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DHAKA SUNDAY JUNE 2, 2019, JAISHTHA 19, 1426 BS

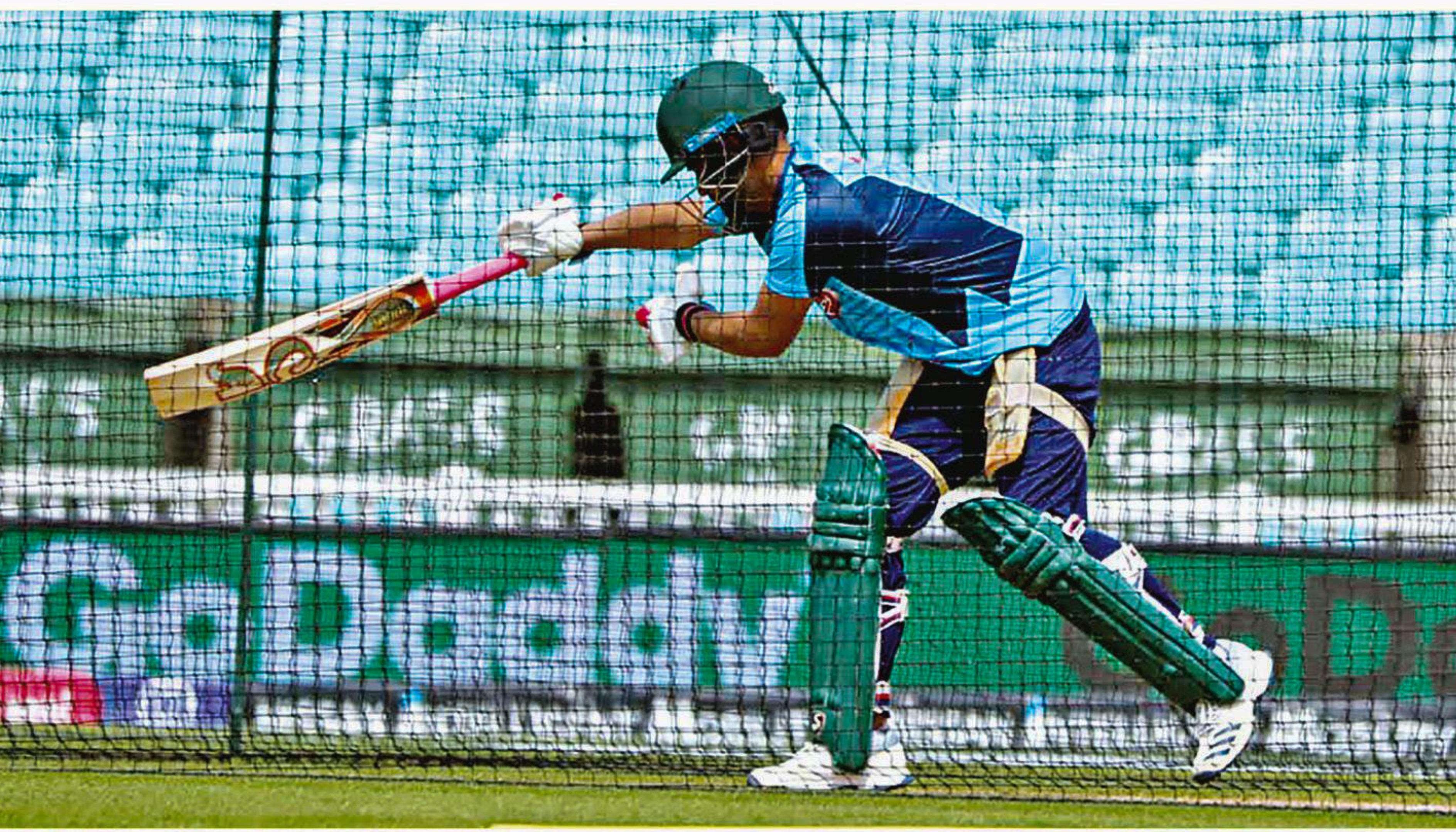
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It seems that a full-strength Bangladesh will take the field tomorrow in their ICC Cricket World Cup campaign opener against South Africa at The Oval in London. It had been feared that star opener Tamim Iqbal may miss out as he abruptly left practice on Thursday after being hit by a delivery to his left forearm. However, Tamim seemed to be raring to go in practice yesterday and it was later revealed that the injury was not serious.

PHOTO: BCB

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TODAY'S MATCH
ICC CRICKET WORLD CUP
BANGLADESH v SOUTH
AFRICA
LIVE FROM 3:30PM
(BANGLADESH STANDARD TIME)

England were better than us in all three facets of the game. It's a league competition. For me, it's about making sure we look at the areas that we got it wrong and just move on.

South Africa captain Faf du Plessis

**SL-NZ
SCOREBOARD**

SRI LANKA	R/B	4s/6s
Thirimanne lbw b Henry	4/2	1/0
Karunaratne not out	52/84	4/0
Perera c Grandhomme b Henry	29/24	4/0
Mendis c Guttill b Henry	0/1	0/0
L Silva lbw b Ferguson	4/13	1/0
Mathews c Latham b Grandhomme	0/0	0/0
Mendis c Neesham b Ferguson	1/4	0/0
Perera c Boult b Santner	27/23	0/2
Udara c Henry b Neesham	0/3	0/0
Lakmal c Santner b Boult	7/13	1/0
Malinda b Ferguson	1/2	0/0
Extras: (b-1, nb-2, w-8)	11	
Total: (all out in 29.2 overs)	136	
Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-46, 3-46, 4-53, 5-59, 6-60, 7-112, 8-114, 9-130, 10-136.		
Bowler	O	M
Henry	7	0
Boult	9	0
Ferguson	6.2	0
Grandhomme	2	0
Neesham	3	0
Santner	2	0
	R	W
Mendis c Neesham b Ferguson	0/0	0/0
Perera c Boult b Santner	27/23	0/2
Udara c Henry b Neesham	0/3	0/0
Lakmal c Santner b Boult	7/13	1/0
Malinda b Ferguson	1/2	0/0
Extras: (b-1, nb-2, w-8)	11	
Total: (For 9 wickets in 16.1 overs)	137	
Bowler	O	M
Guttill not out	73/51	8/2
Munro not out	58/47	6/1
Extras: (b-1, nb-2, w-2)	6	
Total: (For 9 wickets in 16.1 overs)	137	
Bowler	O	M
Malinga	5	0
Lakmal	4	0
Udara	3	0
Perera	3	0
Mendis	1.1	0
	R	W
Malinga	5	46
Lakmal	4	28
Udara	3	24
Perera	3	25
Mendis	1.1	11

Result: New Zealand won by 10 wickets.
Player-of-the-match: Matt Henry.

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Great start for us: Williamson

AFP, Cardiff

New Zealand made a flying start to their World Cup campaign as paceman Matt Henry struck three times in a 10-wicket thrashing of woeful Sri Lanka on Saturday.

Henry returned figures of 3-29 and combined with fellow paceman Lockie Ferguson, who also took three wickets, to bowl out Sri Lanka for just 136 in 29.2 overs in Cardiff.

Martin Guptill and Colin Munro then hit unbeaten half-centuries to make short work of their modest target.

"It's a great start for us. You want a balanced attack going into any surface. It is important that you have that to have aggressive options for different occasions," New Zealand captain Kane Williamson said.

"The two at the top played beautifully. It was nice for those guys to play a few shots. It was a good all-round performance."

Sri Lanka skipper Dimuth Karunaratne added: "It was a good toss to win. In the morning it was seaming and swinging. They had that advantage and they have good bowlers to do that, so they took their chance."

"The batters aren't low on confidence. We batted well in some practice games and we work really hard. We need to think about the game."

The Export Leader

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'Up to Tamim whether he will play'

Star opener takes full part in practice

SAKEB SUBHAN from London

in today's match, Mashrafe was asked whether South Africa's opening defeat against England -- when the Proteas were bowled out for 207 in 39.1 overs -- would create any additional pressure on Bangladesh's opponents.

"It matters where South Africa saw themselves ahead of the match against England," Mashrafe replied. "As we all know and have seen from the opening ceremony, everyone is seeing England as favourites. In our match I am sure

South Africa are thinking of their two points. We are also thinking that way. If they see the England defeat as 'what has happened has happened, we have to win this match [against Bangladesh]', they will take on some pressure; then we may have an in -- if they assume that they will get two points from this match, they have virtually zoned out of the game. For us, it's not a big deal that South Africa lost against England. For us the big deal is how we are playing against South Africa and that we execute the plans we have to win the match."

Talking of advantages, it will be the second match played on the same wicket that saw South Africa lose to England, and for once Mashrafe allowed himself to say that there is an area where Bangladesh may enjoy an advantage.

"We saw that the ball was gripping on the surface [in the opener], and if that happens that will be a positive for us," said Mashrafe. "I believe that will keep most of our pacers in the game as well as our spinners."

If it is indeed left up to Tamim, then the signs of the opener playing

are good. He practised against the sidearm in the nets while Mashrafe was

speaking. Since his injury the day before was against the sidearm -- a hand-held device that increases the pace and bounce of deliveries -- that he was

back practising against the very device was a sign that he was comfortable.

He also took some high catches after batting practice.

Mashrafe also unintentionally let slip that he expected Tamim to play

tomorrow when answering a question about Bangladesh's chances.

"Everything depends on the day. Soumya [Sarkar] and Tamim have been playing well, but tomorrow [Sunday] they may get out in two balls," Mashrafe said.

Mohammad Saifuddin, who had a stiff back after the warm-up match

against India, was also seen bowling, as was Mustafizur Rahman, who had

some calf trouble during the warm-up. It therefore seems that Bangladesh

will be fielding a full-strength side for the all-important opener.

RAHIM STEEL

RAHIM STEEL
বাণিজ্যিক
পালঠার্মাণ

After dismissing Sri Lanka for a paltry 136-run total, New Zealand chased down the target with ease, courtesy of an unbeaten 51-ball 73 from opener Martin Guptill. Guptill, alongside Colin Munro, added an unbeaten 137-run opening stand as New Zealand registered a comprehensive ten-wicket win. Guptill played the role of aggressor, striking eight fours and two sixes to finish the game in style. He was perhaps encouraged by the presence of his wife, Laura McGoldrick (bottom), who witnessed the game from the stands with their daughter.

