

**BTV**  
Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games  
Live from 7:15 am, 8:25 am,  
10:35 am & 12:20 pm  
**TEN 1, TEN 2, TEN 3 & SONY SIX**  
Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games  
Live from 8:00 pm & 4:00 am

(Friday)  
**SONY SIX & TEN 3**  
India vs England  
First Test (Day 2)  
Live from 4:00 pm  
**T SPORTS**  
**THE HUNDRED**

Women's  
Manchester vs Southern  
Live from 8:30 pm  
Men's  
Manchester vs Southern  
Live from 12:00 am  
(Friday)



## 'Afif, Sohan showed maturity'

**Bangladesh batsman Afif Hossain played a match-winning knock of 37 not out during the five-wicket victory against Australia in the second T20I yesterday.**

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh captain Mahmudullah Riyad showered his praise on his two young guns -- Afif Hossain and Nurul Hasan -- after his side's five-wicket win in the second T20I against Australia at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

"It's very pleasing to see Afif (Hossain) and Sohan (Nurul Hasan) stand up, carry us to the end. They showed maturity. And up front, our bowlers did very well to restrict them to 120," said Mahmudullah in the post-match briefing.

Afif and Nurul showed great character on difficult batting conditions after a top-order hiccup, as their unbeaten 56-run stand steered Bangladesh to the shores of victory with eight balls to spare.

And especially Afif, who was adjudged player of the match for his match-winning, unbeaten 37-run innings, was fearless which was just what the doctor had ordered at that

particular stage of the game when he had arrived.

The young gun showed that he has the great potential to rise to the occasion in the shortest version of the game. When an experienced batsman like Mahmudullah had failed to maintain his nerve in a tricky situation, the young batsman stepped up to demonstrate the most significant aspect of his repertoire where he played his natural game to nullify the pressure that had manifested prior to his arrival.

"Losing few early wickets caused tension in the dressing room, but the

"When I came, I thought that I have to stay in the wicket till the end. Whatever the required rate was, I knew I could manage. We both knew we had to stay calm, keep wickets in hand. Sohan (Nurul) bhai played well, so there was no pressure on me either."

AFIF HOSSAIN

### SCORES IN BRIEF

**AUSTRALIA:**  
121 for seven in 20 overs (Marsh 45, Henriques 30, Starc 13 not out; Mustafizur 3-23, Shoriful 2-27)

**BANGLADESH:**  
123 for five in 18.4 overs (Afif 37 not out, Nurul 21 not out, Shakib 26, Mahedi 23; Agar 1-17, Hazlewood 1-21)

**RESULT:**  
Bangladesh won by five wickets

**PLAYER-OF-THE-MATCH:**  
Afif Hossain

way Afif and Sohan (Nurul) batted, it brought a lot of relief," admitted a content looking Mahmudullah.

Moreover, Bangladesh captain had special praise and admiration reserved for his champion all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan, who made 26 off 17 balls after taking one wicket for 22 runs in four overs.

"But Shakib was very important with bowling and batting, shows how important he is to the team," said Mahmudullah.

"I think Mustafizur has always been effective in these conditions. Shoriful bowled really well and all the bowlers chipped in too. We are taking it game by game," he added further.

On the losing camp, Australian skipper Matthew Wade rued over his side's batting failure, and especially their inability to raise the tempo at the crucial tail end of their innings had painted him a frustrated figure.

"We were in a good position today (with the ball), but unfortunately we struggled with the bat in the last four overs. Very disappointing. We were in a good position to get 130s-140s, a good score on this track. Their quicks took pace off well, and we'll look to do better there," said a depleted looking Wade.

"The bowlers from both teams have been terrific. Agar was terrific again. Our bowling is definitely not the problem. We are happy with how they are going. We've had a game where the top wasn't great, and this time our bottom-half with the bat wasn't," he opined.

## Tigers leave the Kangaroos rattled

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh maintained their stranglehold over the Australian batsmen and executed their plans with clarity and ease after Australia opted to bat first at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium in Mirpur after facing a 23-run defeat in the first game in which they had elected to field first.

With conditions in Mirpur being conducive to slow bowlers and historically having had produced low-scoring matches that is far from ideal T20I standards, as demonstrated in the latest match, Australia came up with a different approach of tackling the Bangladeshi spinners with caution, early in their innings. However, credit must go to the Tigers who kept a tight leash on the relatively inexperienced Australian batting line-up. And later on, in the second half of the game witnessed the hosts batsmen made sure that their bowlers' efforts did not go in vain even though they had struggled, if not more than their counterpart, to chase down the target.

Bangladesh knew that the Aussies have not been able to post past 140 runs in their last six innings in Asia and skipper Mahmudullah Riyad had the belief in his bowlers and they delivered accordingly.

Off-spinner Mahedi Hasan once again struck early for the Tigers and dismissed Alex Carey on 11 in the third over. Best bowler of the game for the Tigers yesterday was surprisingly not a spinner this time around. It was the wily left-arm seamer Mustafizur Rahman who undone Josh Philippe with his trademark slower delivery down the leg side where the right-hander had little clue.

Australia failed to make an impact in the power play yet again, adding 32 while losing 2 wickets, after struggling in the first

game in which they scored 28 for 3 after six overs.

In-form Mitchell Marsh once again stood tall alongside Moises Henriques as the visitors tried to stage a comeback. Although the pair added a resilient 57 for the third-wicket, however it was the Tigers bowlers who managed to dry up the boundaries in the middle overs against the Aussies' favour.

When Henriques was eventually bowled on 30 off 25 balls while trying to slog Shakib Al Hasan, Australia were 88 for 3 with 28 balls remaining in their innings and were feeling the heat, both literally and figuratively.

Much like the first game, Marsh tried to take on the bowlers but fell victim to young left-arm pacer Shoriful Islam who got the outside edge to dismiss the right-hander on 45 off 42 balls.

The disciplined bowling from the Tigers proved a little too much for the Men from Down Under as they managed to add only 31 runs in the last five overs, losing four wickets in the process. Eventually they ended up posting a miser total of 121 for 7 in 20 overs.

The collective approach from the Bangladeshi bowlers stood out. The hosts bowled 50 dot balls to Australia who looked rather ordinary when attempting to go for the late launch.

Mustafizur has remained the pick of the bowlers bagging three wickets while conceding just 23 runs from his four overs while Shoriful picked two as all the Bangladesh bowlers had played their part to prevent the Kangaroos from notching up their tempo at any stage of their innings.

Bangladesh undoubtedly backed their strength of taking the pace off the ball regularly and largely contributed in paving the way for the second consecutive win over the Aussies.



**Bangladesh bowlers made life difficult for the Australians again, restricting them to 121 for seven in the second T20 international at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.**

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED



## Kings bounce back after hiccup

SPORTS REPORTER

Bashundhara Kings returned to winning ways in the Bangladesh Premier League yesterday as the defending champions inflicted an emphatic 3-0 defeat on struggling Muktiyoddha Sangsad at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Three South Americans, comprising the Brazilian duo of forward Robson Da Silva and midfielder Jonathan Fernandes and Argentine striker Raul Becerra, scored a goal each to steer the league leaders to their 17th win from 19 games, strengthening their stranglehold on top with 52 points, 14 more than second-placed Sheikh Jamal, who have two games in hand. Muktiyoddha Sangsad are 11th with 14 points from 18 matches.

Meanwhile at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalpur, Sheikh Russel also rode on goals from their foreign trio of Siyovush Asrorov, Obi Moneke and Baktyir Duisobekov to beat bottom-side Arambagh 3-0 and rise to the sixth in the table with 30 points from 19 matches. Arambagh remain glued to the bottom of the 13-team table with just 5 points.

The tie between Bashundhara Kings and Muktiyoddha Sangsad was expected to be intense, especially after Kings were defeated by Chattogram Abahani and Muktiyoddha Sangsad recorded a stunning triumph over Abahani in their previous matches. But Bashundhara Kings afforded no space for a further upset, dominating from the outset.

## Gold for De Grasse, record for McLaughlin

REUTERS, TOKYO



Canada's Andre De Grasse added gold to a growing collection of minor medals with victory in the 200 metres, Kenya went one-two in the men's

800m and Peruth Chemutai made history for Uganda on another scintillating night of Olympic athletics on Wednesday.

That followed another huge 400m hurdles world record in the



seconds to make him the eighth-fastest man of all time over the distance.

"In 2016 I was a kid and inexperienced but now I have so many expectations to come away with medals," said 26-year-old De Grasse, who won silver behind Bolt in the 200m in Rio.

"I wanted to show the world all my injuries are behind me and I

### OLYMPICS MEDALS TABLE (TOP FIVE)

COUNTRY	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
China	32	22	16	70
USA	25	31	23	79
Japan	21	7	12	40
Great Britain	15	18	15	48
Australia	15	4	17	36

can bring home a gold medal."

Three Americans followed him home - Kenny Bednarek, Lyles and 17-year-old Erriyon Knighton - but the wait goes on for a first gold since 2004 in either of the men's sprints.

Emmanuel Korir and Ferguson Rotich delivered a Kenyan one-two in the men's 800m to make it four successive golds in the event for the East Africans. After a steady first 500m Korir forged clear to win in 1:45.06 and became a worthy successor to double champion David Rudisha. Chemutai became the first Ugandan woman to win an Olympic gold in any sport with a finely-judged performance in the 3,000m steeplechase.

Courtney Ferichs of the United States made a brave run for home with more than two laps to go, but Chemutai bided her time before passing her with 250m left and winning in a national record 9:01.45.



## Pacers put India in commanding position

REUTERS, Nottingham

India bundled out England for 183 with an impressive display of seam bowling to put themselves in a commanding position after day one of the opening Test on Wednesday.

Joe Root made a composed 64 but his decision to bat first backfired as Jasprit Bumrah (4-46) and Mohammed Shami (3-28) wrecked the hosts sharing seven wickets between them.

India moved to 21 for no loss in reply, batting out the last 13 overs without any damage to cap off a highly satisfying day.

Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul were both batting on nine and looked comfortable against the seaming ball at Trent Bridge.

The first match of the five-test series also marks the beginning of the new World Test Championship cycle.

Earlier England, who looked steady at 138-3 before the tea break, lost their last seven wickets for 45 runs and four of their batsmen had ducks against their name.

After Root elected to bat, Bumrah gave India a perfect start by dismissing Rory Burns lbw for a duck in the first over.



**India's Jasprit Bumrah celebrates with his captain Virat Kohli after taking the wicket of Stuart Broad during opening day of the first Test against England yesterday.**

PHOTO: REUTERS