



'45 minutes of bad cricket cost us'

India captain Virat Kohli admitted his side had paid the price for "45 minutes of bad cricket" as he looked back on the wreckage of his side's stunning World Cup exit.

Kohli's team crashed to an unexpected 18-run defeat against New Zealand in the semifinals at Old Trafford on Wednesday.

Needing just 240 to reach Sunday's final, two-time champions India were undone by a dismal start to their run chase.

Unable to cope with the pace bowling of Matt Henry and Trent Boult, India were reduced to 5-3, 24-4 and 92-6 before their Ravindra Jadeja-inspired late revival set up a tense finale that ultimately fell short.

Kohli, the world's leading batsman, was one of the India stars to flop as he was dismissed for one alongside Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul, who also only managed a single each.

"It's tough, 45 minutes of bad cricket put you out of the tournament. It's hard to come to terms with but New Zealand deserve it, they put us under pressure and came through in the key moments," Kohli told Sky Sports.

"Our shot selection could've been better but otherwise we played a good brand of cricket and I'm proud of the way we played.

"Come the knockouts it is anyone's game and New Zealand showed more composure and were braver and they deserve to go through to the final."

Kohli felt India had taken a huge step towards the final

Running in from square-leg boundary, New Zealand's Martin Guptill all but determined the fate of the first semifinal at Old Trafford yesterday when he hit the timber with just a single stump to aim at from a fair distance and dismissed India's MS Dhoni for 50. The India innings wrapped up quickly thereafter as the Kiwis won the game by 18 runs. PHOTO: AFP

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INDIA-NEW ZEALAND SCOREBOARD

Day 2, Session 1 wins it for Kiwis

SAKEB SUBHAN from Manchester

The second morning, overcast conditions, two pacers steaming in, three slips and the ball talking up a storm as batsmen just try to survive. If fans of Test cricket were missing the sport's most primal, stripped-bare format, Old Trafford was the place to be yesterday. It was not just Trent Boult and Matt Henry's superb opening spells that brought to mind the longest format of the game at the business end of cricket's limited-overs showpiece -- the anticipation of resumption of play yesterday morning after the India-New Zealand semifinal spilled over into the reserve day also lent the occasion a Test-match air.

That anticipation and extra time to plan their mode of attack against India's top order seemed to have benefited New Zealand. Before the semifinal, India had lost just four wickets in the first 10 overs across eight matches, and opener Rohit Sharma had hit a record-breaking five tons in the edition. Having resumed the day on 211 for five with just 23 balls left in the innings and then taking the total to 239 for eight, New Zealand would have known that their chances of going to the final would hinge on early wickets. Never was the value of having a hardened Test bowler in Trent Boult more apparent, as the left-arm pacer and Matt Henry hardly put a ball in the wrong area in the first 10 overs, which produced four wickets and allowed just 24 runs.

Boult started with one slip as skipper Kane Williamson tested the waters, perhaps to see how much movement was on offer. The ball swung both ways in the first over and there were two slips in for the second. None were required as a Rohit stood rooted to the crease and poked at a late away-swing and edged it through to the keeper.

Then walked in Virat Kohli, who lives for high-profile run chases, and Williamson brought in three slips, perhaps in memory of Kohli's struggles in England

during India's 2014 Test tour, when early movement accounted for him numerous times. Boult unleashed a masterclass in swing bowling -- he drew a nervous drive with the first ball of the third over, angling a full ball across the Indian maestro. The next two deliveries were both moving away but Kohli negotiated better, getting closer to the first one on off stump and hitting the second one, which pitched outside leg, on the bounce to midwicket.

Kohli was perhaps expecting the inswinger, maybe he was expecting it too much, because when it came in the next ball he played all around it and was rapped on the knee roll. It was perfect execution from Boult as he got the ball to pitch on middle and off and swerved it back to strike in line. The umpire's fingers went up, Kohli asked for a review and the ball was shown to be hitting the bails. Kohli walked off in a huff, but since the

umpire's decision proved to be correct, maybe it was because he was angry at himself for looking for a release shot when clearly, there was a game of Test cricket going on.

India were then reduced to five for three in the next over when Henry got a delivery to seam away after pitching on a fourth-stump line. KL Rahul emulated Sharma and Tom Latham took a fine catch diving in front of first slip.

Dinesh Karthik then tried to do his best impression of a Test player, scoring six off 25 balls, but was caught brilliantly at point off Henry in the last ball of the 10th over.

Having gotten Test match conditions in the morning and defending a low total, the Kiwis took a gamble and switched to Test mode. India did their best with a limited-overs fightback late in the piece, but eventually Day Two, Session One won it for New Zealand.

when they restricted New Zealand to 239-8 at the conclusion of the Black Caps' rain-interrupted 50 overs -- with the match carried over from Tuesday due to the bad weather.

"We got what we needed to get in the field this morning and we thought we had restricted them to a total that is chaseable on any surface. But the way they bowled in that first half an hour was the difference in the game," he said.

Insisting India weren't fazed by having to return to Old Trafford to finish the match on the reserve day, Kohli added: "It was fine having to come back today. We had a good day yesterday and I'm very proud of that effort. Then it was a professional effort with the ball this morning and we had the momentum.

"But credit to the New Zealand bowlers, the way they bowled with the new ball, moving it around, it was an outstanding skill level on display and they made life very difficult for our batsmen."

New Zealand	R/B	4s/6s
Guptill c Kohli b Bumrah	1/14	0/0
Nicholls b Jadeja	28/51	2/0
Williamson c Jadeja b Chahal	67/95	6/0
Taylor run out	74/90	3/1
Neesham c Karthik b Pandya	12/18	1/0
De Grandhomme c Dhoni		
b Kumar	16/10	2/0
Latham c Jadeja b Kumar	10/11	0/0
Santner not out	9/6	1/0
Henry c Kohli b Kumar	1/2	0/0
Boult not out	3/3	0/0
Extras: (lb-5, w-13)	18	
Total: (For 8 wks in 50 overs)	249	
Did not bat: Ferguson.		
Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-69, 3-134, 4-162, 5-200, 6-225, 7-225, 8-232.		

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Kumar	10	1	43	3
Bumrah	10	1	39	1
Pandya	10	0	55	1
Jadeja	10	0	34	1
Chahal	10	0	63	1

INDIA	R/B	4s/6s
Rahul c Latham b Henry	1/7	0/0
Sharma c Latham b Henry	1/4	0/0
Kohli lbw b Boult	1/6	0/0
Pant c de Grandhomme		
b Santner	32/56	4/0
Karthik c Neesham b Henry	6/25	1/0
Pandya c Williamson		
b Santner	32/62	2/0
Dhoni run out (Guptill)	50/72	1/1
Jadeja c Williamson b Boult	77/59	4/4
Kumar b Ferguson	0/1	0/0
Chahal c Latham b Neesham	5/5	1/0
Bumrah not out	0/0	0/0
Extras: (lb-3, w-13)	16	
Total: (All out in 49.3 overs)	221	
Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-5, 3-5, 4-24, 5-71, 6-92, 7-208, 8-216, 9-217, 10-221.		

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Boult	10	2	42	2
Henry	10	1	37	3
Ferguson	10	0	43	1
De Grandhomme	2	0	13	0
Neesham	7.3	0	49	1
Santner	10	2	34	2

Result: New Zealand won by 18 runs.
Player-of-the-match: Matt Henry.



It was Matt Henry, who cornered an impeccable Indian batting line-up, removing three of the four top-order batsmen to set the tone for a magnificent win after play resumed on the reserve day at Manchester yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

RAHIM STEEL

নির্মাণের
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Ravindra Jadeja has remained the 12th man in the Indian side for almost all the matches in the ongoing World Cup until he got the opportunity to prove his worth in the all-important semifinal against New Zealand yesterday.

The 30-year-old immediately displayed his ability with the ball and remained instrumental with his left-arm spin as he picked up the wicket of Henry Nicholls and conceded just 34 runs from his ten overs. Jadeja then almost took India to the winning line after their early struggle in chase of a 240-run target and scored a crucial 59-ball 77-run knock.

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Williamson hails pace attack

REUTERS, Manchester

Captain Kane Williamson hailed his pace attack after a devastating opening 10 overs sent New Zealand into their second straight World Cup final with a surprise 18-run win over India at Old Trafford yesterday.

Matt Henry did the damage with three of the early wickets while left-arm Trent Boult also bowled superbly, keeping the pressure and picking up the vital wicket of India skipper Kohli.

Boult later removing dangerman Ravindra Jadeja, whose 77 off 59 balls had threatened to thwart the Kiwis.

"We spoke about the conditions during the interval, we wanted to put the ball in good areas and move the ball around and put some pressure on India, they are a world-class side," said Williamson.

"With the new ball, our bowlers tried to move the ball off the seam or in the air. We knew we need to put pressure on that world class batting line-up of India

"It was a great start from the bowlers, we knew it would get tougher for us as the innings went on. We showed plenty of heart and the fielders and bowlers were outstanding."

Williamson said he was not surprised to see his team come through to set up a final on Sunday against England or Australia.

"You come to this tournament where anybody can beat anybody. We saw a number of results that perhaps where sides ranked lower beat sides ranked higher, but I think everybody knew that anybody can beat anybody," he said.

Jaffer working on the basics

SPORTS REPORTER

Former Indian batsman Wasim Jaffer who has joined the Bangladesh Cricket Board as the age-level coach recently is emphasising on the basics of the young Bangladeshi cricketers. He informed that the youngsters need to improve their longer format skills which will help them to adapt the shorter format skills.

The 41-year-old who played the last edition of the Dhaka Premier League for Abahani Limited earlier this year, took up the role as the age-level coach of the BCB after that.

The former Indian top-order batsman is currently busy with the Bangladesh under-19 team who are scheduled to fly for England in July 15, eyeing to improve the basics for the coming days.

"Some of the players, they are quite impressive you know. The few of the players I have seen, they need just a little bit of correction. Few of them need a bit more. So, we are trying to get that corrected. And trying to get them ready for the four-day and three-day games. As per the basics. When the basics are right then everything becomes easier."

"I think because they need to look at improving their longer format games, when that becomes good then shorter format becomes easier. So, that is the idea. Once you have the basics right, your foundation is good, then everything else is easier. If you see the great player playing, Kane Williamson, Virat Kohli, Joe Root. Those players have their basics very strong. That is the reason why they dominate in all the formats of the game of cricket. So, that is the idea for me to get them ready in whatever time that I have."

Jaffer told the reporters at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

Jaffer gave some tips to the Tigers opener Soumya Sarkar while playing for Abahani in the Dhaka league and the left hander also got the result scoring a lot of runs in the tournament. However Jaffer informed that Soumya did not apply the adjustments in the World Cup, which according to the former Indian batsman was disappointing.

"Yes, I have seen his [Soumya Sarkar] batting. I was a little disappointed. Cause the things that I have spoken to him about, weren't followed. He has fallen back to his own game. That is a bit surprising because when I saw him here, he was playing the way I had told him. But suddenly he has gone back to his old game. So, I haven't got a chance to speak to him. So, when I see him then, obviously I will speak to him," he said.

After a lean World Cup, Bangladesh's star opener Tamim Iqbal seemed right back to business, practicing and heeding to advices from Khaled Mahmud at the nets in Mirpur yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

