

# SPORT

## Tamim blazes to record List A score

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh opener Tamim Iqbal hammered a 125-ball 157 at the BKSP yesterday to lead Mohammedan Sporting Club to a 24-run victory against Kalabagan Krira Chakra in the second round of the Dhaka Premier League.

Tamim, who hit seven sixes and 18 fours, now holds the record for the highest List A score posted by a Bangladeshi in Bangladesh. He eclipsed Mehrab Hossain's 155 which the latter had posted on April 2, 2007.

Apart from Tamim and Mehrab, there are just two other Bangladeshi players -- Nafees Iqbal and Anamul Haque -- who crossed the 150-mark at home.

The highest List A score in Bangladesh though was posted by Shane Watson when he hit 185 in an ODI against Bangladesh in 2011.

Tamim did not play the first game for Mohammedan and it seemed as though he was adamant to make up for the missed opportunity. He reached his 100 off 102 balls and scored the next 50 runs off just 21 deliveries. It was because of his century that Mohammedan managed to post 307 in the first innings.

Kalabagan, however, did not give up without a fight. They began the chase well after the exchange. Mohammad Ashraf opened the innings and he scored a 49-ball 46 before getting out.

Tushar Imran and Hamilton Masakadza shared a 92-run stand for the third wicket and by the 30th over, they were coasting at 160 for two. However, Tushar was caught off

Mehedi Hasan Miraz in the 31st over for 64 and that is when they lost their way. Three overs later, Miraz dismissed Mehrab Hossain and the wickets continued to flow. Masakadza was the last hope and he was run out in the 43rd over for 68. A few strong hits from Muktar Ali, who scored a 32-ball 38, brought the score to 283, but the chase had run out of steam after the fall of Masakadza.

In the day's other game at the BKSP, Mohammad Al-Amin scored his first List A century to guide Prime Bank Cricket Club to a 59-run win over Khelaghar. He hit 106 off 94 balls with nine fours and three sixes. It was an important knock, especially since Prime Bank had lost their key batsmen Soumya Sarkar, Sabbir Rahman and Unmukt Chand early in the innings. They were struggling at 134 for four. The direction of the game, however, changed after the 35th over when Zakir Hossain joined Al-Amin for the sixth wicket and shared a 99-run stand. The talented Zakir, who was Bangladesh's under-19 wicketkeeper, scored 50 off 38 balls with five fours and two sixes.

Like Mohammedan, Prime Bank too ended up posting 307. In reply Khelaghar felt the pressure and were bundled out for 248 in 47.1 overs. Nazmus Sadat was their highest run-getter with 56.

The match at the Khan Shaheb Osman Ali Stadium was a comparatively low-scoring one. Gazi Group Cricketers, guided by Parvez Rasool's four-wicket haul, beat Victoria Sporting Club by eight wickets. Victoria were first bowled out for 177.

Half-centuries from Anamul Haque and Jahurul Haque, who shared a century stand for the opening wicket, helped Gazi Group overcome the total in just 31.2 overs.



Mohammedan SC skipper Tamim Iqbal hit a sublime 125-ball 157, the highest List A score by a Bangladesh batsman, in the Dhaka Premier League match against Kalabagan KC at BKSP-4 yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## 15-man squad selected for Champs Trophy

SPORTS REPORTER



The Bangladesh Cricket Board's (BCB's) selection panel yesterday submitted a 15-member squad to the board for the Champions Trophy and the tri-nation series in Ireland. While the panel did not reveal the squad, there are not likely to be any new faces in the squad.

"The deadline to send the squad for the Champions Trophy is April 25. That's why we decided to make the team for both the tri-nation series in Ireland and the Champions Trophy. The team has done well and so there won't be any surprise in the team," chief selector Minhajul Abedin told The Daily Star yesterday.

There is a chance that the team may be officially announced today. However, that depends on the approval of BCB president Nazmul Hassan.

Initially, there was talk about taking more than 15 players for the two tours in order to provide back-up. That has been the policy in the last few away tours of Bangladesh. However, this time the selectors chose 15 because they want the rest of the players to continue playing in the Dhaka Premier League, the country's top 50-over competition.

"Instead of just tagging along with the team, they will benefit a lot more by playing in the league. That's why we decided to choose just 15 players," said Minhajul.

In addition to submitting the team, the cricket operations committee also had a discussion regarding the new contracts of the national players. The contractual grades of the players were discussed yesterday and will be finalized soon.

## 'I'm always looking to attack'

SPORTS REPORTER



It is now a different Tamim Iqbal that one gets to see in international cricket as the left-hander has adopted a much more composed approach. The experienced campaigner is now very assured in his batting. Tamim however made it clear that he never goes to the middle with a defensive mindset; instead he always prefers an attacking approach that ensures maximum scoring opportunities like he showed during a blazing 125-ball 157 at BKSP yesterday in a Dhaka Premier League match.

"It may happen I will score 50 from 70 balls but I always go to the middle with an attacking mindset because it can only ensure that you will utilise the maximum scoring opportunities. It may not be possible to make a big one in every match but if you go with a defensive mindset you can even duck the loose balls," said Tamim Iqbal while talking about his outstanding innings that featured 18 fours and seven sixes.

By making 157 runs, Tamim became the highest List A Bangladeshi scorer at home but to the batsman the most satisfying fact was that he contributed valuable runs even after making a hundred.

"I was struggling till the 50-run mark and you know my first big shot, which was a six, came in the ninth over of the match. But I knew that if I could spend some time in the middle it will be a different ball game for me later and that's why I concentrated on singles and twos. It's always important for me to spend some time in the middle and I always target one or two bowlers," he explained.

"The best part of my innings was that I did not give up after making a hundred despite the scorching heat. If I lost my composure after scoring a hundred my team might even have missed the opportunity to cross 250 runs and in that case there would be no significance to my hundred," he continued.

Tamim also expressed his satisfaction over the national players' performance so far in the league. "We are going to play a big tournament like the ICC Champions Trophy and before that we have a tri-series in Ireland and no doubt the level of competition and the conditions will be totally different, but when you make a big score at any level it will definitely help a lot. It's nice to see that the national cricketers performing well. You know the clubs hired the national cricketers with high expectations and it's always good if you can fulfil their demands."



Mohammad Al-Amin's maiden List A century set up Prime Bank Cricket Club's 59-run win over Khelaghar Samaj Kalyan Saturday at BKSP yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

### SCORES IN BRIEF

<b>MOHAMMEDAN SC V KALABAGAN KRIRA CHAKRA BKSP</b> MOHAMMEDAN: 307 for 9 (Tamim 157, Shamsur 38; Sanjit 4 for 52, Nabil 2-44) KALABAGAN KC: 283 for 9 (Masakadza 68, Tushar 64, Muktar 38 not out; Kamrul 3-69, Mehedi 2-56) Result: Mohammedan won by 24 runs.	<b>Player of the match:</b> Tamim Iqbal <b>PRIME BANK CRICKET CLUB V KHELAGHAR SKS</b> PRIME BANK: 307 for 6 (Al-Amin 106, Zakir 50; Shamsul 2-62, Dollar 2-67) KHELAGHAR: 248 all out in 47.1 overs (Nazmus 56, Salauddin 41; Nahidul 2-31, Rubel 2-35, Unmukt 2-35)	<b>Result:</b> Prime Bank won by 59 runs. <b>Player of the match:</b> Al-Amin <b>VICTORIA SPORTING CLUB V GAZI GROUP CRICKETERS</b> VICTORIA: 177 all out in 48.4 overs (Uttam 29; Parvez 4-28, Abu 2-19, Alauddin 2-31) <b>GAZI GROUP:</b> 181 for 2 (Jahurul 52, Anamul 50; Arafat 1-22)
--	--	--

## Gayle first to 10k in T20s

RCB beat Gujarat by 21 runs

PTI, Rajkot

Swashbuckling West Indies opener Chris Gayle smashed a blistering half-century before Yuzvendra Chahal returned with a three-wicket haul as Royal Challengers Bangalore defeated Gujarat Lions by 21 runs in their IPL encounter here on Tuesday.

Gayle slammed a 38-ball 77-run innings, while skipper Virat Kohli produced a superb 50-ball 64 to guide RCB to a massive 213 for 2 after Gujarat skipper Suresh Raina won the toss and elected to field.

Gayle, who has been out of form, meanwhile, completed his 10,000 runs in twenty20 cricket with a single off Basil Thampi in the fourth over.

Opener Brendon McCullum then played a superb 72-run off 44-ball innings, studded with two fours and seven sixes but he didn't get the support from the other end as RCB restricted the Lions to 192 for 7 to snap their three-game losing streak. Yuzvendra Chahal (3/31) was the pick of the bowlers for RCB as he picked up three crucial wickets -- Dwayne Smith (1), Suresh Raina (23) and McCullum -- in his four overs to derail Gujarat's run chase.

Chasing 214 to win, Gujarat lost their opening batsman Smith early when he was caught at the boundary line by Mandeep Singh off Chahal's bowling at deep square-leg.

### SCORES IN BRIEF

<b>ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE:</b> 213 for 2 in 20 overs (Gayle 77, Kohli 64, Head 30 not out, Jadhav 38 not out; Kulkarni 1-37, Thampi 1-31) <b>GUJARAT LIONS:</b> 192 for 7 (McCullum 72, Raina 23, Finch 19, Jadeja 23, Kishan 39; Chahal 3-31) Result: Royal Challengers Bangalore won by 21 runs. Player of the match: Chris Gayle.
--



CHRIS GAYLE...77

## PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED T20 BD move into final

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh moved into the final of the Tri-nation Physically Challenged T20 tournament after defeating India by a mammoth 110 runs in their final group stage match at the Jagannath Hall ground in Dhaka University.

The same teams will play the final at the same venue tomorrow.

Yesterday, Bangladesh elected to bat after winning the toss and piled on 237 for 4 in their allotted overs.

Player-of-the-match Faisal Khan Sumit blazed his way to an unbeaten 61-ball 96 to lead the side to the insurmountable total.

Sujaul Islam, who scored 58, made a fantastic cameo, reaching his half century off just 13 balls.

With his counterparts hitting the bowlers to all corners of the field, Amin Uddin played the role of the anchor and chipped in with a 42-ball 60.

After the exchange, India could only reach 127 for six.

Balraj top-scored with 52, while Sujaul and Moazzem took two wickets each for the hosts.

The other team in the tournament were Sri Lanka, who will have to settle with a wooden spoon.

## BCL, police clash over swimming pool

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

At least 15 people including two police officials were injured as a clash erupted between police and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists at Chittagong city's Kazir Dewri area yesterday afternoon.

Of them, Amitabh Chowdhury Babu and Golam Samdani Jony, joint secretaries of Chittagong city unit BCL, and BCL activist Liton Chowdhury sustained bullet injuries, said Nurul Azim Rony, general secretary of the Chittagong unit of BCL, adding that 10 other BCL activists were injured by baton charge and tear gas shell hurled by Police.

The injured BCL leaders and activists were admitted at the Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH), he said.

The Chittagong unit of BCL on Sunday issued a 48-hour ultimatum to stop construction work by Chittagong Divisional Sports Association (CDSA) on a swimming pool at the Outer Stadium, next to the MA Aziz Stadium.

The clash erupted when the activists tried to vandalise the construction works of the swimming pool around 4:30pm. Earlier, at around 4:00pm, several hundred BCL activists gathered in front of the Outer Stadium and formed a human chain demanding a halt to the construction works.

The police officials including the OC of Kotwali Police Station Jasim Uddin were seen talking to BCL leaders including Rony and Imran Ahmed

Imu, president of the city unit.

"We asked the police to allow us to enter the ground," Rony said. "But the police officials did not allow us entry."

Around 4:30pm, the BCL activists defied the police barricade to enter the ground and started to vandalise the construction area, said eye witnesses. Police then started a baton charge to disperse them. Once BCL activists started hurling bricks, police opened fire to disperse them.

The clash was going on around 20 minutes and the BCL activists vandalised around 12 vehicles on the road,

said eye witnesses.

Rony said at least 13 BCL leaders and activists were injured due to police attack and demanded arrest and punishment of officials of Chittagong Jela Krira Sangstha (CJKS) and CDSA who, according to him, instigated this police attack through a press conference in the morning.

Officials of CJKS and CDSA had held a press conference in the morning reiterating their intention to build a swimming pool. Chittagong city mayor AJM Nasir Uddin is the general secretary of CJKS but he was not present at the press conference.



Activists of the Chittagong unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League are engaged in a clash with police while protesting the construction of a swimming pool in the Kazir Dewri area in Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS



NAZMUL KARIM (1959-2017)

## BCB director passes away

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board director Nazmul Karim Tinku passed away at the age of 58 in Dhaka yesterday following a cardiac arrest. The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), expressed its heartfelt sympathies to his family members and loved ones.

As a mark of respect to the departed, the BCB flag at all establishments of the board will fly at half-mast on Wednesday and all scheduled matches under the jurisdiction of the BCB on the day have been postponed.

A Namaz-e-Janaza will be held at the BCB National Cricket Academy Ground in Mirpur today at 10:00am.

An eminent cricket organiser, Tinku was the general secretary of Dhaka Premier Division Cricket League club Kalabagan Krira Chakra and had been elected to the board in 2013 as a councillor of the club.