



Shreyas Iyer's majestic ton powers India to 8-wicket victory over West Indies in 1st T20I

LUCKNOW (UTTAR PRADESH) [INDIA], OCTOBER 6 (ANI): India began their five-match T20I series against West Indies in emphatic fashion, registering an eight-wicket victory in the first T20I at the Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium on Tuesday.

Chasing 172, India rode on a sensational unbeaten century from skipper Shreyas Iyer to complete the chase in just 14.4 overs, taking a 1-0 lead in the series.

Iyer smashed 102 not out off 43 balls, striking 10 fours and six sixes at a staggering strike rate of 237.21.

Iyer walked in and took control of the chase from the outset, taking the attack apart with an array of powerful strokes.

The right-hander displayed remarkable composure and aggression, finding the boundary with ease as he smashed 10 fours and six sixes in a breathtaking innings that kept the West Indies bowlers under constant pressure.

Iyer was well supported by Ishan Kishan, who scored 37 off 27 balls, including five fours, as the pair put together a match-winning partnership. Kishan was the more sedate of the two, but he played his role to perfection, smartly hanging around till the end.

Sanju Samson contributed 11 off nine balls before being dismissed by Akeal Hosein, while India lost Abhishek Sharma early in the chase.

Earlier, India won the toss



and opted to field, restricting West Indies to 171 in 19.1 overs. The visitors made a brisk start through captain Shai Hope, who led from the front with a fluent 52 off 37 balls, including six fours and two sixes.

Sherfane Rutherford provided the late impetus with a well-made 56 off 34 deliveries, hitting six fours and three sixes.

West Indies, however, struggled to maintain momentum after losing wickets at regular intervals. Kamil Pooran made 12 off 11 balls before being dismissed by Arshdeep Singh, while Shimron Hetmyer scored five off two balls before be-

ing run out. Rovman Powell was dismissed for a duck, further denting the visitors' progress.

For India, debutant Naman Dhir delivered an impressive performance with the ball. The all-rounder returned figures of 3/31 from his four overs, picking up crucial wickets, including those of Hope, Romario Shepherd and Shamar Springer. Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav claimed two wickets apiece, while Arshdeep Singh and Mayank Yadav picked up one each.

Hope and Rutherford's efforts had given West Indies a competitive platform, but India's bowlers struck at

crucial moments to bowl the visitors out with five balls of their innings remaining. Rutherford's 56 was the highest score for West Indies, while Hope's 52 ensured the visitors had a strong contribution at the top of the order.

India's chase, meanwhile, was dominated by Iyer from the outset. After Sanju Samson's dismissal left India at 35/2, Iyer took control of the innings and attacked the West Indies bowling with remarkable authority. His unbeaten 102 came off just 43 balls and included 16 boundaries in total, helping India race to the target with 32 balls remaining.

The right-hander accelerated rapidly in the latter stages of the chase, taking apart the West Indies attack with a combination of powerful strokes and clean hitting. His partnership with Kishan ensured there was no late drama as India comfortably crossed the finish line.

For West Indies, Akeal Hosein, playing his 100th T20I, was the only bowler to claim more than one Indian wicket, dismissing Samson. Roston Chase also picked up a wicket, but the visitors struggled to contain Iyer's assault.

The result gives India an early advantage in the five-match series and continues their strong run after their gold-medal triumph in the men's cricket event at the 2026 Asian Games. West Indies, meanwhile, will look to regroup ahead of the second T20I.

Inter-District Divisional-level Badminton Tournament begins in Kathua

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, OCT 06

The inter-district divisional level annual (all age groups) Badminton tournament for boys and girls commenced today at the Indoor Stadium Kathua. The District Youth Services and Sports Department is hosting the divisional-level sports event.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma was the chief guest at the inaugural function. He declared the tournament open. CPO Ranjeet Thakur, DYSSO Sunil Kumar, besides officials from the department of Youth Services and Sports were present on the occasion.

Interacting with the participating players, the Deputy Commissioner urged them to uphold the true spirit of sportsmanship, discipline and dedication while striving for excellence. He encouraged the young sportspersons to make the best use of the opportunities available to them, work hard and maintain a positive attitude both on and off the field.

The DC emphasised the important role of sports in promoting discipline, confidence, teamwork and



healthy lifestyle among youth. He also called upon the participants to remain committed to their sporting pursuits and contribute towards building a healthy, disciplined and drug-free society.

Earlier, the District Youth Services and Sports Officer

welcomed the chief guest and other guests. He highlighted the significance of organising such tournaments in providing young athletes with a platform to showcase their talent, gain competitive exposure and develop a healthy competitive spirit.

Sportsmanship and Nasha Mukta Abhiyan pledges were also administered to the participating players and officials, reinforcing the message of discipline, healthy living and collective commitment towards a drug-free society.

BCCI invites applications for one Men's Selection Committee post

NEW DELHI [INDIA], OCTOBER 6 (ANI): The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has invited applications for one position on its Men's Selection Committee.

The selected member will be responsible for selecting the Senior National Men's Team across Tests, ODIs, T20Is and other formats, while also contributing to talent identification and the development of a strong bench strength.

"The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) invites applications for one position on its Men's Selection Committee.

The member of the Men's Selection Committee will be responsible for selecting the Senior National Men's Team for representation in Tests, One Day Internationals, Twenty20 Internationals and any other format. The Committee will also play an important role in identifying talent and developing a strong bench strength for the Senior National Men's Team," as per a statement from BCCI.

According to the BCCI, the selection committee member will be required to



assess players through domestic and international matches, attend team meetings and travel to matches as required.

The member will also prepare quarterly evaluation reports on the team's performance for the BCCI Apex Council and address the media on team selection.

The committee member

will also be responsible for appointing the captain of the team across formats.

As per the eligibility criteria, candidates must have played a minimum of seven Tests, or 30 First-Class matches, or 10 ODIs and 20 First-Class matches.

Applicants must have retired from cricket at least five years ago to be eligible

for the position.

The BCCI further stated that any person who has served on a Cricket Committee, as defined under its Memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulations, for a cumulative period of five years will not be eligible for appointment to the Men's Selection Committee.

ICC receives over 1 lakh ticket applications for India vs Pakistan ODI World Cup match

DUBAI, OCT 06: The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Tuesday said it has received more than 100,000 applications for tickets from fans for the India versus Pakistan clash on October 10 in the ODI World Cup next year.

The ICC said on its website that the ticket demand for the ODI World Cup 2027, to be held in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Namibia from October 2 to November 21 next year, has surged past one-million mark after the ballot was opened on October 1 this year.

"Over 320,000 fans have already registered for the ballot, submitting applications for matches across South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia as anticipation continues to build for the 14th edition of the ICC



Men's Cricket World Cup," the ICC said.

"The India vs Pakistan fixture on 10 October is currently attracting the highest demand, with more than 100,000 ticket applications received. South Africa vs India follows with more than 86,000 applications, while India vs Australia has attracted more than 80,000," it added.

The global governing body said the pre-seeded Super 7 match between India (A1) and Pakistan (A3) on November 7 has so far received 75,000 applica-

tions, making it the fourth most-in-demand match in their list.

The final of the 14-team tournament, set to be played at the Wanderers in Johannesburg, has so far received almost 65,000 applications.

"Ticket prices range from USD \$9.62 (R158) for entry-level tickets to USD \$31.31 (R514) for the highest-tier matches. Special consideration has also been given to family bundles, student and pensioner pricing, early-bird local allocations, and community club and school group pricing," the ICC said.

ICC CEO Sanjog Gupta said, "One million ticket ap-

plications in just over 48 hours of opening the ticket ballot is a demonstration of the attention, stature and affiliation for ICC Cricket World Cup 2027."

"ICC events are now spectacles which transcend cultural and geographic boundaries and serve as platforms to widen and deepen fandom for the sport."

"This is also Africa's moment to shine as an ICC marquee men's event is returning to the continent after two decades and brings with it the attention of 2.5 billion cricket fans across 120 plus countries," he added.

The window to register for the ballot and select desired matches will remain on the ICC's website for tickets until November 21 this year.

BCCI appoints Smriti Mandhana captain of Indian Women's cricket team, succeeds Harmanpreet Kaur

Mumbai (Maharashtra) [India], October 6: With Harmanpreet Kaur's tenure as captain of the Indian women's cricket team coming to an end on Tuesday, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) appointed Smriti Mandhana as her successor, a release said.

Smriti has been one of the leading figures in Indian women's cricket over the years and has played a key role in the team's progress across formats. An experienced international cricketer, she has also demonstrated her leadership qualities in domestic and franchise cricket, most recently leading Royal Challengers Bengaluru to the Women's Premier League titles in 2024 and 2026.

Having been part of the Indian team since 2013, Smriti brings considerable experience to the role. She will now take on the responsibility of leading the side, with the team

entering a new phase and continuing to build on the progress made in recent years.

While she will be the full-time white-ball captain from now on, Smriti has led India in 18 T20Is and 4 ODIs.

Speaking on her appointment, Smriti Mandhana said, "To be given the responsibility of leading India is a very special honour. Representing India has always meant a great deal to me, and to now have the opportunity to lead the team is something I will value deeply. I am grateful to the BCCI, the selectors, my teammates and everyone who has supported me throughout my journey and for the trust they have placed in me. I would also like to acknowledge Harmanpreet and the contribution she has made as captain over the years. She has led the team with great commitment and has been an important part of our journey. I un-



derstand the responsibility that comes with this role and look forward to working with the team, learning along the way and giving my best to take Indian Cricket forward," as per the release.

Mithun Manhas, BCCI President, said: "I congratulate Smriti on being entrusted with the responsibility of leading the Indian Women's Cricket Team. She has been an important part of Indian cricket for many years and has consistently shown the qualities required to lead from the front. Her experience and understanding of the game will be valuable as she takes on this responsibility. The BCCI has full confidence in Smriti, and I am sure she will approach this role with the same commitment and professionalism that she has shown throughout her career. On behalf of the BCCI, I wish her the very best and look forward to seeing her lead the team

into this new chapter."

Devajit Saikia, BCCI Honorary Secretary, said, "Congratulations to Smriti on this important responsibility. She has grown into one of the most experienced players in the Indian team and has been part of some very important moments in the journey of Indian women's cricket. She understands what it means to represent India and I am confident that she will bring that understanding to her role as captain. Leading India is a significant responsibility, but Smriti has the experience and temperament to take it on. Her success as captain of Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the Women's Premier League is another example of her leadership qualities. I wish her and the team every success in the journey ahead and look forward to seeing Indian Cricket continue to progress under her leadership." (ANI)