

Mushfiqur Rahim stars in Bangladesh's historic win over India

India's sub-par score hardly proves a challenge for the visitor's top-order, which was better equipped to deal with the challenges thrown at it

RAKESH RAO
NEW DELHI

From inviting India to bat on a slow surface to reaching the target in style, Bangladesh stayed in command. Smart out-cricketer, no dropped catches and the shift in gear when needed saw Bangladesh script a historic first T20I win over the host here on Sunday.

Slow pitch

On the Ferozeshah Kotla pitch that offered slow and low bounce, Mushfiqur Rahim led the charge like he is expected to. Overall, the visiting top-order batsmen proved better equipped to deal with the challenges thrown at them and eventually, the punishing seven-wicket win was validation of their self-belief on Sunday evening.

Following this drubbing, second in succession after batting first, India needs to bring out its 'A' game in the remaining two outings. Otherwise, it will be hard to deny Bangladesh its first-ever series triumph over the host.

India's sub-par 148 for six, that too, after the last two overs produced 30 runs – thanks to the finish-with-a-flourish from Washington Sundar and Krunal Pandya – never looked enough unless the bowlers dealt some serious blows early in the chase.

Once the Bangladesh top-order got over the fifth-ball



Guiding star: Mushfiqur Rahim's unbeaten half-century was punctuated with some innovative shots as he helped Bangladesh draw first blood in the three-match T20I series. ■ SANDEEP SAXENA

loss of Liton Das, to cross the half-century mark, the target always looked gettable. Debutant opener Naim Sheikh, after a strokeful 26, holed out to Shikhar Dhawan to ignite India's hopes in the eighth over. But with wickets in hand, Bangladesh looked assured in spite of gradually rising required run-rate.

Experienced duo

With 50 needed off the last

five overs, the experienced duo of Soumya Sarkar and Mushfiqur kept the scoreboard ticking by drying up the dot balls and sending the odd ball across the ropes.

When Sarkar was cleaned up by Khaleel Ahmed, Bangladesh needed 35 of 18 balls.

Almost immediately, India let go of its best chance of bouncing back. Mushfiqur was dropped by Krunal, who also let the ball roll over the

midwicket ropes. Chahal was made to feel worse with skipper Mohammad Mahmud Ullah sending the last ball for a four.

Next over from Khaleel effectively sealed India's fate. Mushfiqur carved out four successive boundaries to bring his team to the threshold of a historic win. Facing debutant Shivam Dube, Mahmud Ullah put the finishing touches with a six!

Earlier, the match opened with an action-filled over. Two boundaries from Rohit Sharma had the crowd on its feet before Shaiful Islam brought them down by winning a leg-before appeal. With him, the skipper also took away the DRS option.

For the statistically inclined, Rohit's 99th T20 appearance took him past M. S. Dhoni's 98 and placed him at the top of the India list.

STAT SPHERE

1 It is Bangladesh's first-ever win over India in the nine T20Is the neighbors have played against each other

1 Rohit Sharma with 2452 runs is now the highest run-getter for India in T20Is, overhauling Virat Kohli's tally of 2450

2 Sri Lanka's Ranjan Madugalle has become the second individual to officiate in 100 T20I games as a Match Referee. New Zealand's Jeff Crowe leads with 119 matches

99 Number of T20Is played by Rohit, the most by an Indian, overtaking M.S. Dhoni with whom he was tied before Sunday's match

Nothing like beating India in India, so this means a lot to me...

— MUSHFIQUR RAHIM

It was a defendable score, and we made mistakes on the field. The guys are a bit inexperienced, and they can learn from that, perhaps not make them the next time

— ROHIT SHARMA



1000 Sunday's international at the Kotla was the 1000th in the shortest format

SCOREBOARD

INDIA
Rohit Sharma lbw b Shaiful 9 (5b, 2x4), Shikhar Dhawan run out 41 (42b, 3x4, 1x6), K.L. Rahul c Mahmud Ullah b Aminul 15 (17b, 2x4), Shreyas Iyer c Naim b Aminul 22 (13b, 1x4, 2x6), Rishabh Pant c Naim b Shaiful 27 (26b, 3x4), Shivam Dube c & b Afif 1 (4b), Krunal Pandya (not out) 15 (8b, 1x4, 1x6), Washington Sundar (not out) 14 (5b, 2x6); Extras (lb-3, w-1): 4; Total (for six wickets, in 20 overs): 148.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-10 (Rohit, 0.6 overs), 2-36 (Rahul, 6.3), 3-70 (Shreyas, 10.2), 4-95 (Dhawan, 14.5), 5-102 (Dube, 15.6), 6-120 (Pant, 18.2).

BANGLADESH BOWLING
Shaiful 4-0-36-2, Al-Amin 4-0-27-0, Mustafizur 2-0-15-0, Aminul 3-0-22-2, Soumya 2-0-16-0, Afif 3-0-11-1, Mosaddek 1-0-8-0, Mahmud Ullah 1-0-10-0.

BANGLADESH BATTING
Liton Das c Rahul b Chahal 7 (4b, 1x4), Mohd. Naim c Dhawan b Chahal 26 (28b, 2x4, 1x6), Soumya Sarkar b Khaleel 39 (35b, 1x4, 2x6), Mushfiqur Rahim (not out) 60 (43b, 8x4, 1x6), Mahmud Ullah (not out) 15 (7b, 1x4, 1x6); Extras (lb-3, w-4): 7; Total (for three wickets, in 19.3 overs): 154.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-8 (Liton, 0.5 overs), 2-54 (Naim, 7.5), 3-114 (Soumya, 16.6).

INDIA BOWLING
Chahal 3-0-24-1, Washington 4-0-25-0, Khaleel 4-0-37-1, Chahal 4-0-24-1, Krunal 4-0-32-0, Dube 0.3-0-9-0.

Toss: Bangladesh
Man-of-the-match: Mushfiqur.
Bangladesh won by seven wickets, to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series.

The Dutch win T20 WC qualifier

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
DUBAI

The Netherlands cruised past Papua New Guinea by seven wickets in the final of the T20 World Cup qualifying tournament with Ben Cooper and Brandon Glover starring with bat and ball.

Both the Dutch and PNG had already made sure of their places at next year's T20 World Cup in Australia.

PNG struggled to 128/8 off its 20 overs with Glover taking 3/24 before the Dutch reached the target with six balls to spare after Cooper had made 41 off 33 balls.

Ireland beat Namibia by 27 runs in the third-place play-off.

Need to get better in finishing: Reid

UTHRA GANESAN
BHUBANESWAR

The Indian men and women hockey teams booked their tickets to Tokyo Olympics in contrasting fashion, not so much in the margin of their victories as the manner of those victories and the quality of opposition they were up against.

And that would have given both Graham Reid, in charge of the men, and Sjoerd Marijne leading the women's charge several points to ponder in the next 10 months. While the men smashed an aggregate of 11-3 against minnows Russia, the dominance that was expected from a team ranked 17 placed higher was missing.

Finishing

"I think for me what we need to get better in is finishing. We are creating a lot of opportunities, which is great. Need to get more return. Also in deep defence, we have to get tighter, we are still giving



Dreaming big: Coach Marijne says the aim will be for the most beautiful coloured medal – gold – at Tokyo. ■ BISWARANJAN ROUT

away too many opportunities. I told the players we have nine months, just get better and better," Reid said after Saturday's second leg of the Qualifiers.

Pro-league exposure

The big advantage for the men is the exposure they would get in the Pro League starting January.

"Pro League is a big opportunity to work out for the Olympics and there are a lot of games during that period," he added.

That is a luxury Marijne

doesn't have. In fact, Hockey India is yet to work out a competition schedule for them between now and July 2020. But then, the girls are used to it.

They lost Marijne to the men's side midway through a European tour in seven months, only to get him back in another eight months. They do not have an analytical coach, Eric Wonink being shunted to the junior side after three years with the women.

"We have a dream and the dream is to go to the Olym-

pics, and the most beautiful colour for a medal is gold. Preparation starts tomorrow morning.

"We all can see, we played well in one half. But now we have to do it for the entire match," Marijne said.

Focus on the mind

Having worked on strength and fitness, Marijne is now focussing on the mind, his half-time speech on Saturday the real-life version of a movie.

"At half-time I told the girls, it's 0-0. It starts all over, we cannot change what happened in the first half but we can do differently in the second. I want to see another team. It's your moment, go with your head up. (And) you don't go down with your head down. And it was different team," he said.

In another 10 months, both Reid and Marijne will hope their respective teams work out the chinks in their respective armours at Tokyo.

Jamshedpur holds BFC

ISL

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA
JAMSHEDPUR

Subrata Paul's untiring vigil at the Jamshedpur FC goal helped the host hold defend champion Bengaluru FC to a goalless draw, here at the JRD Tata Sports Complex on Sunday.

The former India goalkeeper made a series of spectacular saves to deny the visitor its first win of the tournament.

Sunil Chhetri tested Paul with a long-ranger as early as in the sixth minute. Jamshedpur counter-attacked, but a fine attempt from Sergio Castel found the post.

Paul's best came when Bengaluru FC launched a barrage of attacks in the first quarter. In what was essentially a contest between two alumni of the Tata Football Academy – Paul and Sandhu – at either post, Paul emerged the better pupil, reading and anticipating the Bengaluru FC attacks.

Paul denied Bengaluru defender Juanan in the 13th minute, catching his header from point-blank range. Seven minutes later, he palmed out Harmanjot Khabra's goal-mouth attempt before coming to justify the moniker of 'Spiderman' once again in the injury-time, clearing a rasping drive from Bengaluru forward Rafael Augusto.

By the 55th minute of the match, Bengaluru had made almost a dozen attempts at the Jamshedpur goal, only to find Paul blocking all the passages.

Just as a harried Bengaluru appeared to relax its attack, Jamshedpur found two good opportunities which were saved by Sandhu. The India international blocked the 54th minute effort from midfielder Mohammad Mubashir before making a great reflexive save on an acrobatic attempt from the host forward Farukh Choudhary. **The result:** Jamshedpur FC 0 drew with Bengaluru FC 0.

Lakshya wins



Lakshya Sen. ■ FILE PHOTO: RITU RAJ KONWAR

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
SAARBRUCKEN (GERMANY)

India's Lakshya Sen bagged his second successive BWF World Tour Super 100 title with a thrilling 17-21, 21-18, 21-16 win over China's Weng Hong Yang in the SaarLorLux Open here on Sunday.

Lakshya needed 59 minutes to overcome Weng for his third successive singles title of the season.

He had clinched the Belgian International Challenge and Dutch Open Super Tour 100 in his last two outings.

Djokovic claims his fifth Paris Masters title

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Novak Djokovic eased to a record-extending fifth Paris Masters title by brushing aside Canadian youngster Denis Shapovalov in Sunday's final, boosting his hopes of taking the year-end World No.1 spot.

The top seed claimed a dominant 6-3, 6-4 victory over his 20-year-old opponent, who looked nervous after being the beneficiary of Rafael Nadal's withdrawal before their scheduled semifinal.

Djokovic will lose top spot in the rankings to Nadal next week, but could still equal Pete Sampras' record by finishing a sixth year as the world's best player.

The 33-year-old Nadal is a fitness doubt for the ATP

Tour Finals, which start in London on November 10, due to an abdominal muscle strain, while Djokovic has won the season-ending championships five times.

Djokovic, who lost to Russian Karen Khachanov in last year's Bercy final, saved the only break point he faced as he sealed his fourth win from as many matches against the World No. 28 Shapovalov.

The 16-time Grand Slam champion has now won 34 Masters titles, moving to within one of Nadal at the top of the all-time list, and 77 on the ATP Tour in total.

It was Djokovic's fifth trophy of the season after previous triumphs at Wimbledon and the US Open, as well as at the Madrid Open and in Tokyo.



Cruising: This was Djokovic's fifth trophy of the season – after Wimbledon, US Open, the Madrid Open and Tokyo. ■ AP

Gomes injury mars Everton fightback

Leicester moves back to third; Chelsea survives a tense finish

EURO LEAGUES

AGENCIES
LIVERPOOL

Cenk Tosun's stoppage-time header earned Everton a 1-1 home draw against Tottenham Hotspur in the Premier League on Sunday in a match overshadowed by a bad-looking injury to Everton midfielder Andre Gomes.

Dele Alli's goal just past the hour mark appeared to have ended Tottenham's long wait for a Premier League away win.

Spurs were reduced to 10 men in the 79th minute when Son Heung-min's tackle on Gomes resulted in the Portuguese midfielder suffering what looked to be a bad leg injury.

South Korean forward Son looked distraught as he realised the extent of the injury to Gomes who was carried off on a stretcher after a lengthy delay.

Earlier, Caglar Soyuncu's first goal for his club and a late effort by Jamie Vardy earned Leicester City a 2-0 win at Crystal Palace to move it back into third place in the Premier League on Sunday.

On Saturday, Frank Lampard said "sloppy" Chelsea needs to be more clinical af-



Traumatising: Everton's Andre Gomes screams in agony after a horrific injury. ■ REUTERS

ter it survived a tense finish for a 2-1 victory at lowly Watford.

Lampard's side bounced back from its midweek League Cup defeat against Manchester United to make it five successive league wins.

In Italy, Matthijs de Ligt made sure Juventus kept hold of top spot in Serie A on Saturday after his first goal for the club saw off local rival Torino, leaving Inter Milan in second despite Romelu Lukaku taking his league tally to nine with a brace in a 2-1 win at Bologna.

Inter had briefly led after Lukaku slotted home a 92nd-

minute penalty to snatch the three points at Bologna, but Juve retook first place thanks to De Ligt, who smashed home the only goal of the game in Turin with 20 minutes remaining.

The results: Premier League: Crystal Palace 0 lost to Leicester 2 (Soyuncu 57, Vardy 88); Everton 1 (Tosun 90+7) drew with Tottenham 1 (Alli 63).

La Liga: Valladolid 3 (Fernandez Moreno 40, Unal 50+pen, Ramirez 90+4) bt Real Mallorca 0; Villarreal 0 drew with Athletic Bilbao 0.

Bundesliga: Fortuna Duesseldorf 2 (Hennings 38+pen, Thommy 61) bt Cologne 0.

Serie A: Atalanta 0 lost to Cagliari 2 (Pasalic 32+og, Oliva

58); Genoa 1 (Pandev 22) lost to Udinese 3 (De Paul 32, Serna 87, Lasagna 90+4); Lecce 2 (Lapadula 18, Falco 42) drew with Sassuolo 2 (Toljan 35, Berardi 85); Verona 2 (Salcedo 52, Pessina 81) bt Brescia 1 (Balotelli 85).

Saturday: Premier League: Watford 1 (Deulofeu 80+pen) lost to Chelsea 2 (Abraham 5, Pulisic 55).

La Liga: Sevilla 1 (Vazquez 28) drew with Atletico Madrid 1 (Morata 60); Real Madrid 0 drew with Real Betis 0.

Serie A: Torino 0 lost to Juventus 1 (De Ligt 70); Bologna 1 (Soriano 59) lost to Inter Milan 2 (Lukaku 75, 90+2+pen).

Bundesliga: Union Berlin 1 (Polter 90+pen) bt Hertha Berlin 0.

Bhanwal misses bronze

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BUDAPEST

Three-time medallist Sajjan Bhanwal (77kg) missed out on a bronze in Greco-Roman category but Ravi (97kg) reached the repechage round at the U-23 wrestling World championships here on Sunday.

Turkey's Serkan Akkoyun proved too strong for Bhanwal and won 10-1 by superiority in the bronze medal contest.

Ravi was blanked 8-0 by Georgian grappler Giorgi Melia in the pre-quarterfinals, but, with the latter making it to the final, the Indian was presented with another chance to fight for a medal.

Among other results of the day, Arjun Halakurki lost his 55kg repechage bout 10-2 to Norayr Hakhoyan of Armenia.

In 87kg, Sunil Kumar

raised hopes of a bronze when he emerged victorious 5-3 in his first repechage bout against Aleksandar Georgije Stjepanetic of Sweden. However, his hopes were dashed in the second repechage bout when Croatia's Ivan Huklek beat him 6-3.

None of the other Indians could manage to win a round. In 60kg qualifiers, Sachin Rana was shown the door in a 5-2 win by China's Liguao Cao while Rahul was beaten 8-0 by Russia's Magomed Yarbilov in the same round of 72kg.

Neeraj too failed to make any impact as he went down 1-10 to Serbia's Branko Kovacevic in the qualifying bout in 82kg.

Ravinder (67kg) started his campaign from the pre-quarterfinals but could not overcome the first hurdle as he was edged 2-1 by Haci Karakus of Turkey.

US GP: Bottas on pole

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
AUSTIN

Valtteri Bottas kept alive his hopes of delaying Lewis Hamilton's sixth drivers' world championship celebrations by claiming pole position with a record lap on Saturday in qualifying for Sunday's United States Grand

Prix. The Finn clocked a best lap in one minute and 32.029 seconds to outpace Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel by 0.012 seconds.

Max Verstappen was third for Red Bull ahead of Charles Leclerc in the second Ferrari and Hamilton, who was fifth.