



Many on the Bangladesh squad took yesterday as an opportunity to experience the sights and sounds of England. Here, Mehedi Hasan Miraz is seen smiling from ear to ear after returning to the team hotel and perhaps, this best sums up just how much the youngsters on the team enjoyed their day out.

'Total team effort'

SPORTS REPORTER

It was undoubtedly one of the most exciting matches of the ongoing ICC Cricket World Cup in the United Kingdom as Pakistan registered a scintillating 14-run victory against hosts England at Trent Bridge in Nottingham yesterday.

Despite hundreds from Joe Root and Jos Butler, England finished on 334 for nine in 50 overs to taste their first defeat of the campaign.

Wahab Riaz and Mohammad Amir's brilliant death over bowling guided Pakistan to their first win of the quadrennial mega event following a crushing defeat against West Indies in their World Cup opener.

Player-of-the-match Mohammad Hafeez scored a team high 62-ball 84 and also picked up the wicket of England's Eoin Morgan.

"Everyone believed we could do this. We're really happy and everyone chipped in, taking the task and giving everything. To be honest, we were very confident and had a good meeting together. We just needed one winning performance. It was a total team effort," said Hafeez after the game.

The Export Leader

CROWN CEMENT
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SHAKIB SWITCHED ON

SAKIB SUBHAN from London

Certain boxes have to be ticked to know that the Bangladesh team are in good fettle. Tamim Iqbal has to be in good form because he sets the tone for the innings, Mushfiqur Rahim and Mahmudullah Riyad should ideally be doing the heavy lifting in the middle and at the end and Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, well, has to be Mashrafe Bin Mortaza. In conjunction with all those factors, perhaps most importantly, the world's best all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan has to be involved in all aspects of Bangladesh's surge towards wins.

From the optional training camp in Leicester in May to his player-of-the-match performance in the Tigers' World Cup opener against South Africa on Sunday, Shakib has been switched on. He matched the legendary training ethic of Mushfiqur –

with whom he put on 142 runs for the third wicket during Bangladesh's 21-run win – while batting for extended periods in the nets. On Sunday, he scored 75 to set up Bangladesh's highest total of 330 for six. He then bowled Aiden Markram at a crucial juncture to become the quickest in ODI history to the double of 250 wickets and 5,000 runs and also took a fine, low catch at cover to help dismiss Andile Phelukwayo.

"I think Shakib's return is the most important thing," said team manager Khaled Mahmud

yesterday, perhaps alluding to Shakib's return from finger injuries that dogged the cricketer throughout 2018 and earlier this year. "He has always been a big cricketer, but his seriousness in the last few months has been outstanding. It's not just fitness; his involvement in the team is amazing, the way he is working hard.

"Let me just relate something he did in practice the day before yesterday. He was taking a breather, and the players needed water and he ran towards them with the water. This is what I am saying – one of the senior players in the team... these small changes really catch the eye."

It may be unfair to say that Shakib has been aloof before because he has always been part of the core group that guides the younger members of the team, but it may not always be visible to the outside world.

During the build-up to the World Cup, however, his involvement and enjoyment of practice has been palpable – joking with teammates and being a livewire during fielding practice, wanting to get to every ball.

"He does not say it, but I think Shakib wants to become the man of the series in this tournament, that is what I believe seeing the way he has prepared himself in the last six months fitness-wise, attitude-wise... everything. He spends a lot



of time on batting. Maybe at one time Shakib used to bat or bowl, or bowl one over and then leave the nets, but now he is very serious. Everyone, including the youngsters, are working very hard."

Bangladesh bowling coach Courtney Walsh was asked during a press conference on Friday who he thought Bangladesh's X-factor was. The great

Jamaican fast bowler was coy about answering definitively, but former Australia captain Ricky Ponting had earlier talked about Shakib as Bangladesh's danger man in this World Cup. After a career of 13 years, Shakib may not qualify as an X-factor, but a Shakib even hungrier for success may yet be the surprise package.

PAK-ENG SCOREBOARD

PAKISTAN				R/B 4s/6s
Imam c Woakes b Ali	44/58	3	1	
Fakhar st Buttler b Ali	36/40	6/0		
Babar c Woakes b Ali	63/66	4/1		
Hafeez c Woakes b Wood	84/62	8/2		
Sarfraz c & Woakes	55/44	5/0		
Asif c Bairstow b Wood	14/11	0/1		
Shoaib c Morgan b Woakes	8/8	0/0		
Wahab c Root b Woakes	4/2	1/0		
Hasan not out	10/5	0/1		
Shadab not out	10/4	2/0		
Extras: (b-1, lb-8, w-11)		20		
Total: (For eight wkt in 50 overs)	348			
Fall of wickets: 1-82, 2-111, 3-199, 4-279, 5-311, 6-319, 7-325, 8-337.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Woakes	8	1	71	
Archer	10	0	79	0
Ali	10	0	50	3
Wood	10	0	53	2
Stokes	7	0	43	0
Rashid	5	0	43	0
ENGLAND	R/B	4s/6s		
Roy Ibw b Shadab	8/7	2/0		
Bairstow c Sarfraz b Wahab	32/31	4/1		
Root c Hafeez b Shadab	107/104	10/1		
Morgan b Hafeez	9/18	1/0		
Stokes c Sarfraz b Shoaib	13/18	1/0		
Buttler c Wahab b Amir	103/76	9/2		
Ali c Fakhar b Wahab	19/20	1/0		
Woakes c Sarfraz b Wahab	21/14	1/1		
Archer c Wahab b Amir	1/2	0/0		
Rashid not out	3/4	0/0		
Wood not out	10/6	2/0		
Extras: (lb-3, w-5)		8		
Total: (For 9 wkt in 50 overs)	334			
Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-60, 3-86, 4-118, 5-248, 6-288, 7-320, 8-320, 9-322.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Shadab	10	0	63	
Amir	10	0	67	2
Wahab	10	0	82	3
Hasan	10	0	66	0
Hafeez	7	0	43	1
Shoaib	3	0	10	1

Result: Pakistan won by 14 runs.

Player-of-the-match: Mohammad Hafeez.

RAHIM STEEL



After being dropped on just 14 by Jason Roy, Pakistan's veteran all-rounder Mohammad Hafeez utilised the opportunity to great effect. He went on to score a team high 62-ball 84, featuring eight fours and two sixes, to help Pakistan post a huge total of 348 for eight in 50 overs. Followed by the crushing defeat in the first game against the West Indies, Pakistan managed to stage a fight-back against hosts England, courtesy of the experienced cricketer. The all-rounder was also instrumental with the ball, picking up the crucial wicket of England skipper Eoin Morgan, who was bowled going for a cut close to the body.



England succumbed to a shock defeat against Pakistan in their ICC Cricket World Cup encounter in Nottingham yesterday. Despite tons from batsmen Jos Buttler (R) and Joe Root, the hosts could not avert a 14-run loss as none of the other batsmen, other than 31-ball 32 from Jonny Bairstow, were able to contribute significantly.

Bangladesh set to tour India

AGENCIES, Delhi

Bangladesh are set to visit India in November later this year to participate in three T20Is and two Tests against the hosts.

Five Tests -- three against South Africa and two against Bangladesh -- will be the highlight of a packed home season, where they are expected to host five teams in total, for the India team. The season will kick off with South Africa's tour in September-October.

BANGLADESH TOUR OF INDIA

November 3	: 1st T20I in Delhi
November 7	: 2nd T20I in Rajkot
November 10	: 3rd T20I in Nagpur
November 14-18	: 1st Test in Indore
November 22-26	: 2nd Test in Kolkata

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TODAY'S MATCH

ICC CRICKET WORLD CUP
SRI LANKA v AFGHANISTAN
LIVE FROM 3:30PM
(BANGLADESH STANDARD TIME)

PHOTO: REUTERS