

Bangladesh fight back as Shakib, Taijul scalp wickets, After 23Overs England 93-4

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Online Desk: Shakib Al Hasan struck early in England's innings in response to Bangladesh's total of 209 in the first match of the three-match ODI series today in Mirpur. Taijul Islam also joined in the attack, claiming a wicket within the first ten overs to put up a fight against the visiting team. After Bangladesh's below-par total, with Najmul Hossain Shanto being the only one to score a fifty for the hosts, England began their chase with Jason Roy attempting a big hit off Shakib, resulting in a leading edge that was easily caught by Tamim Iqbal.

Philip Salt also fell victim to Taijul's quick delivery, failing to get his bat in the right position and getting struck on the pad before losing his stumps. England were two down for 35 in 8.1 overs. Earlier, Bangladesh got off to a shaky start as their opening partnership between Tamim Iqbal and Litton Das produced just 33 runs before Litton was dismissed for 7. Tamim was unable to maintain a steady pace and also fell shortly after.

The pace bowling duo of Mark Wood and Chris Woakes proved to be formidable for the Bangladesh openers.

Later, the responsibility of steering Bangladesh to a competitive total fell on Mushfiqur Rahim and Shakib Al Hasan. However, both players were dismissed in quick succession, with Mushfiqur only managing to score 17 runs from 33 balls. Mushfiqur's dismissal came as he attempted a slog sweep off a well-tossed-up delivery from Adil Rashid, only to be caught out easily by Mark Wood at deep mid-region. Shakib Al Hasan was also dismissed in a similar fashion, but he failed to make contact with the ball during his attempted slog sweep, resulting in his stumps being dismantled by Moeen Ali. Najmul Hossain Shanto provided some stability for Bangladesh, scoring his first ODI half-century in the 31st over.

However, he was unable to convert it into a century and fell short at 58 runs. All-rounder Mahmudullah Riyad was the second-highest scorer for Bangladesh with 31 runs off 48 balls, although he never looked comfortable at the crease. Mark Wood was the standout performer for England, taking two wickets for 35 runs in eight overs, while Moeen Ali, Jofra Archer, and Adil Rashid also claimed two wickets each.