi's batsmen chased that target down in just 66 overs, going at almost six runs an over.

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