

# Shami hat-trick seals India win

*Mohammed Shami shines in tight game after coming in as replacement for injured Bhuvneshwar Kumar*

AFP | Southampton

**M**ohammed Shami took a dramatic hat-trick to finally clinch a thrilling 11-run

for four.

With an incredible triumph within touching distance, Nabi was caught by Pandya at long on two balls later.

Shami then clean-bowled Aftab Alam and Mujeeb Ur Rahman to seal a nerve-jangling win with a hat-trick.

"This win is right up there. We thought 250 was par and 270 would have been an outstanding effort. A team like Afghanistan doesn't let you play how you want to play," India captain Virat Kohli said.

"At the halfway mark we had some doubts in our mind but everyone had belief in the changing room."

Frustrated Afghanistan skipper Gulbadin Naib added: "We bowled really well. We did well in batting, but credit to Bumrah for how he bowled in the last two or three overs.

"If you chase 250 then middle order batsmen should go longer and take responsibility."

Earlier, an increasingly fraught India were furious when the umpire turned down a huge lbw shout at the start of the 29th over from Bumrah, who rapped Shah on the pads -- Kohli's side had no reviews left.

Just three balls later Shah, on 36, top-edged a hook and Chahal took a fine low catch running in from fine leg, sending the massed ranks of flag-waving Indian supporters wild.

With his final ball of the over Bumrah turned the game sharply back in India's direction when

win over Afghanistan after the minnows threatened one of the biggest shocks in World Cup history in Southampton yesterday.

Afghanistan, appearing at only their second World Cup, lost the toss but restricted India to 224 for eight in their 50 overs, giving themselves a genuine chance for a huge upset.

They were well set at 106-2 in the 29th over, even though the run-rate was starting to edge up, but two wickets in one over from paceman Jasprit Bumrah removed Rahmat Shah and Hashmatullah Shahidi.

Mohammad Nabi and Najibullah Zadran batted sensibly to keep their side in the hunt, but when Zadran was caught by Yuzvendra Chahal off Hardik Pandya, Afghanistan were 166-6 in the 42nd over.

Nabi was still there in the final over, with 16 required and drilled Shami's first ball down the ground

## India

K. Rahul c Zazai b Nabi	30
R. Sharma b Rahman	1
V. Kohli c Shah b Nabi	67
V. Shankar lbw b Shah	29
MS Dhoni st Alikhil b Rashid	28
Jadhav c sub (Zadran) b Naib	52
H. Pandya c Alikhil b Alam	7
M. Shami b Naib	1
K. Yadav not out	1
J. Bumrah not out	1
Extras (w7)	7
Total (eight wickets, 50 overs)	224

## Afghanistan

Hazratullah Zazai b Shami	10
Gulbadin Naib c Shankar b Pandya	27
Rahmat Shah c Chahal b Bumrah	36
H. Shahidi c and b Bumrah	21
Asghar Afghan b Chahal	8
Mohammad Nabi c Pandya b Shami	52
Najibullah c Chahal b Pandya	21
Rashid Khan st Dhoni b Chahal	14
Ikram Alikhil not out	7
Aftab Alam b Shami	0
Mujeeb Ur Rahman b Shami	0
Extras (b4, lb4, w9)	17
Total (all out, 49.5 overs)	213

## Tight Afghan attack

Afghanistan have been the whipping boys of the tournament in England and Wales, often looking out of their depth against the more established teams.

Yesterday's match was only the third one-day international between the two teams and defeat for India would have been a major embarrassment despite last year's tie in the Asia Cup.

India were on the back foot right at the start of the match when in-form opener Rohit Sharma, who has scored two hundreds so far in the tournament, was dismissed for just one by off-spinner Mujeeb Ur Rahman.

The rest of India's powerful top order all got established, with Kohli making 67 from 63 balls, but none went on to play a decisive innings for the two-time champions.

Off-spinner Mujeeb was particularly impressive, conceding just 26 runs in his 10 overs, while leg-spinner Rashid Khan bounced back from the most expensive spell in World Cup history against England to take 1-38.

Kohli, who scored half-centuries against Australia and Pakistan, reached his third consecutive fifty of the tournament off 48 balls, with four fours, but was caught by Shah off the bowling of Nabi.

Kedar Jadhav reached his fifty off 66 balls, giving the scorecard a look of respectability and the total ultimately proved just too much for Afghanistan.

India's Mohammed Shami, right, celebrates after dismissing Afghanistan's Mohammad Nabi



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When the captain has so much trust in you, it gives you a lot of confidence to express yourself. That helps me keep a clear head

JASPRIT BUMRAH



## Cricket World Cup 2019 standings

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Tied	No result	Run rate	Points
Australia	6	5	1	0	0	0.849	10
New Zealand	5	4	0	0	1	1.591	9
India	5	4	0	0	1	0.809	9
England	6	4	2	0	0	1.457	8
Sri Lanka	6	2	2	0	2	-1.119	6
Bangladesh	6	2	3	0	1	-0.407	5
West Indies	5	1	3	0	1	0.272	3
South Africa	6	1	4	0	1	-0.193	3
Pakistan	5	1	3	0	1	-1.933	3
Afghanistan	6	0	6	0	0	-1.712	0

## Today's matches

### Pakistan vs South Africa



Babar Azam

Rassie van der Dussen

- » Pakistan and South Africa have both won just once so far at this World Cup, with one game rained off each too.
- » Pakistan's lone win came against hosts England, but they have lost to Australia and India in their two completed matches since.
- » South Africa's hopes of reaching the semi-finals are all-but over after a narrow defeat to New Zealand in their most recent game.

## Pakistan

Pakistan have failed to kick on from beating England in their second game of the tournament, when they posted 348/8 at Trent Bridge in a 14-run victory. They were frustrated by the rain when their next match, against Sri Lanka, was called off, and have lost to Australia and India since. They bowled Australia out for 307 in the first of those with Mohammad Amir claiming 5-30 but could only reach 266 in reply.

## Probable XI

Imam-ul-Haq, Fakhar Zaman, Babar Azam, Mohammad Hafeez, Sarfaraz Ahmed (c, wk), Shoaib Malik, Imad Wasim, Shadab Khan, Hasan Ali, Wahab Riaz, Mohammad Amir

## Head to Head

South Africa have a dominant head-to-head record in ODIs against Pakistan, with their 3-2 series win at home in January taking them to 50 wins in this fixture. With Imam-ul-Haq in good batting form for Pakistan, the series was an even one. Quinton de Kock scored 83 from 58 runs in the decider at Cape Town, however, as South Africa chased 241 in just 40 overs to win by seven wickets.

## South Africa

South Africa's hopes of a last-four place appear to be over after just one win and one no result from their six matches so far. Realistically needing to win their final five games to stand any chance of finishing in the top four, South Africa did the job in the first - bowling Afghanistan out for 125 on their way to a dominant nine-wicket win. They could not back it up, however. They were restricted to 241/6 against New Zealand at Edgbaston, in a match reduced to 49 overs apiece, and lost by four wickets with just three balls remaining.

## Probable XI

Quinton de Kock (wk), Hashim Amla, Faf du Plessis (c), Aiden Markram, Rassie van der Dussen, David Miller, Chris Morris, Dwaine Pretorius, Lungi Ngidi, Kagiso Rabada, Imran Tahir

# Ton-up Williamson revives New Zealand against West Indies

AFP | Manchester

**K**ane Williamson's latest World Cup batting masterclass helped New Zealand recover from a woeful start to post a total of 291-8 against the West Indies yesterday.

New Zealand were 7-2 inside the first over after fast bowler Sheldon Cottrell removed openers Martin Guptill and Colin Munro for golden ducks at Old Trafford.

But Williamson's career-best 148 -- his second successive World Cup hundred after a match-winning 106 not out against South Africa at Edgbaston on Wednesday -- turned the tide.

The New Zealand captain received sound support from Ross Taylor (69) during a third-wicket stand of 160.

However, Cottrell helped leave the West Indies with a reachable target thanks to an impressive 4-56 in his maximum 10 overs, including the key wicket of Williamson.

He also held three catches and ran out dangerman Colin de Grandhomme (16).

Taylor gave his innings away when he could not clear Jason Holder at mid-off after chipping a catch off Chris Gayle, to leave New Zealand 167-3 in the 31st over.

But Williamson carried on in typically calm fashion.

He went to his 13th one-day international hundred with his eighth four when he pulled a loose delivery from fast bowler Kemar Roach.

He then hoisted Cottrell legside for the only six of his innings.

Williamson surpassed his previous best score in 137 ODI innings -- 145 against South Africa in Kimberley in 2013 -- before he fell skying Cottrell to wicket-keeper Shai Hope.

In all, Williamson faced 154 balls, in-



Kane Williamson plays a shot

cluding 14 fours and one six.

He has now scored 373 runs, including two hundreds, in four innings this World Cup at an average of 186.5.

Earlier, West Indies made a sensational start after Holder sent New Zealand, the 2015 losing finalists, into bat.

Cottrell was on target first ball with a delivery that thudded into the pads of Martin Guptill.

Umpire Ruchira Palliyaguruge initially said "not out" but the West Indies successfully reviewed the decision, with replays showing the ball would have hit leg stump.

Munro too fell first ball, beaten completely by another yorker that smashed into his stumps.

For the second time in the over Cottrell,

still a serving member of the Jamaica Defence Force, greeted a wicket with his trademark military salute.

It was only the second occasion when both openers in a World Cup match had fallen for first-ball noughts, with Sri Lanka's Lahiru Thirimanne and Tillakaratne Dilshan collecting golden ducks against Afghanistan in 2015.

Williamson and Taylor, however, repaired the damage in style for a New Zealand side who have yet to lose at this World Cup.

The West Indies were seventh in the 10-team round-robin group table before the start of yesterday's matches and struggling to qualify for the semi-finals.

West Indies were 227/8 in 41 overs at the time of closing.