



Bangladesh medium pacer Jahanara Alam took the women's team's maiden international five-for and set up a last-ball win in the first T20I against Ireland in Dublin yesterday.

PHOTO: ICC

## Jahanara's 5 makes it 1-0

SPORTS REPORTER



The Bangladesh women's team clinched a dramatic last-ball win over Ireland by four wickets in the first of the three match T20I series after Jahanara Alam created history by bagging the first five-wicket haul for the Tigresses in international cricket at the YMCA Ground in Dublin yesterday.

The result is a continuation of their good form which saw them win the recent Women's T20 Asia Cup in Malaysia.

Needing four runs to win in the last over in chase of 135, the game went

down to the wire with the visitors needing one run in the last ball of the innings, which Fahima Khatun achieved to register the memorable win.

Fahima was unbeaten on 26 off 18 balls with three fours while Nigar Sultana top-scored with 46 off 38 balls, hitting six boundaries. The duo turned things around from a point where Bangladesh needed 52 runs from the last six overs.

Earlier, it was Jahanara who started set the game up for the visitors after she chose to field first. The right-arm seamer bagged two wickets in her first two overs to leave Ireland struggling on 15 for two.

The 25-year-old returned at the

death to hurt the home side in her second spell, dismissing Kim Garth (20), Eimear Richardson (2) and bowling top-scorer Isobel Joyce (41) with a yorker in her last over to complete the five-wicket haul and restricting Ireland to 134 for 8.

Jahanara ended with figures of five for 28 from four overs, surpassing Salma Khatun's previous best T20 bowling figures of four for six against Sri Lanka during the 2012 Asia Cup.

SCORES IN BRIEF

IRELAND: 134 for 8 (Joyce 41; Jahanara 5-28, Salma 1-20)

BANGLADESH: 135 for 6 in 20 overs (Nigar 46, Fahima 26 not out; Lewis 2-20)

Result: Bangladesh won by 4 wickets

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## Sabbir, Mosaddek keep SL A at bay

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh A replied strongly through twin centuries from skipper Mosaddek Hossain and Sabbir Rahman as the home side posted 360 for four at the end of the third day's play yesterday. The hosts are still trailing Sri Lanka A by 89 runs, but barring some dramatic cricket today the four-day game seems to be heading for a draw at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong.

Mosaddek hit nine fours and three sixes in his 243-ball 135, but was dismissed in the final session when he was bowled by left-arm spinner Prabath Jayasuriya. Sabbir remained unbeaten on his career-best first-class score and will resume the fourth day on 144.

Resuming the third day on 44 for two, the second-string Bangladesh side were facing a tough challenge and things only became tougher when the experienced Tushar Imran was trapped leg-before on 25 by a Lakshan Sandakan delivery to leave the home side struggling on 74 for three.

It was then that overnight batsman Mosaddek, who resumed the day on eight,

was joined by Sabbir and the pair added 209 runs for the fourth wicket to bring the hosts back into the game.

Since being dropped from the national team despite playing a crucial knock in the Chittagong Test against Sri Lanka in February this year, the right-handed Mosaddek has struck consecutive first-class centuries – the first being an unbeaten ton in the Bangladesh Cricket League earlier this year.

Sabbir struggled early in his innings and at one point the right hander faced 70 balls to score just 15 runs, but later found his rhythm.

The 26-year-old, who is often criticised for his lack of temperament, displayed a great amount of patience in his 257-ball 144 – which included 13 fours and two sixes – to register his fourth first class hundred in 48 games. He also went past his previous best score of 136 runs while wicketkeeper-batsman Zakir Hasan also remained unbeaten on 27.

SCORES IN BRIEF

SRI LANKA A: 449 for 8 declared (Thirimanne 168, Asalanka 90; Khaled 4/92)

BANGLADESH A: 360 for 4 in 112 overs (Sabbir 144 not out, Mosaddek 135; Asalanka 1-41)



Left out of the national team for the ongoing West Indies tour, Sabbir Rahman (L) and skipper Mosaddek Hossain hit twin tons on the third day and probably saved Bangladesh A team's four-day match against Sri Lanka A at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: BCB

## Siddikur off to a flier

STAR SPORT DESK

Ace Bangladesh golfer Siddikur Rahman got off to a flying start in the first round of the Queen's Cup yesterday with a six-under 35 putting him in joint third position at the Phoenix Gold Golf and Country Club in Pattaya, Thailand.

The first-round lead of the 300,000-dollar event was taken by young home talent Poom Saksansin, who carded an eight-under, while fellow Thai golfer Jazz Janewattananond was in second place with seven-under.

Two-time Asian tour winner Siddikur displayed consistency throughout the 18 holes, not once having the poor moment that has often blighted him at the start of tournaments in the past. He hit birdies in the second, fifth, 10th, 11th, 16th and 18th holes and hit pars in the rest.

## Tamim warms up with ton

STAR SPORT DESK



Bangladesh opener Tamim Iqbal got his West Indies tour off to the perfect start with an unbeaten 125 in the

Tigers' only warm-up game against a CWI President's XI at the Coolidge Cricket Ground in Antigua yesterday.

When this report was filed, Bangladesh had reached 291 for five in the third session of the first day of the two-day practice match, with Mahmudullah Riyad on 62 and Mehedi Hasan Miraz at the crease after Tamim retired during the tea break.

Bangladesh skipper Shakib Al Hasan chose to bat first at the toss, and Bangladesh were soon in early trouble, falling to 22 for three after Liton Das (2), Mominul Haque (7) and Nazmul Hossain Shanto (4) departed cheaply. The wrecker-in-chief for the home side was fast bowler Alzarri Joseph, a bowler the Tigers are likely to be confronted with in the upcoming two-Test series against the West Indies starting from July 4.

The early damage was repaired by contrasting innings from Shakib and



Bangladesh pacers Rubel Hossain (L) and Kamrul Islam (R) were graced by a visit from West Indies pace legend Andy Roberts (2nd from R) during the first day of the two-day practice match in Antigua yesterday.

PHOTO: BCB

Tamim. Shakib had reached 58 while Tamim was playing rather cautiously on 23. The captain was eventually out for 67, which set the stage for the reliable Mahmudullah to come in and carry on rebuilding the innings.

Bangladesh were scoring at a good rate as they reached 277 for four at tea,

when just 54 overs were bowled. Nurul Hasan was the fifth wicket to fall. Joseph, meanwhile, marked his return from injury with a stellar display, taking four for 40.

The captains of either side earlier decided to utilise all the players in their respective squads.

## 'Not a complete disaster'

AFP, Birmingham



Australia coach Justin Langer said he hoped his side would return a better team come next year's World Cup after going through the "jungle" in their tour of England.

Having been whitewashed 5-0 by England in a preceding one-day international series, Australia's limited overs tour ended with a 28-run defeat by Eoin Morgan's men in a one-off Twenty20 international at Edgbaston on Wednesday.

Australia, the reigning 50-over World Cup champions, arrived in England -- the 2019 tournament hosts -- without a raft of first-choice players.

Former captain Steve Smith and his deputy,

David Warner, were both missing after being handed one-year bans for their roles in March's ball-tampering scandal in Cape Town.

"On the surface it looks like a complete disaster but we have talked about a team for the World Cup and the Ashes and I think we have unlocked a few answers, but it hurts when you get beaten -- particularly in England," Langer told reporters.

During the one-dayers, Australia's bowlers were flayed by England for an all-time men's ODI record total of 481 for six at Trent Bridge.

"When you look at Trent Bridge for our young blokes to get hit for 480-something, it doesn't get tougher," the 47-year-old added. "Hopefully it will add some layers to their character and not scars."

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