



SCORES IN BRIEF

India vs Bangladesh

India
184-6 in 20 overs (Kohli 64 not out, Rahul 50; Hasan 3-47, Shakib 2-33)

Bangladesh
145-6 in 16 overs (Liton 60, Sohan 25 not out; Hardik 2-28, Arshdeep 2-38)

Result
India won by five runs (D/L method)

Player-of-the-match
Virat Kohli

Zimbabwe vs Netherlands

Zimbabwe
117 all out in 20 overs (Raza 40, Williams 28; van Meekeren 3-9, van Beek 2-14)

Netherlands
120-5 in 18 overs (O'Dowd 52, Cooper 32; Ngarava 2-18, Muzarabani 2-23)

Result
Netherlands won by five wickets

Player-of-the-match
Max O'Dowd

WHAT TO WATCH

T SPORTS & GTV
T20 World Cup
Pakistan vs South Africa
Live from 02:00 pm

T SPORTS
Hockey Champions Trophy
Barishal vs Cumilla
Live from 06:30 pm
Dhaka vs Khulna
Live from 08:00 pm

SONY TEN 1
UEFA Europa League
Feyenoord vs Lazio
Live from 11:45 pm
Roma vs Ludogorets
Live from 02:00 am (Friday)

SONY TEN 2
UEFA Europa League
Real Sociedad vs Man United
Live from 11:45 pm
Arsenal vs Zurich
Live from 02:00 pm



Liton played a scintillating knock of 60 off just 27 balls as Bangladesh threatened to chase down a rain-revised 151-run target against India in their Super 12 match of the T20 World Cup in Adelaide yesterday. (Bottom) Nurul Hasan Sohan's late cameo took the Tigers close, but they eventually lost the match by five runs.

PHOTO: AFP/BCB

Liton smokes India but others can't 'get across the line'

SPORTS REPORTER

Liton Das was on fire and seemed to have left all his doubts in the dressing room when he came out to bat with Bangladesh staring at a 185-run target against India.

He always appears to have more time than most batters out on the field, but having not opened the innings in a while, Powerplay carnage from Liton had been missed by Bangladeshi supporters for a while.

After dropping Soumya Sarkar, the team management decided not to protect Liton, but to instead unleash him and the right-hander almost took the game away from India in the first seven overs before rain interrupted. Coupled with that extra time Liton finds to play his shots, Liton's balance flows through to a strong flourish which makes him such a dangerous prospect in the Powerplay.

He took on Arshdeep Singh and reserved the first six of the innings for Bhuvneshwar Kumar, robbing back onto the back foot and blazing it into the Adelaide sky over deep square-leg. He slapped the next delivery over mid-off for four before a deft glide down to the third-man boundary for another four.

The best shot of the innings had come against Mohammad Shami, when Liton stepped out and timed it over cover to perfection.

Bangladesh had reached 66 for no loss in seven overs, finding themselves 17 runs ahead of the DLS par score when rain interrupted proceedings. More significantly, that break disrupted Liton's flow.

After the delay, the match was curtailed by four overs and Bangladesh required 151 runs from 16 overs.

Then that run-out happened, with KL Rahul producing a direct hit after Liton had slipped



while turning for the double. Infuriated, Liton walked away after an astonishing 27 ball 60.

From then onwards, Bangladesh's momentum began to wane.

"It's been the story when we play India. We're almost there but don't cross the line. It was a great game, the crowd enjoyed it and both teams enjoyed. In the end, someone has to win and someone has to lose. Liton is batting really well, he's probably our best batsman. We thought we could chase this down after that start," skipper Shakib Al Hasan said at the post-match presentation after Bangladesh could not manage the 85 runs they required with nine overs left.

While Liton countered most of that early swing and bounce from India's pacers with ease, most of the others tried focusing on power instead of using the pace, perhaps in part due to the players' lack of experience playing in Australia.

Bangladesh's batters often looked to 'hit against the tide' as Tom Moody put it. Thus, from overs nine to 13, Bangladesh managed 34 runs and lost five wickets. Shanto, Afif Hossain, Shakib and Yasir Ali departed after skying deliveries because they wanted to get under deliveries more than was necessary.

Nurul Hasan showed how to then go back to a firm base to play shots as the Tigers made a match out of it, falling short by just 5 runs.

"We're positive, we wanted to enjoy this World Cup, hopefully we can continue this," Shakib concluded.

Positivity was present with the selection of four pacers but length deliveries cost Bangladesh in the death overs as India climbed to a huge score. Liton opening was another such positive and Bangladesh fans will be hoping for a similar brand of cricket in their final Super 12 match against Pakistan in Adelaide on November 6.

South Africa target fragile Pakistan

AFP, Sydney

South Africa's David Miller warned Wednesday they will look to "exploit" Pakistan's fragile confidence as they strive to seal a Twenty20 World Cup semi-final spot and send their opponents packing.

The Proteas were touted as dark horses in the lead-up to the showpiece in Australia and have showed why with a fearsome pace attack and batsmen in form.

Ahead of other matches in Group 2 later Wednesday, they topped the table with two wins from three matches including victory over India. South Africa's third game was washed out.

In contrast, Pakistan are fifth and their World Cup fate will be sealed if South Africa beat them at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Thursday.

Pakistan's much-vaunted opening pair of Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan have failed to fire in three matches at the World Cup and are under pressure to find form, and fast.

"I think it is an area to exploit," said middle-



order batsman Miller.

"This game is all about confidence and they haven't probably performed the way they've wanted to.

"But they're world-class players and we're expecting them to come out and bring their A-game and be up for the challenge."

Pakistan bowler Naseem Shah denied that his side are still dwelling on their agonising opening defeat to India.

Pakistan were beaten on the last ball by their arch-rivals and followed that up with a shock defeat to Zimbabwe, before thrashing the Netherlands.

Put to him by reporters that Pakistan have failed to recover mentally from the India defeat, fast bowler Naseem replied: "No, I don't think so because everyone is professional and everyone knows about oneself.

"We lost against India, but I don't think anyone is thinking about the India game because as a professional you can't think about the past when you lose, then especially, you can't be thinking that."

Miller hit an unbeaten half-century in a nervy five-wicket win over India which underlined South Africa's title credentials – and their resilience.

"I suppose we are finding lots of ways to win," he said.

"We've done it over a period of time now. I'd say probably the last year, we've found ourselves in tricky situations and managed to get over the line.

"I think the continuity of the squad over time, guys have managed to sort of find their roles and if one guy isn't doing well, another guy picks up the slack.



Zimbabwe cricket 'back to life'

AFP, Adelaide

Zimbabwe coach Dave Houghton said Wednesday his side's T20 World Cup exploits had "brought the game back to life" at home after some lean years for cricket fans in the African nation.

Zimbabwe were all but knocked out after losing to the Netherlands in Adelaide on Wednesday, but not before rekindling the country's love for the game with a thrilling one-run win over Asian giants Pakistan.

Before that, Houghton's young team had romped into the Super 12 with victories over Scotland and Ireland.

"It has meant a hell of a lot not just to people at home but Zimbabweans around the world," Houghton told reporters after his team lost by five wickets to the Dutch in Group 2 at the Adelaide Oval.

"The messages that we get on a regular basis from everybody have been unbelievable.

"We've had quite a few night games in this tournament and when I get back to the hotel I'm still answering messages at four, five in the morning. It's been phenomenal."



He praised his young side for the fearless way they play but admitted their batting was an area to work on.

"We've been quite fragile with our batting throughout this tournament and it's been our bowling, fielding, catching that's kept us in it," said Houghton.

"Unfortunately, it's slowed us down in a game like this," he said.

They were all out for a below-par 117 against the Netherlands on Wednesday to follow an agonising defeat to Bangladesh by three runs.

If Zimbabwe had won either of those games it would have kept them in with an outside chance of a semi-final place before their final match against India on Sunday.

"It would have been huge if we'd won it for us because we would go on to that game with just the possibility," said Houghton.

"But since I've been in charge the last four and a half months, we've had an incredible journey.

"We've played some really good cricket and this is probably the first time that I've seen a bit of doubt creep into our game.

"So hopefully, it'll be the last time for a while as well."



Tottenham Hotspur players and coaching staff celebrate inside the dressing room following their 2-1 win over Marseille in a Champions League Group D fixture on Tuesday. Spurs trailed to Chancel Mbemba's header but Clement Lenglet levelled before Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg's 95th-minute winner grabbed top spot in the table. Eintracht took second place with a 2-1 win at Sporting Lisbon.

PHOTO: TWITTER