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JOHANSSON RACES THROUGH TRAFFIC Mid Week IN FAST SHOOTOUT WITH MYSTERIOUS MOTORCYCLIST | 16 ENTERTAINMENT



May 18, 2021

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Sonu Sood arranges bed at Ganjam hospital; DM denies, actor responds



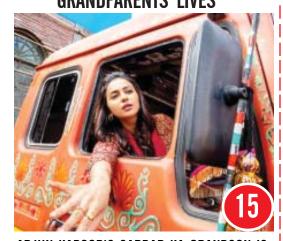
MUMBAI: The official Twitter account of the Collector and District Magistrate of Ganjam, Odisha, on Monday responded to a tweet by actor Sonu Sood where he claims he has arranged for a bed at Ganjam City Hospital in Brahmapur for a patient.

"We don't receive any communication from @SoodFoundation or @SonuSood. The requested patient is in Home isolation and stable. No bed issues @BrahmapurCorp is monitoring it. @CMO Odisha," the official Twitter account of the Collector and District Magistrate of Ganjam, tweeted on Monday tagging the Twitter handle of the Office of the Chief Minister of Odisha.

The tweet comes in response to Sonu Sood's tweet posted on May 15, which reads: "Not to worry. The bed has been arranged at GanjamCity Hospital, Berhampur (DCHC) @SoodFoundation."

The tweet in response to which Sonu wrote this, has been deleted.

ARJUN KAPOOR ON SARDAR KA **GRANDSON: 'I CONNECTED SO DEEPLY WITH IT BECAUSE OF ITS UNCANNY SIMILARITY WITH MY GRANDPARENTS' LIVES'**



ARJUN KAPOOR'S SARDAR KA GRANDSON IS STREAMING ON NETFLIX. THE FILM ALSO STARS ADITI RAO HYDARI, JOHN ABRAHAM, RAKUL PREET SINGH AND NEENA GUPTA.

JENNIFER LOPEZ STILL OWNS '6.10-CARAT DIAMOND' **ENGAGEMENT RING** PROPOSED BY BEN AFFLECK?



JENNIFER LOPEZ'S FORMER PUBLICIST ROB SHUTER DISHED OUT A FEW DETAILS ON HER RECONCILIATION RUMOURS WITH BEN AFFLECK.

PREGNANT DIA MIRZA REVEALS WHY HER DOCTOR DID NOT LET HER TAKE COVID-19 VACCINE



IN A TWITTER POST, DIA SHARED AN INSIGHT THAT HER DOCTOR GAVE HER AND WROTE ABOUT THE EFFECT OF THE VACCINE ON PREGNANT AND LACTATING WOMEN.

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CHRIS RUSHWORTH IS OVERWHELMED AFTER PASSING GRAHAM ONIONS TO BECOME DURHAM'S LEADING FIRST-CLASS WICKET-TAKER, DURHAM VS WORCESTERSHIRE, LV = COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP, RIVERSIDE, 4TH DAY, MAY 16, 2021.

ANUSHKA AND VIRAT'S COVID FUNDRAISER EFFORT SURPASSES TARGET, RAISES OVER 11 CRORE



MUMBAI, (IANS) Actress Anushka Sharma on Friday shared that the Covid fundraiser she started with her husband, cricketer Virat Kohli, has surpassed its target, raising Rs 11.39.11.820.

Virat and Anushka started the fundraiser campaign on May 7. The couple collaborated with crowd-funding platform Ketto for the campaign #InThisTogether and donated Rs 2 crore towards the initiative. They had aimed to raise Rs 7 crore for Covid relief in India On Friday, Anushka shared a note on Instagram that reads: "Thanks to all we have surpassed our target! Funds raised for Covid Relief. Rs 11,39,11,820. #inthistogether."

"Truly amazed and humbled by the spirit of solidarity that you all have shown. We are proud to announce that we have raised more than our initial target and it will go a long way to save lives," she added. "Thank you for your overwhelming support in helping the people of India. This wouldn't be possible without you. Jai Hind. #InThisTogether #ActNow #OxygenForEveryone #TogetherWeCan #SocialForGood," Anushka further stated.

'FRIENDS: THE REUNION' TO PREMIERE ON MAY 27



LUS ANGELES, (IANS) The much-awaited Friends reunion special will be premiering on May 27. "Friends: The Reunion" will debut on the one-year anniversary of the launch of the network HBO Max and exactly one year after it was originally supposed to air. The special was delayed multiple times due to the production shutdown caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, reports variety.com. It was originally set to film in February 2020 but the unit was only able to begin filming in April. The special stars the original cast of Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox, Lisa Kudrow, Matt LeBlanc, Matthew Perry, and David Schwimmer. Aniston shared the trailer on Instagram on Thursday night, India time and wrote: "It's official! The #FriendsReunion premieres on May 27th on @HBOMav — could we BE any more excited?! "

The reunion special will also feature guest stars including David Beckham, Justin Bieber, BTS, James Corden, Cindy Crawford, Cara Delevingne, Lady Gaga, Elliott Gould, Kit Harington, Larry Hankin, Mindy Kaling, Thomas Lennon, Christina Pickles, Tom Selleck, James Michael Tyler, Maggie Wheeler, Reese Witherspoon and Malala Yousafzai.

MATCH	DATE	VENUE
1ST TEST	4TH - 8TH AUG	NOTTINGHAM
2ND TEST	12TH - 16TH AUG	LORD'S
3RD TEST	25TH - 29TH AUG	LEEDS
4TH TEST	2ND – 6TH SEP	OVAL
5TH TEST	10TH – 14TH SEP	MANCHESTER

INDIA'S SQUAD: Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill, Mayank Agarwal, Cheteshwar Pujara, Virat Kohli (Captain), Ajinkya Rahane (vicecaptain), Hanuma Vihari, Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper), R. Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma, Mohd. Sharmi, Md. Siraj, Shardul Thakur, Umesh Yadav, KL Rahul (subject to fitness clearance), Wriddhiman Saha (wicket-keeper; subject to fitness clearance).

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Arjun Kapoor on Sardar Ka Grandson: 'I connected so deeply with it because of its uncanny similarity with my grandparents' lives'



Actor Arjun Kapoor on Tuesday took to social media to share a note on his latest movie Sardar Ka Grandson. Arjun also mentioned that he has been fortunate to be a part of films that "made me tap into my beautiful childhood memories and life experiences."

The actor said Ki and Ka and Sardar Ka Grandson are two of his "most favourite films". He said while Ki and Ka was for his mother, Sardar Ka Grandson is for his grandmothers. Thanking debutant director Kaashvie Nair for giving him a film to cherish forever, Arjun said, "You gave me solid material that connected to me so deeply and instantly because of the story's uncanny similarity with my grandparents' lives in various ways."

The 35-year-old said the character of Sardar in the film is very similar to his maternal grandmother. "She was actually a riot when you interacted with her and I could see her in Sardar, every step of the way! I was literally living through various phases, emotions and memories, some mine, some theirs,"

On a concluding note, Arjun Kapoor wished and hoped that his fans will be entertained by this "simple movie with a big heart". The actor said that he hopes Sardar Ka Grandson moves his fans just like it touched him. Read Arjun Kapoor's full note here:

"I have been fortunate enough to get films that have made me tap into my beautiful childhood memories and life experiences.

Whether it was a Ki and Ka, which was for my mother, or now Sardar Ka Grandson for my grandmothers, these are films that have connected to my soul and will forever be my most favourite films.

I am deeply thankful that in Sardar Ka Grandson, I got a chance to be directed by the sensitive and extremely mature Kaashvie Nair, my first female director, who was also helming her first feature film! Kaashvie, you have given me

a film to cherish forever and be proud of. So, thank you from the bottom of my heart. You gave me solid material that connected to me so deeply and instantly because of the story's uncanny similarity with my grandparents' lives in various ways. Moreover, the character of Sardar in the film is very similar to my Nani. She was actually a riot when you interacted with her and I could see her in Sardar, every step of the way! I was literally living through various phases, emotions and memories, some mine, some theirs. So, for me, I am happy that through this film I have lived a bit of their lives and I hope that I have done all four of them proud through my earnestness with this film. Sardar Ka Grandson is now available for all to enjoy on Netflix from today and I hope you will be entertained thoroughly. It is a simple movie with a big heart and I hope it moves you in the same way that it has touched me." Sardar Ka Grandson, also starring Rakul Preet Singh, Neena Gupta, Aditi Rao Hydari and John Abraham, is currently streaming on Netflix.



songs **JUBIN NAUTIYAL**

SONG

SAIYAAN JI

BAARISH KI JAYE IS QADAR THODA THODA PYAR NADIYON PAAR **TERA SUIT** MAIN JIS DIN BHULA DU **OH SANAM BEWAFA TERA MASOOM**

ARTIST

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SALMAN KHAN TURNS REEL-LIFE

SONU SOOD IN 'SEETIMAAR' ACTIONER

Mumbai is suffering from the wrath of a drug kingpin, and the police force is falling short of handling the situation. Radhe, a specialist cop, is appointed to bring this situation under control for peace in the city. Being the last hope, will Radhe be able to get everything under control?

Just as we are braving the deadly novel coronavirus at present, there's another high-risk addiction that continues to affect several lives - drug abuse. 'Radhe: Your Most Wanted Bhai' opens on the plot of drug abuse in Mumbai and how the youth is crippled with it. Salman aka Radhe is the tough guy whose suspension is revoked and called in to lead the mission of cleaning the city.

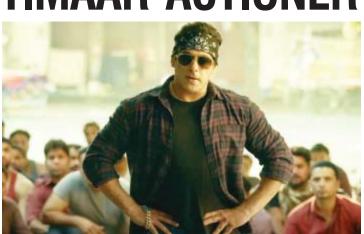
Salman Khan's reel-life Sonu Sood avatar of being a good samaritan and a messiah of needy has many highs for the viewers. Prabhudeva's directorial is based on the Korean film 'The Outlaws' and has been adapted for

Radhe has many cliches, from a 'hero' kicking hundreds of goons in a flicker of a second to being the most wanted of all amongst his peers this is something we have seen way too many times. Jackie Shroff plays the ACP and Disha Patani's (Dia in the film) elder brother. He could have been utilised better.

Randeep Hooda, who's the baddie in Radhe, is like a breath of fresh air in this actioner. He kills brutally, has no sign of remorse and thankfully has a strong screen presence too.

Just as Radhe is trying his best to nip the bud of a drugs scandal in the city, in between there's a rush of love which kind of breaks the chain. Dia aka Disha Patani is a model (much as we still think) and for a good 30 minutes of the film is made to believe that Radhe too is an aspiring





model. She looks fab, flaunts an hour-glass figure, wears chic outfits but there's hardly anything else that can be highlighted. Prabhudeva's directorial has a strong whiff of South cinema and yes right from the treatment to camera work and screenplay all are driven by it.

'Radhe' has some seetimaar dialogues by Vijay Maurya and high-octane action, pumping the adrenaline rush of fans. All those who love 'Bigg Boss' will be pleased to spot a few familiar faces like Pravesh Rana, Manveer Gujjar and VJ Andy in cameos. 'Bigg Boss 7' winner Gautam Gulati has a decent supporting role and is seen in a negative shade character. Salman's screen charm is enough to pull the audiences to theatres and this time to the OTT platform and that's why Eid is the per fect time for him to release his movies. Also, Devi Sri Prasad's 'Seeti Maar', and 'Radhe' title track by Sajid-Wajid are already chartbusters, so do we say anything more?

In 'Radhe: Your Most Wanted Bhai' there are several moments in the film where you miss watching it on the big screens whether it's Bhaijaan taking off his shirt or kicking the baddies most dramatically. However, sipping some hot tea and grabbing homemade popcorn while you slouch on a couch, watching 'Radhe' is not too bad either!

'Radhe: Your Most Wanted Bhai' Verdict:

If you love heart-thumping action, Salman's 'Radhe: Your Most Wanted Bhai' can be your weekend watch, but keep your sky-high expectations resting as it's an entertainer strictly for Bhaijaan fans.

KANGANA RANAUT TESTS NEGATIVE FOR COVID-19, SAYS 'I AM **TOLD NOT TO OFFEND COVID FAN CLUBS'**

Bollywood actor Kangana Ranaut has tested negative for coronavirus. She shared the news on her Instagram stories on Tuesday. Kangana also posted a video where she talks about her fight against the virus and how home remedies helped her recover. In a post on her Instagram stories, Kangana wrote, "Hello everyone today I tested negative for covid, I want to say a lot about how I beat the virus but I am told not to offend covid fan clubs.... Yes there are actually people out there who get offended if you show disrespect towards the virus.... Anyway thanks for your wishes and love."

Later, the actor uploaded a video where she spoke about the dos and don'ts if you test positive for Covid-19. According to Kangana, it's more an internal fight against the virus. Sharing how along with weakness, she had lost the sense of taste and smell, Kangana said homemade 'kaadha', gargles, and steam came to her rescue, along with yoga. Lastly, she urged her fans to abide by all the precautions to ensure the safety of their loved ones. Upon being diagnosed with coronavirus on May 8, Kangana Ranaut had shared that she has quarantined herself and is sure she will "demolish" the coronavirus which, for her, is "nothing but a small time flu."

Ollvwood

'BLACK WIDOW' NEW CLIP: SCARLETT JOHANSSON RACES THROUGH TRAFFIC IN FAST SHOOTOUT WITH MYSTERIOUS MOTORCYCLIST



Marvel Studios' 'Black Widow' unveiled another teaser clip from the film during the MTV Movie and TV Awards on Sunday. According to Deadline, the Scarlett Johansson-starrer is helmed by Cate Shortland and created by Kevin Feige.

The recently-released clip sees Johansson weaving through traffic in a fast shootout with a motorcyclist. 'Black Widow' will be released simultaneously in theatres and on Disney+ with Head Access in most Disney+ markets on July 9, 2021. At the MTV Movie and TV Awards, the 'Marriage Story' star was respected with the 'Generation Award' that celebrates actors whose diverse contributions to both film and TV have transformed them into popular household names. Her husband Colin Jost interrupted the actor's acceptance speech by dumping green slime on her head. According to People magazine, midway through the 'Black Widow' star's acceptance speech, husband Jost dumped green slime on her head a prank that happened to be inspired by the wrong award show.

JENNIFER LOPEZ STILL OWNS '6.10-CARAT DIAMOND' ENGAGEMENT RING PROPOSED BY BEN AFFLECK?



Despite ending her engagement with Ben Affleck over a decade ago, Jennifer Lopez might still own the lavish engagement ring with which the actor proposed to her. As Jennifer and Ben continue to reignite reconciliation rumours, a source close to JLo told Fox News that the star is speculated to still own the pink sparkler ring with which Ben proposed her. The couple was engaged from 2002-2004 after they fall in love with each other while filming their rom-com drama Gigli.

According to Fox News, a source told that, while selecting the ring for her lady, Ben initially popped the question of whether the coloured rings were in style, but the fashion trend caught on once Lopez put the rock on her finger. The ring contained a 6.10-carat diamond from Harry Winston and cost a reported USD 1.2 million. "As far as I know, Jen has never returned the ring. So if things move forward with these two, gosh she's already got the ring," Lopez's former publicist Rob Shuter told.

RUSSELL CROWE TO LEAD THRILLER POKER FACE

Oscar-winning actor Russell Crowe has teamed up with filmmaker Gary Fleder for thriller Poker Face. Written by Stephen M Coates, film will see Crowe essay the role of Jake, a tech billionaire who gathers his childhood friends to his Miami estate for what turns into a high stakes game of poker, reported Deadline.

"Those friends have a love hate relationship with the host, a master game-player/planner, and he has concocted an elaborate scheme designed to bring a certain justice to all of them. However, Jake finds himself re-thinking his strategy when his Miami mansion is overtaken by a dangerous home invader whose previous jobs have all ended in murder and arson," the official plotline read. The project, which comes from Arclight Films, will be produced by Gary Hamilton, Addam Bramich, Ryan Hamilton, Jeanette Volturno, Jason Clark and Keith Rodger. Fleder is known for directing films such as Runaway Jury (2003), The Express: The Ernie Davis Story (2008) and Jason Statham-starrer Homefront (2013).







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'KHATRON KE KHILADI 11' CONTESTANT NIKKI TAMBOLI RAISES TEMPERATURE IN BOLD RED SLIP DRESS, PICS GO VIRAL

Former 'Bigg Boss 14' participant Nikki Tamboli, who is currently in Cape Town, shooting for the stunt-based reality show 'Khatron Ke Khiladi 11' is setting the social media on fire with her pictures in a sizzling red outfit.

The actress, who has created a massive fan base on social media (2 million and counting), makes sure she never disappoints her followers and therefore, keeps sharing updates and the latest photos from her photoshoots besides teasing future projects. On Monday, the diva took to her verified Instagram handle to share pictures in a fiery red slip dress with noodle straps. Nikki looked sizzling hot as she flaunted her fit-form in the revealing attire. Looking graceful yet sexy, Nikki raised the temperature as she rounded off her look with wavy locks cascading down on one side and smokey on-point makeup.

In one of the pictures, the actress is seen channelling her inner diva as she shows off her poised self, while in the second picture she flashed her million-dollar smile with utmost panache.

Before this, Nikki has taken the internet by storm when she shared a photo with her 'KKK11' teammates Arjun Bijlani, Abhinav Kohli and Aastha Gill, clad in red separates teamed with sneakers.

As fans wait for 'KKK11' to go on-air, the participants have been treating the fans with some fun BTS photos and videos which are going viral on the internet.

On a related note, Nikki Tamboli had lost her brother Jatin days before she confirmed her participation on the show, due to several healthrelated complications and COVID too. However, Nikki decided to go ahead and participate in the show stating it was her brother's wish and that he will always be by her side no matter what.



Amitabh Bachchan-funded Covid-19 facility in Mumbai starts operation

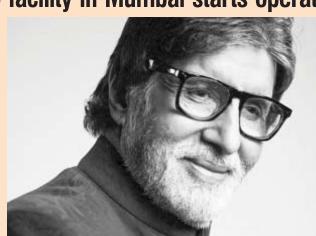
A Covid-19 care centre with 25 bed-capacity and oxygen availability, helped set up by megastar Amitabh Bachchan, began its operations here on Tuesday, filmmaker Anand Pandit said.

According to Pandit, the Hindi cinema veteran provided the Juhubased Ritambhara Vishva Vidyapeeth facility with necessary equipment and infrastructure.

"After a trial run, the centre was up and running by 10 am on Tuesday, May 18. Mr Bachchan has donated the equipment and infrastructure for the facility and all necessary permissions have been granted by the BMC," Pandit, who has collaborated with Bachchan on the thriller Chehre, said in a statement.

In his blog post, dated May 16, Bachchan had said the 25 bed centre should be up and running by Tuesday taking into account the aftereffects of the Cyclone Tauktae.

Pandit, who has already helped set up a facility in Dadar along with superstar Ajay Devgn, is scouting locations to set up another facility in suburban Borivali. Bachchan has donated around Rs 15 crore in the country's fight against the coronavirus pandemic, which includes his contributions to Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Covid Care Centre at Gurdwara Rakab Ganj Sahib and a diagnostic centre at Bangla Sahib Gurudwara in Delhi. He has also made arrangement of oxygen concentrators from Poland, donated three detection ma-



chines to Mumbai's Nanavati Hospital, and is raising two children who have lost their parents to the virus at a Hyderabad-based orphanage. Meanwhile, in a blog post on Monday night, the screen icon informed that his office Janak in suburban Juhu was flooded after Cyclone Tauktae hit the city last night.

"There is an eerie silence in the midst of the Cyclone... Flooding in the vulnerable Janak Office, impromptu plastic cover sheets still in prep for the heavy Monsoon rain, ripped apart .. sheds and shelters for some staff blown away," he wrote.

PREGNANT DIA MIR7A REVEALS WHY HER DOCTOR DID NOT LET HER TAKE COVID-19 VACCINE



Amid the second wave of coronavirus and the vaccination drive being carried out in India, thousands of citizens and several Bollywood celebrities have got themselves vaccinated in the last few weeks.

In fact, from film stars to TV celebs, many even took to their social media handles to spread awareness about getting vaccinated. Recently, actress Dia Mirza too spoke about the vaccine, but instead of just urging citizens to get the jab, her post gave out important information for pregnant and lactating mothers. In a Twitter post, Dia shared an insight that her doctor gave her and wrote about the effect of the vaccine on pregnant and lactating women. Retweeting a user's post on the microblogging site that discussed the impact of coronavirus and its vaccines on pregnant women, the mom-to-be wrote, "This is really important. Must read and also note that none of the vaccinations currently being used in India have been tested on pregnant and lactating mothers. My doctor says we cannot take these vaccines until required clinical trials have been done." For the unversed, Dia is expecting her first child with her husband Vaibhav Rekhi. The actress announced the pregnancy last month via a social media post. She posted a photo of herself cradling the baby bump, shot in the backdrop of the stunning Maldivian location where she vacationed with her husband and her daughter from his first wife, earlier this year. Dia was previously married to Sahil Sangha for 11 years. On a related note, India's COVID-19 tally mounted to 2,49,65,463 on Monday, May 17, 2021, with 2,81,386 fresh COVID-19 cases, the lowest in 27 days, while the death toll climbed to 2,74,390 with 4,106 fatalities, according to Union health ministry data. The number of active cases stands at 35,16,997, accounting for 14.09 per cent of the total infections. The national recovery rate has improved to 84.81 per cent, the data updated at 8 am showed.



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TIM SEIFERT TESTS **NEGATIVE FOR** COVID-19, ON WAY **BACK HOME | P19**



READY FOR INTERNATIONAL CRICKET, NITISH RANA AWAITS 'THAT ONE CALL' |P19

BCCI TREASURER EXPLAINS WHY VIRAT KOHLI-LESS TOUR OF SRI LANKA IS IMPORTANT FOR TEAM INDIA | P19



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INDIA RETAIN TOP SPOT IN ICC TEST RANKINGS

NEW DELHI, (IANS) India has retained the top spot in the International of the previous two years at 50 per cent. Cricket Council's (ICC) annual update of the Test rankings. India is on 121 rating points while second-placed New Zealand is on 120. England overtook Australia to take third place with 109 rating points. Australia currently has 108. The West Indies, who beat Bangladesh 2-0 and drew 0-0 with Sri Lanka in series played this year, have moved

from eighth to sixth with 84 points, their best position since 2013. The ICC said that the latest update eliminates the results of 2017/18. It rates all matches played since May 2020 at 100 per cent and those

"India's 2-1 win over Australia and 3-1 win over England over the past year and New Zealand's 2-0 series win over the West Indies and Pakistan have helped them keep ahead of the pack," said the ICC. Pakistan has gained three points but remains in the fifth position. South Africa is in the seventh position, equaling their lowest in Test ranking history, while Sri Lanka is next on the list. Bangladesh has lost five points but remains in the ninth position while Zimbabwe has gained eight points but is still nine points behind Bangladesh.

FANTASTIC CHALLENGE TO PLAY AGAINST INDIA: KANE **WILLIAMSON ON WTC FINAL**

New Zealand captain Kane Williamson is excited to face India in the World Test Championships (WTC) final next month as he considers showdowns against Virat Kohli's men to be a "fantastic challenge". India and New Zealand square-off in the final of the inaugural World Test Championships in Southampton from June 18.

"When we play against India, it has always been a fantastic challenge and so it is really exciting to be playing against them," Williamson said in a video posted by the ICC on its Twitter handle.

"It's really, really exciting to be involved in the final, obviously to win it would be that much better," said the 30-year-old considered one of the best current batsmen in the world.

Talking about championship and how it progressed, Willimson said, "We saw the contests in the WTC has brought real excitement.

"... the games were really tight such as in the India-Australia series and our series against Pakistan as well where you had to really fight hard to get the results, which is really great."

New Zealand pacer Neil Wagner admitted India possess fast bowlers who can exploit the English conditions but said the wickets can change anytime and become flat also.

"India has a lot of quality fast bowlers who have done well in different conditions, they can swing (the ball) under overcast conditions but when the sun comes out it (wicket) is flat and nothing happens.

"(English) Conditions can change throughout and so I am not getting carried away too much, trying to control the controllables." India batsman Hanuma Vihari, who is in England for a county stint after a hard quarantine in Mumbai.



with Warwickshire, said it would be a great feeling to play for his country in the WTC final.

"I am excited but I would want to be in that moment and not to get too much carried away by the importance of the situation," he said. "But as a sportsman, to play for India in the final of inaugural World Test Championships is always a great feeling," said the 27-year-old batsman who is currently playing county cricket in England.

The majority of the Kiwi players have reached the UK as they play a two-match series against England starting June 2 before the WTC final. The Indians are expected to reach here in the first week of June

Ian Chappell backs Pat Cummins over Steve Smith for Australia captaincy

Former skipper lan Chappell has backed premier fast bowler Pat Cummins over batting maestro Steve Smith for Australian captaincy after incumbent Tim Paine retires. Chappell's views are in contrast to Paine, who recently said he will have no qualms about former skipper Smith returning to the job whenever he chooses to retire.

"I think it's time to move on. To me if you go back to Smith, you're going backwards. It's time to look ahead, not in the rear-vision mirror," Chappell told Wide World of Sports.

He also feels Cummins' prospects of leading Australia in future should not be dented even if he was aware of any plans to tamper with the ball during the infamous 2018 Test match against South Africa in Cape Town. The ball-tampering fiasco had led to a review of Australia's win-at-all-cost team culture besides one-year ban on then captain Smith, his deputy David Warner and a nine-month suspension for Cameron Bancroft.

During an interview, Bancroft had hinted that other bowlers might have known about the plot that saw him and two others — Smith and Warner — pay a huge price. "If people start jumping up and down about Pat Cummins captaining Australia if he knew, well the answer is pretty clear, because it falls back on Smith," Chappell said.

"He's (Steve Smith) the bloke who should have stopped it. The captain's got the overall say and power to stop it, and he didn't. I don't think it should count against Cummins, even if they decide the bowlers did know.

"Smith is the bloke who should have made sure the whole thing never started," added Chappell.

WEST INDIES TO HOST AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AFRICA, PAKISTAN IN JUNE-AUGUST



KINGSTON (IANS) West Indies are set for a busy home season between June and August with South Africa, Australia and Pakistan set to tour the islands for a combined four Test matches, 15 T20Is and three ODI matches.

The season starts with South Africa touring the islands for two Tests and five T20Is. The series was rescheduled from 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The tour starts with a two-Test series on June 10 after which T20I series will be played from June 26 to July 3.

West Indies then host Australia for a five-match T20I series and three ODIs. The T20Is will be played from July 9 to July 16 after which the ODI series will be played from July 20 to July 24. The season concludes with Pakistan's tour of the islands. The two teams play a five-match T20I series from July 27 to August 3 after which they play two Test matches starting on August 12 and August 20.

FULL SCHEDULE:

South Africa in the West Indies 2021

June 10-14 1st Test Darren Sammy Cricket Stadium (DSCS) June 18-22 2nd Test DSCG

June 26 1st T20I Grenada National Cricket Stadium (GNCS)

June 27 2nd T20I GNCS

June 29 3rd T20I GNCS

July 1 4th T20I GNCS July 3 5th T20I GNCS

Australia in the West Indies 2021

July 9 1st T20I DSCS

July 10 2nd T20I DSCS July 12 3rd T20I DSCS

July 14 4th T20I DSCS July 16 5th T20I DSCS

July 20 1st ODI Kensington Oval (KO)

July 22 2nd ODI KO

July 24 3rd ODI KO Pakistan in the West Indies 2021

July 27 1st T20I K0

July 28 2nd T20I K0

July 31 3rd T20I Guyana National Stadium (GNS) August 1 4th T20I GNS

August 3 5th T20I GNS August 12-16 1st Test Sabina Park (SP)

August 20-24 2nd Test SP

Mike Hussey returns to Australia after recovering from COVID-19

Chennai Super Kings' batting coach Mike Hussey returned

to Australia on Monday after recovering from COVID-19, the Indian Premier League (IPL) team said.

Chennai Chief Executive Kasi Viswanathan told PTI news agency that Hussey, who had been treated in hospital for COVID-19, had left for Australia early on Sunday



via Doha on a commercial flight. Australia lifted a two-week ban on its citizens returning from COVID-ravaged India last week." Back in super high spirits! Recovered and returned home safe!" Chennai tweeted alongside a photo of Hussey and bowling coach Lakshmipathy Balaji, who has also recovered from the virus. On Monday, most of Australia's IPL cricketers, including David Warner, Pat Cummins and Steve Smith, arrived in Sydney after passing a week in the Maldives waiting for border restrictions to be lifted. International cricketers who were part of the IPL started heading back home a day after the lucrative Twenty20 competition was suspended on May 4 due to the COVID-19 crisis.

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I UNDERSTAND I CAN'T PLAY EVERY TEST BUT **COMMUNICATION SHOULD BE CLEAR: STUART BROAD**



Stuart Broad is loathe to the idea of missing a Test but the seasoned England pacer doesn't mind being "rested" sometimes either as long as the communication is clear, something, which he believes, did not happen when Ed Smith was national selector. Broad is gearing up for a busy schedule with Tests against New Zealand and India lined up in the next three months. "Is it realistic I'm going to play every Test? No. But if the communication is done well then you understand the reasons for it," the 34-year-old Broad told the British media. "You understand why you

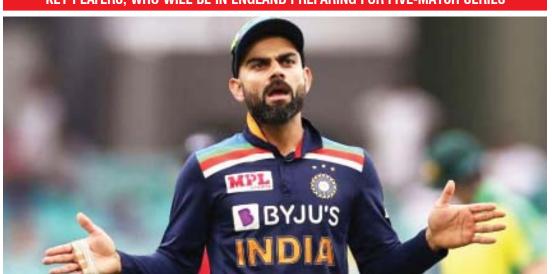
might miss certain games to be fit for other games. That along with building experience into different players. "If I had a choice I'd want to play all seven Tests. Part of the reason I don't play white ball cricket any more is so I'm fit and available for Test cricket and fresh when I'm needed," he added. The veteran pacer reflected on his strained relationship with Smith, who was removed as national selector last month.

"A lot of people have bosses who don't rate them as much as other people and I think he was mine," Broad said. "He probably didn't rate

me as much as other players. That's fine but I kept trying to prove some selection decisions wrong...from my point of view we struggled a bit on the communication side and probably saw the game of cricket slightly differently," he added. Last year, Broad had publicly expressed his disappointment after being dropped from the opening Test against West Indies. "...I was disgruntled because the selectors had said the first Test team of the summer will be our best team. For someone who had been through the Ashes successfully, been through South Africa successfully and stayed fit, I felt it was my shirt," he reasoned. The red-ball specialist believes he and fellow veteran James Anderson make the best English bowling attack. I don't think many could argue against Jimmy and I being in the best bowling attack in England, but if you need to get experience and overs into bowlers that is what it is. "It's when the communication disappears; that's when players can't see reasons or see through it," he added. The seamer rued that his career has been more about being "dropped" than "rested".

BCCI TREASURER EXPLAINS WHY VIRAT KOHLI-LESS TOUR OF SRI LANKA IS IMPORTANT FOR TEAM INDIA

INDIA WILL PLAY SRI LANKA IN THREE ODIS AND AS MANY T20IS IN JULY WITHOUT THEIR KEY PLAYERS, WHO WILL BE IN ENGLAND PREPARING FOR FIVE-MATCH SERIES



As the Indian team readies itself to depart for the United Kingdom in two weeks time for the World Test Championship (WTC) final against New Zealand and the five-match Test series against the hosts England, another Indian team is getting ready for the limited-overs tour of Sri Lanka.

As most of the first-choice players, skipper Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Jasprit Bumrah, Ravindra Jadeia, Rishabh Pant among others will be in England preparing for the five-match series starting in August, a second-string side will be playing three ODIs and as many T20Is, most likely in July.

Now, the BCCI treasurer Arun Dhumal has revealed why this series was necessary at this point. Dhumal said that it was the board's call to fulfill all their Future Tour Programs (FTPs) commitments and why it is necessary to play and conduct all the postponed series to lessen the financial burden.

Speaking to Sportskeeda, Dhumal said, "See as you know the cricket world is under tremendous pressure for the last one-and-a-half year given this COVID pandemic, a lot of FTP has been cancelled which has put a lot of strains on these associations all over the world. Until and unless you do these tours, we can't make up, and it would be very difficult for all these boards to come out of the finan-

cial struggle that they are going through. India were supposed to play against Sri Lanka and the tour was postponed due to the COVID-19 lockdown-induced delays. However, Dhumal commended India's quality bench strength, which was an important factor in BCCI going ahead with playing with two different teams simultaneously.

"We had to miss the Sri Lanka tour last year also. So, we need to work out on that and since our team that is going to England is primarily for Tests, we could have made up a team for these whiteball matches. So, that is why we thought we should do our bit to make sure Sri Lankan board and we can play whiteball cricket in time," Dhumal added.

Ready for international cricket, Nitish Rana awaits 'that one call'

After creating a space for himself in both the domestic circuit and the IPL, Delhi and Kolkata Knight Riders batsman Nitish Rana feels ready for international arena, hoping to get his "reward" when the Indian team is picked for July's tour of Sri Lanka. India, sans stars such Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, will be touring Sri Lanka for a white-ball series in July. "It is there at the back of my mind that my name should come (in the squad) and I am prepared for that because I feel my name would come," Nitish told PTI in an interview when asked whether he is hoping for a call-up.

Tim Seifert tests negative for COVID-19, on way back home

New Zealand wicket-keeper batsman Tim Seifert, who contracted COVID-19 during the currentlysuspended IPL in India, has tested negative for the infection now and is on his way back home, his national coach Gary Stead has revealed. Seifert represented Kolkata Knight Riders and tested positive for the virus on May 8. "I heard from Tim just a little while ago. I think the really encouraging thing is he's tested negative and my understanding is he's on a flight out of India pretty quickly as well," Stead was quoted as saying by 'stuff.co.nz'. 'I don't know how long it's going to take him to get back to New Zealand or where he's heading via, but it's great news for Tim, that for a start his health is on the improve anyway, to the point where he's not testing positive anymore," added the head coach. As per the report, an NZ Cricket spokesperson also confirmed that Seifert had left India to begin his journey home. Earlier, after testing positive Seifert was awaiting his transfer to Chennai, where he was to be treated in the same private hospital in which former Australia player Michael Hussey. The 26-year-old Seifert has played 3 ODIs and 35 T20 Internationals for his team.

BCCI paying for Australian players' quarantine: Cricket Australia chief

Cricket Australia's (CA) interim Chief Executive Nick Hockley has confirmed that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is funding the Australian IPL cricketers` quarantine stay in Sydney. The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2021 season was suspended on May 4 due to a rising number of COVID-19 cases and the entire Australian contingent had travelled to the Maldives due to a travel ban from India. Forty members of the Australian contingent stranded in the Maldives made their way to home soil on Monday. There were reports of preferential treatment being given to the Australian players who arrived back home from the Maldives but Hockley confirmed that BCCI had paid for the whole operation. "Yes," Hockley answered when asked by The Age and the Sydney Morning Herald whether the BCCI was funding the quarantine stay of Australian players. "BCCI at the outset committed to ensuring that they got home safely and as quickly as possible. We've been working closely with them. They`ve been fantastic. They`ve delivered on that promise," he added.Earlier this month, BCCI had said it will do everything in its power to arrange for the secure and safe passage of all the participants in IPL 2021. Hockley praised the Indian counterparts for doing what they committed and appreciated the efforts of the BCCI."The BCCI are fulfilling on their commitments.



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Call Peel Region Helpline

앞 905-799-7700

For support in English (Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm)



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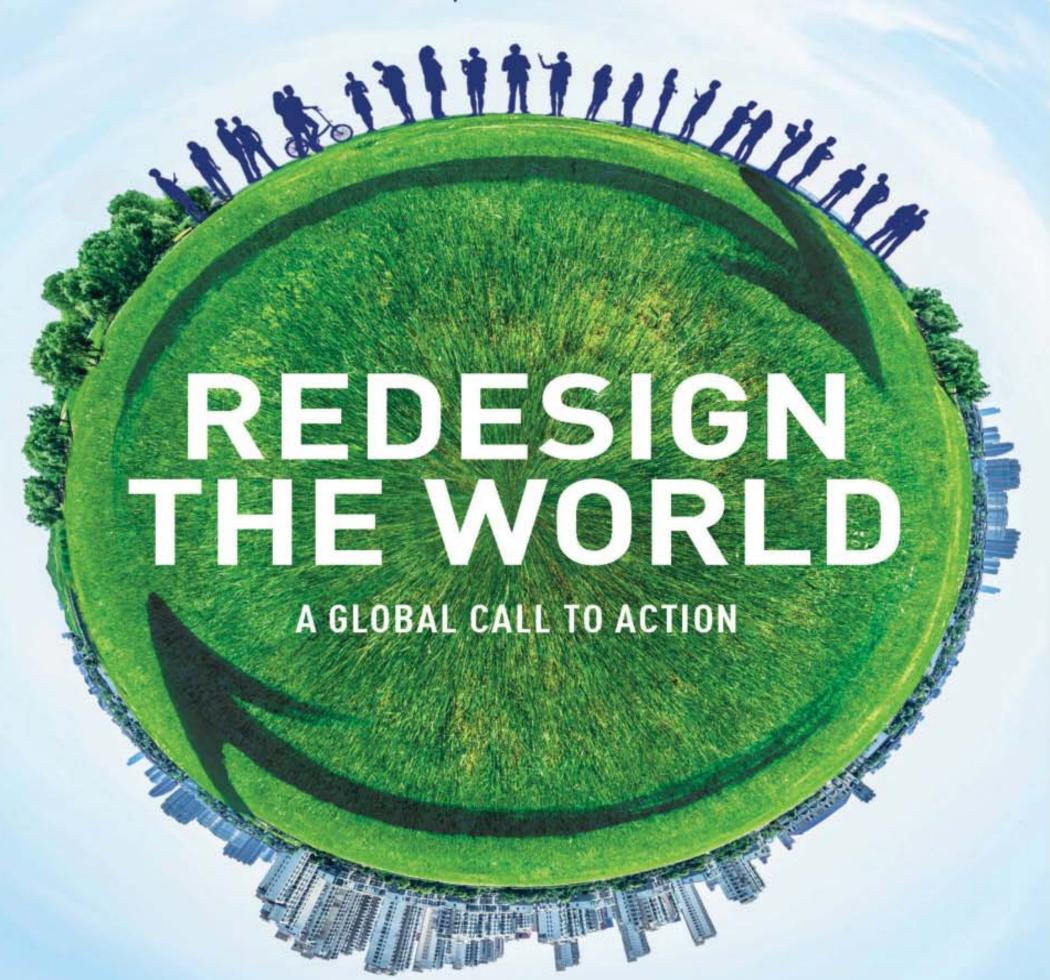




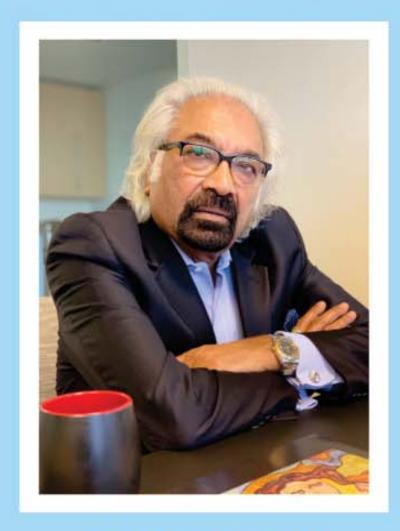


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