



## Bangladesh Defeated by West Indies Due to Batting Collapse



Collected picture

In Chattogram, the Bangladesh cricket team began the three-match T20 series with a 16-run defeat against the West Indies, owing to a poor batting performance. Chasing a target of 165 set by the visitors, the home side was bowled out for 149 at the end of their allotted overs. As a result, the Caribbean team takes a 1–0 lead in the series.

West Indies won the toss and opted to bat first. Openers Athenage and Brandon King gave their team a solid start with cautious batting, adding 59 runs for the first wicket. Athenage fell for 34 to a delivery from Rishad Hossain, breaking the opening partnership. Taskeen Ahmed then struck with brilliant bowling, dismissing both Brandon King (33) and Rutherford. At 82 for 3, West Indies briefly found themselves under pressure, but the middle and late order recovered swiftly.

Captain Shai Hope and Rovman Powell forged an exceptional partnership towards the end, taking the team to a challenging total. Hope remained unbeaten on 46 off 28 balls, while Powell played a fiery 44\* off 28 deliveries. In the final over, Powell thrilled the crowd by hitting three consecutive sixes off Tanzim Hasan, completing a 45-run unbeaten partnership in 45 balls, which turned the momentum of the innings in favor of the visitors.

Chasing the target, Bangladesh struggled from the outset. Within 57 runs, five batsmen were back in the pavilion. With the openers failing, the middle order also couldn't stabilize the innings. Towhid Hridoy was dismissed for 28, leaving Bangladesh at 77 for six. Tanzim Sakib (33) and Nasum Ahmed (20) tried to build some resistance, but the victory remained out of reach.

Entering the final over needing 17 runs, Taskeen Ahmed hit a huge six over deep mid-wicket on the first ball, raising hopes in the stands, but was run out on the next delivery. Bangladesh fell short by 16 runs, concluding the match in defeat.

With this loss, Bangladesh trails 1–0 in the three-match series. To stay alive in the contest, a victory in the second match is imperative.