



Bangladesh's Mehedi Hasan Miraz holds his pose after a cover drive against Afghanistan in Dharamshala yesterday. The 25-year-old produced an all-round display, helping the Tigers begin their World Cup 2023 with a six-wicket win.

PHOTO:ICC

shwapno.com

HIT A SIX!

GRAB A MASSIVE DISCOUNT 6%

Use code WCwithShwapno & enjoy a 6% discount on all your World Cup essentials at shwapno.com

BRIEF SCORES

WHAT TO WATCH

INDIA-AUSTRALIA STATS

BANGLADESH VS AFGHANISTAN
Afghanistan: 156 all out in 37.2 overs (Gurbaz 47, Omarzai 22; Miraz 3-25, Shakib 3-30)
Bangladesh: 158 for four in 34.4 overs (Shanto 59 not out, Miraz 57; Omarzai 1-9)
Result: Bangladesh won by six wickets
Player-of-the-match: Mehedi Hasan Miraz

T SPORTS AND GTV
ICC Cricket World Cup
India vs Australia
Live from 2:30 pm
 STAR SPORTS SELECT HD1
English Premier League
Brighton vs Liverpool
Live from 7:00 pm
Arsenal vs Manchester City
Live from 9:30 pm

Overall, Australia won 83 times against India's 56 after 149 ODIs, where 10 fixtures yielded no result.

Likewise, Australia lead India 8-4 after 12 ODI World Cup encounters. In their last meet at the showpiece event, two-time champions India won by 36 runs at The Oval in 2019.

In matches played in India, the five-time champions also lead the charts, albeit marginally, having won 33 times in 70 matches against India's 32. Five matches saw no result. However, India have the edge on home soil in nine matches since the 2019 World Cup, with five victories.

Rohit and Co begin ‘unfinished business’ against ‘chilled out’ Aussies

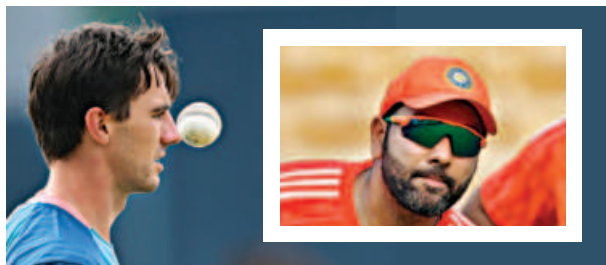
AGENCIES

India skipper Rohit Sharma said Saturday that a World Cup win at home was “unfinished business” for his men, channelling the legendary Sachin Tendulkar’s words before the 2011 triumph that capped his career.

The hosts open their campaign in the 50-over showpiece event against fellow big guns Australia in a much-awaited Sunday clash in Chennai.

India have suffered a world title drought since the 2013 Champions Trophy and last won the World Cup on home soil in 2011, led by M.S. Dhoni and featuring Tendulkar at the tail-end of his two-decade career.

Rohit, 36, remains one of India’s biggest stars but time is running out for him to hoist his own trophy.



“You heard the great man say that ‘until he wins the World Cup he has got a bit of unfinished business,’” Rohit told reporters. “It’s the same for us as well,” he said. “It is the biggest prize that you can have in your career.”

He added: “Luckily for us the seniors, they have played lot of cricket and know how to stay under that radar. And then leave a lot of things to the almighty. We need that luck in the tournament.”

Australia skipper Pat Cummins said his team are content go about their game “quietly”, in contrast to the ultra-aggressive style of earlier Australian sides.

Five-time winners Australia kick off their World Cup



campaign against hosts India in a much-awaited Sunday clash in Chennai.

Australia have long been known to play an aggressive brand of cricket with on-field sledging part and parcel of their game, but Cummins and company have displayed a softer version.

“It’s more a reflection of who we are as a people. With every team you have different characters,” Cummins told reporters.

“Our guys are pretty chilled out, so I am always proud saying the players out there in the field are similar to who they are off the field.”

Asked about the in-your-face attitude of past greats, including the late Shane Warne and former captain Ricky Ponting, the fast bowler reflected on the team’s more restrained posture. “Times change, that’s 20 years ago,” he said. “That doesn’t come naturally to our guys, we want to go about our work quietly.”

However, the World Cup could prove a different ball game, he added. “I think you’re going to see get fired up at different times. We’re all We’re all ridiculously competitive,” he said.

“So, I never really mind if a couple are puffing the chests out and getting into the contest.”

precarious two for 27 in chase of a paltry 157-run target.

Miraz has often shied away from expressing his own philosophy, remaining in the shadow of the seniors despite having the potential to become the next big thing in Bangladesh cricket.

But it was a different Miraz attending the post-match presser yesterday. Bold, poised, and confident, it was as if Miraz’s improvement as a genuine all-rounder had transformed his personality as well. An ever-smiling Miraz is now more confident and specific with his replies.

“I have worked really hard on my batting. I have thought long and hard about it, how I can improve my batting. I prepared myself really well. The team also gave me a lot of opportunities up the order. It is a big deal for me,” said Miraz when asked about his mental preparedness in order to bat at any position asked.

In the past 12 months, Miraz batted at various positions – from coming in at number nine to scoring a century while opening the innings

against the same opposition in the last Asia Cup in September.

“Every position poses a different situation. I don’t think too much whenever presented with an opportunity. If you think simply, it is better to bat anywhere above number eight. The team gets help if I play well. I face some problems but I don’t focus on them. I have to perform well for the team, that’s the most important thing,” he added.

Miraz, however, admitted that he was nervous initially with the ball in hand after he gave away nine in his first over. But the off-spinner managed to make a comeback, pairing with Shakib to build pressure on the Afghans with some tight bowling.

The all-rounder has always been handy with the ball in any format, but his recent transformation as a batter unsurprisingly brought the topic of him being the next Shakib in the making for Bangladesh. But for now, Miraz kept quiet on the matter, perhaps not thinking too much about it as well and focusing only on doing his job.



I went all-out, says Yasir

SPORTS REPORTER from Hangzhou

Fear of losing the bronze-medal match gripped Yasir Ali Rabbi when he was bowled in the penultimate delivery of the fifth and final over of their innings against Pakistan, with Bangladesh needing another four off the last delivery.

But Rakibul Hasan struck the decisive boundary through mid-cover as Bangladesh clinched the bronze, beating Pakistan by six wickets in men’s cricket event of Hangzhou Asian Games yesterday.

Chasing a revised target of 65 in five overs after rain stopped Pakistan’s innings at 48 for one in 5 overs, Bangladesh were in early trouble before Yasir’s 16-ball 34 and Afif Hossain’s 11-ball 20 set them on their way to a thrilling victory.

“As the spinner came on to bowl in the last over, I had the belief that if I could strike two sixes or two fours in the first two deliveries, then the bowler would go on to the backfoot. The plan was for me to go all-out from the first delivery and I did it,” Yasir said, after the match at the Zhejiang University of Technology cricket field. “I did well in the four or five deliveries that I batted in the last match. So I believed I could do it. The ball was in a good place and I just drove it,” Rakibul said.

“Winning a medal in such a big event is a big achievement for us and it is a good feeling that we are going back home with something,” the left-arm spinner added.

This is only the second medal of the Games for Bangladesh, with the other – that one a bronze as well – coming earlier in women’s cricket. Bangladesh men’s team, meanwhile, had previously won gold in the 2010 Guangzhou Asian Games and bronze in the 2014 Incheon Asian Games.

Tamim Iqbal in Dharamshala!

The last time Bangladesh played in Dharamshala was back in 2016 during the ICC T20 World Cup. In that match against Oman, Tamim Iqbal made history by becoming the first Bangladeshi to score a century in the format. Even though Tamim is not a part of this World Cup campaign but, thanks to the fans, his presence was felt at the picturesque Dharamshala stadium during Bangladesh’s match yesterday. A number of Bangladesh supporters in the gallery were seen holding up a placard written, ‘We will never forget you’ with Tamim’s picture, reminiscing the contributions of the former Bangladesh captain.

Shoriful’s World Cup transition

Just three years ago, pacer Shoriful Islam was part of the Bangladesh squad that emerged victorious in the ICC Under-19 World Cup in South Africa. Yesterday, the left-arm pacer made his World Cup debut for the senior side and his two scalps had contributed to his team’s six-wicket

win in their tournament opener against Afghanistan. Shoriful said that he hopes the senior side will replicate the U-19 team’s feat. “If I compare it to the Under-19 World Cup, I think we have started in a similar manner and we are all supporting each other. We want to finish it in the same way and win the World Cup.” Shoriful’s U-19 teammates Tanzid Hasan and Tawhid Hridoy also made his World Cup debut yesterday but the latter did not get a chance to bat.

Ashraful’s new role

different role in Dharamshala. The former Bangladesh captain is working as an expert analyst for a Bangladeshi TV channel in the World Cup. “I think it’s a very tough job to be honest, but I am enjoying this role. This is my first time here in Dharamshala and I think Bangladesh played really well today (yesterday).” The youngest Test centurion in the history of cricket praised Mehedi Hasan Miraz’s all-round performance, adding that he has emerged as the game changer for Bangladesh.



- South Africa’s 428 for five yesterday surpassed Australia’s 417 for six against Afghanistan in the 2015 edition to become the highest-ever team total in World Cup history.
- Aiden Markram smashed the fastest century, off 49 balls, in the tournament’s history, bettering Ireland’s Kevin O’Brien’s 50-ball ton against England in the 2011 edition.
- Markram’s century came after both Quinton de Kock and Rassie van der Dussen reached three figures, making the first instance -- and the fourth overall -- in World Cup history where three batters went on to register tons in the same innings. PHOTO: REUTERS

পূর্বাচল

মেরিন সিটি

পূর্বাচল রাজকীয় পরিবেশিত, বাড়ি করার উপযোগী বেডি প্রুট।

0196 999 98 98



Aiden Markram



Rassie van der Dussen



Quinton de Kock