

SPORT

Aarong Dairy logo with 'Your Healthy Secret!' text and a yogurt container image.



This shot from Tamim Iqbal typified Bangladesh's approach -- losing shape and composure while going for big shots -- as they posted a below-par 139 for eight in their T20I tri-nation match against India at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo last night.

PHOTO: AFP

Mahmudullah points to dot balls

SPORTS REPORTER from Colombo



Bangladesh captain Mahmudullah Riyad pointed at dot balls played by batsmen as their biggest concern in the shortest form of the game...

The Tigers' skipper, who himself played seven dot balls in Bangladesh's innings of 139 for eight before being dismissed for just one, informed that the Bangladesh think tank must figure out some kind of solution before going into the next match tomorrow against hosts Sri Lanka.

I think it's obvious we didn't score the way we wanted to, but T20 is a type of format where you have to take calculated risks and look for boundaries as well. I think we have been lacking in that area in the middle overs for the past few matches where we played quite a few dot balls and also threw our wickets away.

There were questions about the over-aggression displayed by Bangladesh's batsmen who were looking for big shots

in almost every delivery. The team's senior-most batsmen in Tamim Iqbal and Mushfiqur Rahim were each dismissed in overs that contained two boundaries off their bats.

At some point we should have been sensible but I won't say we were over-aggressive as it's the nature of T20 cricket. We did give away quite a few dot balls going for big shots and we have to rectify how to play the over when we have already scored few boundaries.

Mahmudullah blamed the batsmen and informed that the pitch was a 170-180 run wicket. However, he found some positives from the bowlers and informed that it will be important to have a collective approach and the Tigers are just one win away from overcoming the lean patch.

He reacted with annoyance when asked whether he is giving the positives undue importance. Not at all, otherwise I would have not said that I am disappointed, he bristled. We are not able to do things right... that's what I said.

BERGER express painting advertisement with logo and contact number 08000-123456.

Afghan's WC dream all but over

STAR SPORT DESK

Afghanistan's dream of a World Cup berth was shattered in unexpected fashion when they suffered a 30-run defeat (D/L method) to Hong Kong in Bulawayo yesterday.

It was Rashid Khan-led Afghanistan's third defeat on the trot, which means they are almost out of the running to qualify for the World Cup proper.

They were never in the hunt after being set a revised target of 226 and managed only for 195 for 9.

SCORES IN BRIEF

Hong Kong: 241 for 8 (Anshuman 65, Mujeeb 3-26, Nabi 3-48)

Afghanistan: 195 for 9 in 46 overs (Nabi 38, Dawlat 40 not out; Nadeem 2-37, Ehsan 4-33)

Result: Hong Kong won by 30 runs (D/L method)

Ton-up Shadman lifts Shinepukur to 2nd

SPORTS REPORTER



Shadman Islam, Junaid Siddiqui and Robiul Islam slammed centuries in the eighth-round Dhaka Premier League matches at three different venues yesterday, but Robiul's effort went in vain.

Shadman missed his season's first century in the previous match by only five runs but he continued his form to bounce back with a magnificent 144 that helped Shinepukur Cricket Club to an eight-wicket win over Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

Their fifth win also took Shinepukur to second place on the 12-team points table.

Shinepukur reached the target of 263 with eight wickets and nine balls in hand thanks to a 95-run opening partnership between

Fardeen Hasan (38) and Shadman, who later contributed in an unbroken 121-run third-wicket stand with Towhid Hridoy (50).

Earlier, Sheikh Jamal scored 262 in 49.5 overs thanks to Ziaur Rahman, who top-scored with 79, and Hasanuzzaman, who struck 61, but it was not good enough for them to avert a fourth defeat in eight matches.

At BKSP, Legends of Rupganj rode on two half-centuries from Mohammad Naim and Naeem Islam to secure their fifth win,

beating Kelaghar Samaj Kallyan Samity by six wickets.

Naim and Naeem added 144 for the third wicket as Rupganj overtook Kelaghar's 259 six wickets to spare.

Khelagar posted 259 for four in their 50 overs, riding on Robiul's 116. Robiul struck 13 fours and added 182 for the second wicket with Mahidul Islam, who added 80 off 125 balls.



JUNAID... 123



ROBIUL... 116



SHADMAN... 144 not out

SCORES IN BRIEF

BROTHERS UNION V KALABAGAN

Brothers Union: 317 for 4 in 50 overs (Junaid 123, Myshukur 96, Kapali 26, Raman 22 not out, Yasir 30 not out; Mahmudul Hasan 1-39)

Kalabagan KC: 186 all out in 45 overs (Tasamul 44, Akbar 35, Muktar 62 not out; Suhrwardi 3-39, Shakhawat 2-31, Mehedi 2-31)

Result: Brothers won by 131 runs.

KHELAGHAR V LEGENDS OF RUPGANJ

Khelaghar SKS: 259 for 4 in 50 overs (Mahidul 80, Robiul 116, Masum 19 not out; Asif 1-33)

Legends of Rupganj: 262 for 4 in 46.3 overs (Mazid 41, Salauddin 35, Naim 82, Naeem 70; Menaria 2-46, Rafsan 2-35)

Result: Legends of Rupganj won by 6 wickets.

SHEIKH JAMAL V SHINEPUKUR

Sheikh Jamal DC: 262 all out in 49.5 overs (Shykat 23, Hasanuzzaman 61, Ziaur 79, Sunny 28; Saifuddin 2-56, Hawlader 2-57, Shuvagata 2-48, Gaffar 2-14)

Shinepukur CC: 263 for 2 in 48.3 overs (Fardeen 38, Shadman 144 not out, Towhid 50 not out; Shohag 1-46)

Result: Shinepukur Cricket Club won by 8 wickets.

BD-IND SCOREBOARD

Table showing Bangladesh vs India scores for various matches including Tamim, Soumya, Liton, and others.

'Discipline is the bridge to any goal'

It was early morning when a young boy and his father went up to Chaminda Vaas, one of the finest left-arm seamers the game has known, to learn the art of fast bowling at the outer nets of the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

The Daily Star (TDS): Do you go down memory lane while teaching youngsters the art of fast bowling? Chaminda Vaas (CV): Well, interestingly, I have finished playing and I am doing the same thing that I have done in the last 20 years.

Murali has been the number one bowler so I have to support him but I never complained and always wanted to support Murali throughout, as it's like a batting partnership. He has taken 800 wickets and I ended up taking 400 wickets.

the most important part of a fast bowler. I think he will be able to get back soon and should watch some videos of when he was doing really well. And I am sure he will be able to come up and do really well for Bangladesh.



you put Bangladesh in front of any top team, it will not be easy to beat them.

TDS: How do you assess Bangladesh now from what you witnessed during your playing days?

CV: In those days, Bangladesh just started playing cricket but nowadays Bangladesh are a very competitive side and not an easy team to beat.

TDS: How have you managed to remain injury-free for more than 15 years during your career?

CV: Like I said discipline, is the bridge whatever goal you want to accomplish. I have always maintained discipline and I am very honest about my job.

TDS: You have dismissed Sachin Tendulkar nine times in your career. Did you plan specifically for him?

CV: Well, you can't say that as he is a great batsman and people believe that he has given so much to cricket.

batsmen. I have always admired him. On your day whoever comes to the middle, you are the best person as it's between bat and ball, so I had nothing against him.

TDS: You have captained Sri Lanka for just a game. Any regret about that?

CV: I will never have regrets. One thing about being a cricketer is you always want to lead the side.

TDS: What is the proudest moment of your career?

CV: There are so many proud moments in my career but winning the world cup in 1996 is the proudest moment of my life.

TDS: You had a beautiful copybook bowling action. Did you develop the action or was it natural?

CV: Actually it was not natural as I had a mixed action when I used to play for the under-19s.

TDS: Which batsman was the toughest to bowl to?

CV: It's difficult to say but there are a few names such as Sachin Tendulkar, Brian Lara, Adam Gilchrist, Matthew Hayden.

TDS: You picked up eight for 19 against Zimbabwe [Colombo, December 2001] and Murali picked the last two. Any regrets for not getting all 10 wickets?

CV: Well I never regret in my life. We wanted to bowl them out early and I think that was the lowest total [38 all out] for a long time.

TDS: What was going through your mind when you came on to bowl when you took four wickets in four balls against Bangladesh in the 2003 World Cup?

CV: You can't plan everything and take wickets like that.

CV: I was lucky that everything went well and obviously the fielders also took brilliant catches.