## **DHAKA MONDAY JUNE 10, 2019, JAISHTHA 27, 1426 BS** ENGLAND & WALES 2019

MOST 6s : HIT BY A PLAYER 🔾 BUTTLER ENGLAND 006 MOST 4s : HIT BY A PLAYER O SHAKIB BANGLADESH

WALTON ডিজিটাল ক্যাম্পেইনে বিশ্বকাপ ক্রিকেট উপলক্ষ্যে ওয়ালটন ফ্রিজ কিনে পেতে পারেন মাশরাফির অটোগ্রাফযুক্ত গোল্ড এডিশন প্রতীকী ব্যাট বল, ব্যাট, অন্যান্য পণ্যসহ





City

by 106 runs against England on Saturday, the batting department is a concern with opener Tamim Iqbal's lack of form highlighting the issue. Fans could however be relieved by all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan's (R) return to form.

### Dhawan third in elite list

AGENCIES, London

Shikhar Dhawan slammed a brilliant century takes him to the third in the list of Indian batsmen with the most number of centuries in the tournament. The left-hander who scored 117 off 109 balls against Australia entered the elite list of cricketers yesterday.

The list is headed by Sachin Tendulkar who scored six World Cup hundreds while the second position belongs to Sourav Ganguly with four. Thanks to this knock, Dhawan surpassed teammates Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and former India opener Virender Sehwag, who all have two World Cup tons to their name.

This was also his third ODI century at The Oval - the second most ever after England's Marucs Trescothick (3). His innings was laced with 13 boundaries as India posted a huge total of 352 for 5 in 50 overs.



# SEVEN: A REMINDER

SAKEB SUBHAN from Bristol

Lucky or not, seven is a number that should be tattooed on every Bangladesh supporter's minds over the next month or so. Because seven is reality and rankings matter. It is the very number that Bangladeshis had rejoiced in less than two years ago at the cut-off stage for the top eight to qualify for the 2019 World Cup, three matches into which supporters are now wringing their hands and talking of wholesale changes in the middle of a tournament Bangladesh were never expected to win.

There is a reason there are six teams ahead of Bangladesh in the world and many of those were in evidence during Saturday's 106-run loss to topranked England in Cardiff.

Bangladesh do not have the massive hitting power that the likes of Australia, South Africa, India and England do. They do not have multiple bowlers who can run through the opposition with sheer skill, pace, or mystery spin. That is not to say



that bowlers have never done that for Bangladesh or that a batsman has not scored a 20-ball 50; just that there is no one in the squad or back home who can do it on a consistent basis.

Like most mid-table teams, Bangladesh are constantly battling with limitations, and it is with an understanding of those limitations that they have excelled over the past year and built a brand of their own, the successful execution of which saw them score 330 for six in their opening game and beat fourth-placed South Africa by 21 runs.

Two losses in two matches later and, after an admittedly poor display on the field against England, the knives are out. The age-old trapping of exalting those on the bench and belittling those on the field has come to the fore, which brings us to the following:

#### **RAVING FOR RUBEL**

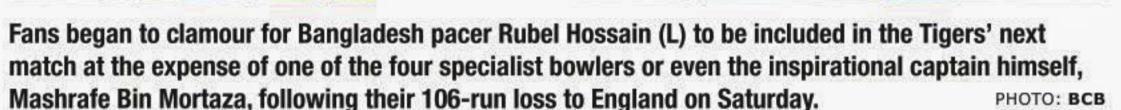
Rubel Hossain has been the third-highest wickettaker for Bangladesh in ODI cricket over the last two years, but because of considerations of team combination and the advent of pace-bowling allrounder Mohammad Saifuddin he has not been in the first eleven. The 29-year-old has also not bowled with the pace he has been known for and which saw him bowl Bangladesh to a famous win in Adelaide against England in the 2015 World Cup. There were glimpses of it in the Asia Cup final against India last September, but it has been missing since in matches against New Zealand, West Indies and Ireland.

Yet there has been a clamour for Rubel to be included at the expense of one of the four specialist bowlers. If one scratches beyond the surface of knee-jerk panic brought about by a bad loss, there is very little substance.

There are three positions Rubel can fill -- those currently occupied by pacers Mustafizur Rahman, Saifuddin and offspinner Mehedi Hasan Miraz. Mehedi is Bangladesh's most economical bowler in the tournament so far, Saifuddin their highest wicket-taker and also the lower order batsman who ensured that the match against New Zealand was a close one. Mustafizur Rahman has been underperforming in the first three matches, but he is the closest Bangladesh have to an X-factor in their bowling lineup and currently bowling

faster than Rubel. There have even been murmurs about Rubel replacing Mashrafe. The way the team's fortunes turned around in the West Indies last summer from an abject 2-0 Test defeat to a 2-1 ODI series win is indication enough that this collection of players need Mashrafe at the helm. The nonperforming captain theory holds little water because three matches do not change the fact that Mashrafe has been the second-highest wicket-taker for Bangladesh in the last two years. As no one is talking of dropping Tamim Iqbal after three indifferent scores, there is no call for dropping

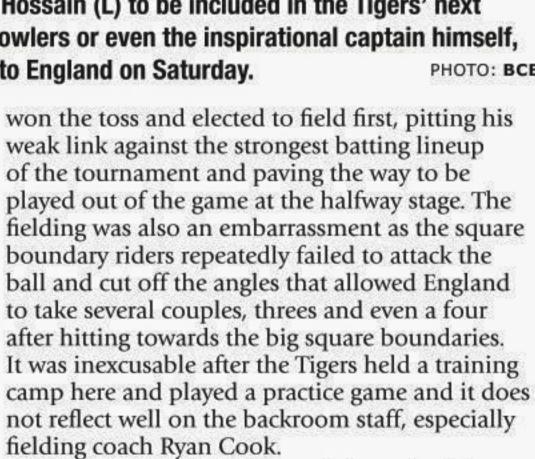




Bangladesh's highest wicket-taker. Also instructive is Rubel's figures in his last three matches -- four wickets at an economy rate of 6.48 against Ireland, New Zealand and West Indies.

There is also the intangible of Mashrafe's value as a leader and also the kind of sacrifices he makes, such as bowling against a stiff breeze in Cardiff while allowing Saifuddin and Mustafizur the better end. Then, as captain he could have preserved his status as the most economical bowler with figures of one for 50 from nine overs, but as one of those who bowl at the death, he bowled the last over and ruined his figures, thus allowing critics to get their knives out.

**FAILURES WITHIN, SOLUTIONS TOO** Neither Mashrafe nor the Bangladesh team are blameless. Being defensive on the field against England was understandable, but Mashrafe crossed the line into being negative when he



But these are all problems to be solved from within, and it remains to be seen whether that can be done. But there are no magic solutions sitting on the bench or back home -- that is the reality of being a limited team ranked number



#### INDIA-AUSTRALIA **SCOREBOARD**

TOTAL SECTION AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE PERSON AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON ADDRESS OF THE P			2.67 80	100
Sharma c Carey b Coulter-Nile			57/70	3
Dhawan c sub (Lyon) b Starc			7/109	16
Kohli c Cummins b Stoinis			82/77	4
Pandya c Finch b Cummins			48/27	
Dhoni c & b Stoinis			27/14	3
Rahul not out			11/3	à
Jadhav not out			0/0	(
Extras: (lb-3, w-7)			10	
Total: (For 5 wkts in 50 overs)			352	
Did not bat: B Kumar,	AND DESIGNATION OF THE		v, Y Chal	hal,
J Bumrah.	12			
Fall of wickets: 1-127	, 2-220,	3-301	, 4-338,	5-3
Bowler	0	M	R	
Cummins	10	0	55	
Starc	10	0	74	
Coulter-Nile	10	1	63	
Maxwell	7	0	45	
Zampa	6	0	50	
Stoinis	7	0	62	
AUSTRALIA			R/B	45/
Warner c Kumar b Chahal			56/84	9
Finch run out			36/35	0
Smith Ibw b Kumar			69/70	5
Khawaja b Bumrah			42/39	1
Maxwell c sub (Jadeja) b Chahal			28/14	
Stoinis b Kumar	(792		0/2	(
Carey not out			55/35	
Coulter-Nile c Kohli b Bumrah			4/9	(
Cummins c Dhoni b Bumrah			8/7	3 3
Starc run out			3/3	(
Zampa c sub (Jadeja) b Kumar			1/3	(
Extras: (b-3, lb-3, nb-1, w-7)			14	
Total: (All out in 50 overs)			316	
Fall of wickets: 1-6		3-20	2, 4-238	,
5-238, 6-244, 7-283,	8-300, 9	-313,	10-316	
Bowler	0	M	R	
Kumar	10	0	50	
Bumrah	10	1	61	
Pandya	10	0	68	Q.
Yadav	9	0	55	
Chahal	10	0	62	
Jadhav	1	0	14	
Result: India won by	36 runs.	Service Service		
Player-of-the-mate			awan.	

## 'It is not a big setback'

ICC

Beaten but far from broken, Bangladesh still have hopes of qualifying for the next phase of the ICC Cricket World

They are not the first side to suffer at the bat of Jason Roy, but the character shown by young spinner Mehedi Hasan Miraz provides encouragement for their remaining games.

Mehedi, 21, is refusing to think of the 106-run loss to hosts England in Cardiff as a serious setback and he anticipates a strong response when Bangladesh face Sri Lanka at Bristol on Tuesday.

Many slow bowlers of that age would look for excuses after being struck for successive sixes from the first three balls of an over. Instead, Mehedi held his nerve, pushed

one of his off-breaks quicker and wider and saw Roy, on

153, slice into the covers. Figures of 2/67 from ten overs were commendable

in the circumstances at a ground whose short, straight boundaries contributed towards England's decision to omit spinner Moeen Ali in favour of an extra pace bowler.

"These conditions are always difficult for spinners," Mehedi reflected. "I just tried to bowl in the right areas with a good line. You know that Roy all the time takes on the boundary, so I just tried for him to get singles, not too many things. "Unfortunately, in that over he hit three sixes, but that

is cricket. I think it was Shakib [Al Hasan] who told me to bowl on the outside if he still comes down the pitch. I tried that and he got out. "We know what can happen if the opening batsman

plays well for a long time and that was Roy, he really batted well. "It is not a big setback. Although we have lost two

matches, we still have six to play and if we do well in the next two or three we can stay in the World Cup. "The next, against Sri Lanka, is very important for us.

We need to come back strongly and just make sure we do our best in the middle. We will talk among ourselves and just focus on the coming game because the three we have played already are gone." Bangladesh had beaten England in the previous two World Cups, at Chittagong in 2011 and Adelaide

knowledge helped Roy this time as he gradually opened his shoulders to prime effect. "It is suitable for him because he knows the conditions," Mehedi said. "He has played here for so

many years. It was tough for us."

four years later. Mehedi, however, believes that home





### TODAY'S MATCH

ICC CRICKET WORLD CUP SOUTH AFRICA V WEST INDIES LIVE FROM 3:30PM (BANGLADESH STANDARD TIME)





All-rounder Hardik Pandya was instrumental for India against Australia in their second World Cup match yesterday. Promoted to the number four position, Pandya utilised his opportunity to the utmost as the right-hander struck a quick-fire 27 ball 48, laced with four fours and three sixes, to help India post a daunting 352 for five in 50 overs. Pandya was also influential on the field as he was involved in the run-out of Aussie skipper Aaron Finch.