



The century was not an issue for me: Mehidy on his sedate knock

**THE CENTURY WAS NOT AN ISSUE FOR ME:
MEHIDY ON HIS SEDATE KNOCK**

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Mehidy Hasan Miraz, the captain of Bangladesh, made it clear that his goal in the first ODI against the West Indies and St Kitts was to score as many runs as he could, not to get a century. In Bangladesh's total of 294, Mehidy hit a calm 101-ball 74. With 14 balls remaining, the hosts, led by a ton from Sherfane Rutherford, defeated the score to finish the run.

After the visitors lost two early wickets and then the well-established Tanzid Hasan during the middle overs just as his partnership with the opener was taking shape, Mehidy emphasized that forming a partnership was crucial.

"All I had to do was lead the squad to success; I did not care about the century. Mehidy stated following the loss,

"I felt that if we had have posted 300 or more off this wicket, it would have been fantastic for us, therefore I attempted to play for runs and put up a high score before 40 overs."

When I first started, a set batsman was out, and actually, two set batsmen were out because Tanzim was out. After working with Afif, I was unable to take a chance because I knew that if a set batsman was out, it would put pressure on the new batsman, so I wanted to keep going. And when Riyadh [Mahmudullah] bhai got set I tried to take the charge," he remarked.

"As a batting team, we performed well, but the way Jaker Ali and Riyadh bhai concluded was great. If that had not happened, the runs could have been lower," he remarked.

With players like Mushfiqur Rahim, Najmul Hossain Shanto, and Towhid Hridoy out due to injury, Mehidy acknowledged that the team lacked significant experience, but he also said that the players had a better chance to learn.

"If there are coated cricket players on the team, they give a lot of information and output, but Litton Das and Riyadh bhai additionally provided a lot of information.

Additionally, he stated, "I feel there are a lot of benefits from this game for us. It is hard in their own backyard, and even though our bowlers bowl well, they may learn a lot from these kinds of matches like how to handle pressure."

Mehidy was still hopeful that the three-match series could be won, even though Bangladesh had lost four of its past five ODI series in recent years. We have only lost one game, so we still have a chance to win the series if we win the next one, he stated.

He stated, "Batting-wise, we batted well and put up a respectable total, and our bowlers also started well, but they formed a partnership in the middle overs and we were unable to get wickets, and that partnership put us in the back foot."

"Our bowlers did well in the first half [of the chase], as we controlled the game for the first 25 to 30 overs and they took it away from us in the last 20 overs when they charged, but I still think we have a lot of positives... like our batsmen did well and bowlers bowled well initially, and we could have won the game if we could have improved on certain areas."