



Although Tamim Iqbal is an otherwise reliable fielder for Bangladesh, he seemed distracted when given the opportunity to have India opener Rohit Sharma caught on nine in just the fourth over. Sharma went on to score a 92-ball 104 which helped his side post a 315-run target for the Tigers in their World Cup match in Edgbaston yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Shakib gets another accolade

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh's ace all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan became the first player in World Cup history to score 500 runs and scalp 10 wickets in one edition of the quadrennial mega event during their match against India at Edgbaston in Birmingham yesterday.

Shakib was 24 runs shy of the 500-run mark going into the match and reached the milestone by pulling a Hardik Pandya delivery behind square towards deep fine leg to take a single in the 18th over, becoming the 10th batsman to score 500 runs in a single edition of the World Cup in the process.

Shakib, who earlier became only the second player after India's Yuvraj Singh to bag a fiver and also score a fifty during his match winning performance against Afghanistan, has already scalped 11 wickets in the ongoing World Cup.

The 32-year all-rounder has been in exquisite form in this edition, having already smashed two hundreds and three fifties.

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'We were playing catch-up'

SAKEB SUBHAN from Birmingham

After shaking hands with the Indian cricketers, Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza ambled about towards the presentation ceremony, looking around at the emptying ground in Edgbaston. Having announced that this would be his last World Cup, perhaps the skipper was taking in the feeling of the remnants of a campaign that still meant something mere minutes ago. For someone who fronts up to the press after losses as a matter of routine, coach Steve Rhodes's presence at the post-match media conference in Mashrafe's stead was ample evidence of Mashrafe's acute disappointment.

"There's a lot of disappointed cricketers in the changing room," Rhodes said after the 28-run loss. "We were desperate to do well in this competition and try and take it further. Ultimately, today wasn't to be. We played against a good team, a side that are, I think, currently ranked

threatening a score well in excess of 350. But fine efforts from Mustafizur Rahman, who took five for 59, and Shakib Al Hasan, who was the most economical bowler on either side, pulled India back to 314 for nine.

"I thought we did fantastically well after that opening blitz by Rohit. We were very, very happy at the halfway stage only to be chasing that score. You know, it could well have been 370, 380, even 400 at one stage. But ultimately it was that start that, if we'd have just started a little bit better -- to beat India, you've got to play at your best, and we weren't there in that first hour."

Bangladesh had chased 322 with 8.3 overs to spare in Taunton on June 17, so when Tamim Iqbal and Soumya Sarkar started well, hopes were raised, but Rhodes said there was a difference in the opponents and the conditions.

"Going back to Taunton, it was an absolute belter of a wicket and a very fast outfield. Once the two guys got in, Liton Das and Shakib, then it was very difficult controlling them. This was a little bit different. Without being rude to the West Indies, there's more variety from India, and the way they bowl their cutters and slower balls and yorkers was excellent today, so the task was far more difficult."

He also defended Tamim for dropping the catch that could have changed the match, while also admitting that it was costly. "You know that any drop can be costly. I didn't know how costly it would be. I was hoping he'd hit another one up in the air a little bit sooner. Again, the person who dropped it was Tamim, and he's got one of our -- he's developed into one of our safer pair of hands in the outfield, so it was a little bit of a surprise, but he's human, and we're all human."

As for Mashrafe, after another wicketless performance and Bangladesh's World Cup done and dusted, there was the inevitable query about the future of the embattled 35-year-old.

"First, this situation with the board and all this talk that's been going on for the last two weeks or so that really are questions for the board and Mash to answer. I can't really answer that," Rhodes said. "We've also got to have a bowler good enough, capable enough to actually replace Mash. Everybody forgets that. He's had seven knee operations, and he's had a fantastic, wonderful career of over 200 ODIs, and he has not stopped trying throughout all of those ODIs, I know that."

Fizz finds the perfect mix

SPORTS REPORTER from Birmingham

There are lots of reasons to be frustrated with Mustafizur Rahman, and yesterday he gave Bangladesh fans a compelling one after a long time. Since bowling Bangladesh to series wins over India in his debut series and over South Africa in his second rubber in 2015, expectations have been sky high of the man dubbed the Fizz. Although he was Bangladesh's joint-highest wicket-taker in the World Cup before yesterday's match against India in Birmingham, there was constant frustration that he did not bowl consistently enough and that he conceded far too many runs.

It may be yet another false dawn, but Mustafizur showed yesterday that it was not just his famed cutters, but accuracy allied with a sharp bowling brain that got him wickets. It was the failure of the accuracy that had thwarted Mustafizur thus far, but he rediscovered the combination in just the right time for the Tigers. India were well on their way to a score of above 350, poised as they were on 237 for two in the 39th over with batting maestro Virat Kohli at the crease. Knowing well that Kohli would be looking to accelerate, he bowled him a well-directed bouncer that Kohli hooked straight down the throat of Rubel Hossain at deep square leg. The dangerous Hardik Pandya came in. He angled two deliveries away from the right-hander and Pandya poked at the second one, which was wider than the first, and edged low to Soumya at a wide slip. Two balls later Mustafizur had completed a double-wicket maiden,

which was worth its weight in platinum for Bangladesh at that stage.

Mustafizur is one of the few Bangladesh pacers who use the short ball effectively. While on some occasions a failure of execution that has been haunting him since a shoulder surgery in late 2016 has caused for the surprise weapons to be wasted, they found their mark yesterday.

Throughout the 46th over he was bowling angled, length deliveries to Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Dinesh Karthik, but the first delivery he bowled to Karthik in the 48th over was a slower bouncer. Karthik was already on the front foot and could not adjust to the change in length as well as pace and spooned a catch to Mosaddek Hossain at midwicket.

His fourth wicket, that of Dhoni, showcased his shrewdness, especially as he overthought one of the most cunning cricketers to play the game. Dhoni decided to farm the strike in the last over, the plan obviously to bludgeon Mustafizur to the leg side for sixes and fours. Mustafizur bowled two deliveries full and outside off stump, to which Dhoni could not find a boundary and, to his detriment, refused a signal each time. This time it was a quick bouncer outside off stump and Dhoni, set on hitting to the leg side, top-edged to mid on. Bowling Mohammad Shami for his fifth wicket, off the last ball of the innings, was just reward for one of the rare times since the early days that Mustafizur's keen bowling intellect found an able ally in execution.

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BANGLADESH-INDIA SCOREBOARD

INDIA	R/B	4s/6s		
Rahul c Mushfiqur b Rubel	77/92	6/1		
Sharma c Liton b Soumya	104/92	7/5		
Kohli c Rubel b Mustafizur	26/27	3/0		
Pant c Mosaddek b Shakib	48/41	6/1		
Pandya c Soumya b Mustafizur	0/2	0/0		
Dhoni c Shakib b Mustafizur	35/33	4/0		
Karthik c Mosaddek b Mustafizur	8/9	1/0		
Kumar run out (Mushfiqur/Mustafizur)	2/3	0/0		
Shami b Mustafizur	1/2	0/0		
Bumrah not out	0/0	0/0		
Extras: (lb-6, nb-1, w-6)		13		
Total: (For 9 wickets in 50 overs)		314		
Fall of wickets: 1-180, 2-195, 3-237, 4-237, 5-277, 6-298, 7-311, 8-314, 9-314.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mashrafe	5	0	36	0
Saifuddin	7	0	59	0
Mustafizur	10	1	59	5
Shakib	10	0	41	1
Mosaddek	4	0	32	0
Rubel	8	0	48	1
Soumya	6	0	33	1
BANGLADESH	R/B	4s/6s		
Tamim b Shami	22/31	3/0		
Soumya c Kohli b Pandya	33/38	4/0		
Shakib c Karthik b Pandya	66/74	6/0		
Mushfiqur c Shami b Chahal	24/23	3/0		
Liton c Karthik b Pandya	22/24	0/1		
Mosaddek b Bumrah	3/7	0/0		
Sabbir b Bumrah	36/36	5/0		
Saifuddin not out	51/38	9/0		
Mashrafe c Dhoni b Kumar	8/5	0/1		
Rubel b Bumrah	9/11	1/0		
Mustafizur b Bumrah	0/1	0/0		
Extras: (lb-1, lb-1, w-10)		12		
Total: (All out in 48 overs)		286		
Fall of wickets: 1-39, 2-74, 3-121, 4-162, 5-173, 6-179, 7-245, 8-257, 9-286, 10-286.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Kumar	9	0	51	1
Bumrah	10	1	55	4
Shami	9	0	68	1
Chahal	10	0	50	1
Pandya	10	0	60	3

Result: India won by 28 runs.
Player-of-the-match: Rohit Sharma

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RAHIM STEEL

RAHIM STEEL
বিশ্বের
অল কাউন্সিল

Shakib Al Hasan has been a revelation for Bangladesh in the ongoing ICC Cricket World Cup as the champion all-rounder once again remained instrumental for the Tigers in all the three departments of the game in yesterday's match against India. Despite a flying start from the Indian batters, it was Shakib who remained economical with his left-arm spin and kept things under control for Bangladesh. He picked up the wicket of an on-song Rishabh Pant while conceding 41 runs from his ten overs. Shakib also continued his brilliant form with the bat as well, becoming the only player in the tournament's history to score over 500 runs and pick up ten wickets in a single edition.

PHOTO: AFP

Bangladesh's ace all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan caught Mahendra Singh Dhoni off a Mustafizur Rahman delivery in the 49th over to help restrict India to 314 for nine in a World Cup encounter in Edgbaston yesterday.



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