

You'll have to wait and see, I'm not giving you everything right now. It's alright, you can be patient. Patience is a virtue. We'll see.

Asleigh Barty was coy about her future as speculation mounts about what comes next after her shock retirement.



Bangladesh retain kabaddi title

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh retained the Bangabandhu Cup International Kabaddi title after handing a dramatic 34-31 defeat to Kenya in an exciting final at the Shaheed Nour Hossain National Volleyball Stadium yesterday.

With Bangladesh leading 32-31 in the dying minutes, it appeared that the hosts surrendered their lead when a Kenyan player claimed two points from his raid, leaving the matter to the foreign referees.

However, the referees gave a revised decision and awarded Bangladesh two points to send the hosts players and fans into raptures, adjudging that the Kenyan raider had crossed the touch-line in the Bangladesh half during his attempted raid.

Kenya, also runners-up in the last edition, were nearly unstoppable at the start and took a 10-12 before Bangladesh hit back strongly and swung proceedings their way to earn a 15-12 lead.

The hosts went into the lemon break with a 17-14 lead and, after resumption, looked much better in terms of attacking and defending.

At one point, Bangladesh took a 29-21 lead courtesy of good raids from Tuhin Tarafeder, Arduzzaman and Rabiul Islam.

Just when it began to seem that Bangladesh were going to easily retain the title, Kenya showed their character and closed the gap by securing points one after another to make it 31-32 and set up a nervy finale. However, the last drama saw Bangladesh defend their title, repeating the result from the final of the last edition.



No more just mere bystanders

NABID YEASIN

"If your dream isn't big, you cannot progress. Our dream is big. We want to win away series as we win series at home. We want to win the Asia Cup and the World Cup. How to become the champions of the world, that's what we are after now," Bangladesh all-rounder Mehedi Hasan Miraz had said before the second ODI against South Africa.

Not that such words of optimism did not come earlier from the Tigers' camp prior to a series or tournament. But oftentimes, it was a sort of charade put forth in front of the press which resulted in nothing more than a cheeky headline and ensuing taunts on social media from the masses for the temerity of such statements.

However, that was not the case this time. When Miraz had said that the Tigers are aiming to conquer the world, it was not just for a show. It had a much more purposeful ring to it. And it was because Bangladesh had just sealed

Bangladesh did succumb to a heavy thumping in the second ODI against South Africa but the statement made by another youngster in Alif Hossain in that game went on to show that Bangladesh are ready to put the effort in to see their dream materialise.

their first-ever win away to South Africa in any format with their 38-run victory in the first ODI and that they had already broken the New Zealand barrier with a maiden Test win on Kiwi soil in January.

Bangladesh did succumb to a heavy thumping in the second ODI against South Africa but the statement made by another youngster in Alif Hossain in that game went on to show that Bangladesh are ready to put the effort in to see their dream materialise.

Alif's resilience, which saw him score an inspiring 72 and stitch crucial stands with Mahmudullah Riyad and Miraz, not only helped Bangladesh sail to a respectable total after a top-order meltdown but it also made an assertion that the Tigers are not to be stymied in face of any adversity.

The South Africa ODI series triumph was all the more remarkable as, after years of yearning for a yielding pipeline, it finally showed that Bangladesh cricket now stands on a firm base.

While it was undoubtedly the most clinical and dominant showing by the Tigers in a series away from home, its significance in regard to having a prosperous Bangladesh magnifies when one considers that it was one of the rarest occasions that the Tigers achieved something monumental with many players from outside the big four rising to the occasion.

Shakib Al Hasan was deservedly the hero of Bangladesh for his 77 in the first win of the series. But the win would not

have yielded without the roles played by young Yasir Ali, who raced fluently to his maiden fifty in the format while playing just in his fourth ODI, or the one played by Taskin or Shoriful Islam with the ball at crucial junctures of the game that swayed the momentum towards Bangladesh every time the Proteas threatened to take the game away.

Bangladesh now await the challenge of conquering the South Africa terrain in Tests as well. Even with Shakib forced to leave the troops midway through the series due to a family emergency, Bangladesh will definitely not be as worried as they once had been in such situations previously. Also, South Africa, or any other side in the world, will now chalk plans differently for Bangladesh.

Most importantly, the team management also now knows that there are players in the Tigers' ranks who have now started to turn themselves into performers from cricketers with just talent for it. And that's what Bangladesh cricket has been craving for many years.

'There is no alternative to being disciplined'

MAZHAR UDDIN

The morning air felt a little different in Durban yesterday, perhaps more so for Taskin Ahmed, who at one point a few years ago had felt unwanted in the national fold. But after being adjudged the player of the series in Bangladesh's historic ODI series win in South Africa, he is now the centre of attention.

However, that transformation did not come easy. The 26-year-old had to endure and overcome some harsh realities, including being dropped after Bangladesh's previous South Africa tour in 2017, an incident that had a significant mental impact on him. Taskin bursting into tears in front of the media after being dropped from the squad for the 2019 World Cup is another memory that is still fresh.

During this dark period, it was a realisation that he would have to strive to improve his game that kept the pacer on his toes and gave him a point to prove. He put in the hard yards in the gym, ran across sand and silently learned new tricks from his coaches despite the mental burden he had to bear.

"I can't really define the feeling, to be honest," Taskin told The Daily Star over the phone yesterday. "Everyone reminded me of what happened the last time and how I had to struggle [after being dropped in 2017] to return to the side. All I did was follow the same process for the past couple of years."

"I remember everything that happened during that tough phase. But it doesn't hurt me anymore because the reality is that when you

play well and perform, everyone will rally around you. When you don't, people will turn their backs on you."

After bursting onto the international scene with a five-wicket haul on debut against India in 2014, it took Taskin nearly eight years to record his second fiver as his efforts restricted South Africa to 154 runs in the third and final ODI on Wednesday. Bangladesh clinched that game with a comprehensive nine-wicket win to secure the series 2-1.

"It's a feeling that I cannot put to words. What I want to do is to stay fit and perform. The fiver was a very special thing for me because I had my first five-wicket haul on debut. The one against South Africa came after a long time and it's very hard to explain the feeling," Taskin said.

All the attributes to become a world-class fast bowler coupled with superstar looks saw Taskin become a young sensation and garner millions of followers early

on social media since the stages of his career. However, Taskin himself admits that a lack of discipline and maturity in those early stages taught him a big lesson.

"The difference between the between the past and present Taskin is obviously discipline. My lifestyle, food habits, work ethic and everything else changed. There is no alternative to being disciplined on and off the field. I realised that very early in my career," he said.

With the aim to be among the top bowlers in world cricket, a hungry Taskin is in no mood to stop here. "The dream is to reach the top, but at the moment I want to keep my feet on the ground and try to become consistent across all formats for my country."



ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED
395-397, TEJGAON I/AREA, DHAKA-1208.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Essential Drugs Company Limited (EDCL) is a 100% state owned Pharmaceutical Industry will recruit the following positions in its Dhaka Factory.

Sl. No.	Post	Qualification	Experience & Other Qualification
01.	Dy. Manager, Engineering (Mechanical)	Post Graduate or Graduation degree in 04 (four) years in Mechanical Engineering. Candidate having Engineering Degree from Public University shall be preferred.	01 Minimum 10 (ten) years experience in repairs & maintenance works of which atleast 05 (five) years in pharmaceutical industries. * Experience may be relaxed depending on academic and professional record. 02 Conversant with the latest Engineering and technological development in the relevant field. 03 Computer literacy of the candidate is essential. 04 Minimum age limit 36 years.
02.	Dy. Manager, Engineering (Electrical)	Post Graduate or Graduation degree in 04 (four) years in Electrical Engineering. Candidate having Engineering Degree from Public University shall be preferred.	01 Minimum 10 (ten) years experience in repairs & maintenance works of which atleast 05 (five) years in pharmaceutical industries. * Experience may be relaxed depending on academic and professional record. 02 Conversant with the latest Engineering and technological development in the relevant field. 03 Computer literacy of the candidate is essential. 04 Minimum age limit 36 years.
03.	Dy. Manager, Engineering (Civil)	Post Graduate or Graduation degree in 04 (four) years in Civil Engineering. Candidate having Engineering Degree from Public University shall be preferred.	01 Minimum 10 (ten) years experience in repairs & maintenance works of which atleast 05 (five) years in pharmaceutical industries. * Experience may be relaxed depending on academic and professional record. 02 Conversant with the latest Engineering and technological development in the relevant field. 03 Computer literacy of the candidate is essential. 04 Minimum age limit 36 years.

Salary Package : Dy Manager Pay Scale 40,600-60,150 with other benefits as per rules of the Company. Please send the applications to the following address with complete CV, copies off attested relevant certificates and three copies of recent passport size colour photographs by 06 April, 2022. Only short listed candidates will be called for interview.

GM, Administration & HRM
Essential Drugs Company Limited
395-397, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208.

(10"x4)