



Thiruvananthapuram: India batter Jemimah Rodrigues was ruled out of selection for the fourth women's T20I against Sri Lanka at the Greenfield International Stadium due to weakness from a mild fever, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) said on Sunday.

"Ms Jemimah Rodrigues was unavailable for selection in the 4th T20I in Thiruvananthapuram due to weakness arising from mild fever. The BCCI Medical Team is closely monitoring her progress and recovery," said the BCCI in a statement. In place of Jemimah, batting all-rounder Harleen Deol has come into the playing eleven for the match, where India will bat first against Sri Lanka for the first time in the ongoing series, with the hosts having an unassailable 3-0 lead. Jemimah made scores of 69 not out, 26, and nine, and sits as the second leading run-getter in the series after opener Shafali Verma. The unbeaten 69 also led

to Jemimah jumping five places to be at number nine in the women's T20I batting rankings.

Despite missing out on Sunday's clash, Jemimah has enjoyed a standout 2025, ranking third among India's run-scorers – 771 runs in ODIs and 212 runs in T20Is. She played a pivotal role in India's maiden ODI World Cup triumph, striking an unbeaten 127 against Australia in the semi-final before the team overcame South Africa in the final to lift the title at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai. Earlier this month, Jemimah was appointed as captain of Delhi Capitals ahead of the fourth season of the Women's Premier League (WPL), replacing Meg Lanning in the role. Meg had led DC to the final in each of the first three editions of the tournament, where Jemimah was the vice-captain, but was not retained by the franchise for the upcoming season.

Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team cap off a successful 2025 with two major international medals



AGENCY
NEW DELHI: The Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team signed off 2025 as a highly successful year, marked by two major international medals and a structured build-up towards the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup Tamil Nadu 2025 held in December.

The foundation of the campaign was laid through a series of intensive national training camps held throughout the year under the guidance of PR Sreejesh. Through these camps, the coach built a squad and prepared the players to be at their best as the season progressed towards the Junior World Cup in December, as per a press release from Hockey India.

India's competitive build-up began with the Four Nations Tournament in June, which served as an important preparatory assignment against quality European opposition. Facing hosts Germany along with Spain, and

ued its World Cup preparations.

Next, they carried the momentum and learnings into the 2025 Sultan of Johor Cup in October, where India produced a strong and consistent run to claim the Silver Medal. The team registered important victories over Great Britain, New Zealand and Malaysia and also played out a 3-3 draw against Pakistan, and progressed to the Final after a composed league stage performance. In the title clash, India conceded an unfortunate goal in the 59th minute and lost 1-2 to Australia and settled for the Silver Medal.

All the preparation led the side to the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup Tamil Nadu 2025, the most important assignment of the season, where India delivered a memorable campaign on home soil. India began their campaign with three comfortable wins in the Pool Stage over Chile, Oman and Switzerland, respectively and entered the knockout rounds.

The Quarter-Final proved to be a defining moment, as the Indian team held their nerve and defeated Belgium 4-3 in shootout to book a place in the Semi-Finals. Goalkeeper Prince Deep Singh showed incredible class and valour with two crucial saves in the shootout to ensure India progressed ahead in the tournament.

Unfortunately, India lost 1-5 in the Semi-Final against champions Germany but responded with character in the 3rd/4th place playoff, producing an incredible comeback against Argentina to secure the bronze medal.

NEWS BRIEF

Gujarat Titans' bet on Holder is interesting, his six-hitting abilities have improved, says Pathan

New Delhi: Former India left-arm pacer Irfan Pathan said Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022 champions Gujarat Titans (GT) have shown immense faith in West Indies' fast bowling all-rounder Jason Holder, noting that his improved six-hitting ability alongside his new-ball bowling will benefit the side in the 2026 season.

Holder has been a familiar face in the Indian Premier League, having previously represented Chennai Super Kings, Sunrisers Hyderabad, Kolkata Knight Riders, Lucknow Super Giants, and Rajasthan Royals. In the auction held in Abu Dhabi, GT aggressively pursued Holder and eventually got him for Rs 7 crore after a prolonged tussle with CSK.

"Their bet on Jason Holder is interesting. He is an amazing bowler with the new ball, but his batting has improved, especially his six-hitting abilities. GT has put a lot of faith in that. Their main strength is their top three batters: Shubman Gill, Sai Sudharsan, and Jos Buttler.

"How they use Washington Sundar will be important, as his batting has gotten better, too. The role of Glenn Phillips, or whoever plays at number four or five, will also be very big," said Pathan on JioStar.

Ex-India opener Abhinav Mukund explained the reasoning behind GT's preference for left-arm pacers and all-rounders like Holder in making their IPL 2026 squad. "Gujarat Titans love fast bowlers, especially left-arm pacers like Pritiviraj Yarra and Luke Wood. Ashok Sharma had a great Syed Musthak Ali season.

"But Jason Holder is there because they need someone to bat and finish innings at number six or seven, and bowl a couple of overs. They want someone to finish at the death. The team is so strong at the top that they felt they needed this.

Had it been 2mm shorter, it might have been alright: Smith gives his take on under-fire MCG pitch

Melbourne: Australia stand-in skipper Steve Smith gave his take on the MCG wicket after the Boxing Day Test lasted just two days, with England winning by four wickets. He said that had the 10mm grass been 2mm shorter, it might have made a difference in the match.

The Melbourne Cricket Ground pitch came under the scanner after the Boxing Day Ashes Test between Australia and England finished in two days. As many as 36 wickets fell in 142 overs. It lasted for 952 balls, just five more than the series opener in Perth.

"It obviously offered a lot, 36 wickets in two days, it offered plenty. Had it been either 2mm shorter or a little less thatchy with 10mm, it might have been alright, but I'm not a groundsman, so it's hard to judge. But it did look like it was going to offer a fair amount, probably a little more than I thought it would. I think the groundsman is always learning, but he's produced some pretty good wickets in the last two years," Smith told SEN Cricket.

The MCG has previously been criticised for producing flat wickets that favoured batting, most notably during the 2017 Ashes Test, when only 24 wickets fell over five days. That surface drew widespread criticism, prompting match referee Ranjan Madugalle to issue a "poor" rating in his official assessment report. "I think when I started, we didn't have too many wickets like this, when I started, the MCG used to be run tickets, but that's changed a bit over the last four or five years. It's probably changed more into a better cricket wicket where bat and ball are competing against each other. The game's changed in terms of the aggression batters use... if 10 years ago you saw Harry Brook come out and bat like that, you'd think.

Brett Lee inducted to Australian Cricket Hall of Fame

New Delhi: Former fast bowler Brett Lee has been inducted into the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame. The announcement was made on Sunday, honouring his impressive international career characterised by exceptional pace, durability, and notable sportsmanship.

At 49, Lee is considered one of the quickest bowlers in history, alongside Shoaib Akhtar. He represented Australia from 1999 to 2012, playing 76 Tests, 221 ODIs, and 25 T20Is. Throughout his career across all formats, he took a total of 718 wickets. In Tests, he claimed 310 wickets, while in ODIs and T20Is, he took 221 and 38 wickets respectively. The former pacer was a significant pioneer of the early years of the T20 format, playing for several teams globally, including the Sydney Sixers in the Big Bash League. He was part of the Sixers team that secured the first Big Bash League title. During his career in Australia, Lee contributed to three World Cup-winning teams in 1999, 2003, and 2007.

Head reveals he reached out to Duckett after Noosa backlash 'to see if he was going alright'



AGENCY
MELBOURNE: Australia opener Travis Head said he reached out to England's Ben Duckett after a social media video surfaced before the Melbourne Test that appeared to show Duckett intoxicated.

England's managing director, Rob Key, had mentioned that the board had initiated an investigation following reports of players drinking heavily during a break in Noosa, a beach town, between the second and third Tests.

A viral social media video also appeared to show England opener

series, after losses in Perth and Brisbane.

It was reported that several players spent a significant amount of their time drinking on the Queensland coast and also on two prior days in Brisbane, where the second Test was held.

Although England played the second Test better than the Ashes opener, they lost the following Test in Adelaide, which led to Australia winning the series.

England ended an 18-match winless streak in Australia and prevented an Ashes clean sweep during a remarkable and bizarre two-day Test in Melbourne. During one of the most unusual matches in cricket history, England needed 175 runs to win on the second evening of the fourth Test, bringing the series to 3-1 ahead of the final match in Sydney.

In tough batting conditions, England's Bazzballers thrived in the chaos, finally finding a situation in Australia that suited their freewheeling style. They achieved their target in 33 overs, with England's four-wicket win thrilling the thousands of travelling fans who now have something to celebrate after a largely disappointing tour.

Novelty of Rashid Khan has worn off a little, not as intimidating as before, says Kumble ahead of IPL 2026



NEW DELHI: Former India captain Anil Kumble believes IPL 2022 winners Gujarat Titans (GT) can no longer lean heavily on leg-spinner

Rashid Khan, saying that the Afghanistan star's impact has diminished and the novelty factor has 'worn off a little'.

GT, who bowed out in the Eliminator of IPL 2025, boasted one of the strongest bowling units, but Rashid endured his poorest campaign in the competition. He managed to pick only nine wickets at an average of 57.11 and an economy rate of 9.35. Rashid also conceded 33 sixes - the most by any bowler in a single IPL season - as batters found ways to dominate him.

Kumble also felt the Shubman Gill-led franchise would need greater contributions from left-arm spinner R Sai Kishore, as well as off-spin bowling all-rounders Washington Sundar and Rahul Tewatia, to remain competitive in IPL 2026.

"I think the novelty of Rashid Khan has worn off a little. There are many similar bowlers available now, so he is no longer as intimidating as he was before. His workload has to be managed more, along with bowlers like Sai

Kishore. Even Rahul Tewatia and Washington Sundar can contribute more for GT this season," said Kumble, a former RCB player and ex-Punjab Kings head coach, on JioStar.

Rashid's returns for GT in IPL 2024 were also modest, picking 10 wickets in 12 matches at an average of 36.70 and an economy rate of 8.40. He started his journey in the IPL with Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) in 2017, before moving to GT in 2022, and played a pivotal role in them winning the title in their debut season.

Rashid has linked his prolonged struggles in T20 cricket to the back surgery he underwent in 2023, following his participation in the Men's ODI World Cup in India. He returned to action only months after the operation, never giving himself sufficient time to regain his bowling rhythm and accuracy.

Yuvraj Sandhu makes it a record seven titles in 2025 after thrilling one-shot triumph



AGENCY
JAMSHEDPUR: Yuvraj Sandhu, who had already secured the 2025 PGTI Order of Merit crown following his sixth victory of the season two weeks back, added another feather to his cap with a one-stroke triumph in the Tata Open 2025 to make it a record seven titles in the season.

The 28-year-old Yuvraj (67-64-68-65), the overnight joint leader, shot a final round score of six-under 65, highlighted by his match-winning birdie on the last hole to total 20-under 264 for the week at the INR 2

crore event, the PGTI's season finale, played at the Beldih and Galmuri Golf Courses in Jamshedpur on Sunday. Chandigarh-based Sandhu, who has now earned his card for the DP World Tour for 2026 by virtue of topping the PGTI Ranking, set a new record for most wins in a single season on the PGTI. Two weeks back in Delhi, Yuvraj had equalled the previous record of six wins in a season held by Manu Gandas since 2022.

The 21-year-old Shubham Jaglan (68-66-65-66), the overnight joint leader along with Yuvraj, came up

with a bogey-free five-under 66 in round four to total 19-under 265 for the week and register his second runner-up finish on the PGTI in only his third appearance on the tour. Khalin Joshi (66) and Veer Ahlawat (66) finished third at totals of 14-under 270.

Yuvraj Sandhu picked up the winning cheque worth INR 30 lakh to take his season's earnings to a whopping INR 1,91,67,100, thus smashing the previous record for season's earnings on the PGTI set at INR 1,56,35,724 by Veer Ahlawat in 2024. Yuvraj, who hails from the Chandigarh Golf Club, won seven titles and posted seven other top-10s this season, including three runner-up finishes.

Sri Lankan N. Thangaraja, a three-time winner on the PGTI this year, finished a distant second on the PGTI Ranking with season's earnings of INR 1,18,21,821. Thangaraja secured fifth place at Jamshedpur this week as he tallied 13-under 271. In rounds one and two, one half of the field played its 18 holes at Beldih Golf Club while the other half of the field played its 18 holes at the Galmuri Golf Club. In rounds three and four, the leading groups played their front-nine at Galmuri before moving to Beldih to play their back-nine. The par for Galmuri and Beldih combined was 71.

Yuvraj Sandhu was quick off the blocks with birdies on the first two holes. Yuvraj, who kept converting putts from a range of seven to eight feet with relative ease, then collected two more birdies on the sixth and ninth. Sandhu's two bogeys on the back nine could not upset his rhythm as he earned three birdies courtesy of his immaculate ball-striking and before delivering the knock-out punch with his 15-foot birdie conversion on the 18th.

Gurugram-based Shubham Jaglan, who

turned professional earlier this year, was neck and neck with Sandhu for most of the day as the former made three birdies on the front nine and added two more on the back nine. Shubham, who had played at Galmuri as a junior but never played at Beldih earlier, was edged out of title contention by Yuvraj's decisive birdie on the 18th. "I was determined to end the season with a good performance, and I'm glad that I managed to achieve that today. Hats off to Shubham for

competing hard and pushing me till the end. He played really well and is destined for bigger things, Yuvraj said. "Standing on the birdie putt on the last hole, I just wanted to put enough pace on it as I had left some putts short earlier in the week. The line and speed of the putt turned out to be perfect. "This has been my best season ever, and winning a record seven titles has been special. It's yet to sink in. It is always good to have records in your name.

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Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules, 2002
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis. The details of the cases are as under.

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagors	Dues As on	Date & Amount of 13(2)Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Description of Property	Reserve Price For Property	Earnest Money For Property	Date & Time of Auction	Place of Tender Submission, Tender Open & Auction at Aavas Financiers Ltd.
GEETA GEETA, PRADEEP PRADEEP, RAMDIYA RAMDIYA (AC NO.) LNNR00619-200123597	Rs. 9,18,501.00/- DUES AS ON 23 DEC 2025	06 JUN 2025 Rs. 821019/- DUES AS ON 04 JUN 2025	4 NOV 25	1/3 PART OF THE MINJUMLA LAND O KANAL 10 MARLA, KH. NO-983-984 MANDRAJ KHEWAT NO-0-1796 JAMABANDI YEAR 2013-14 INTKAL NO-10514, WAKA BHOOMI GRAM- KEORAK TESHIL & DIST- KATHAL HARYANA 136027 ADMEASURING 100 SQ.YRDS	Rs. 1084500/-	Rs. 108450/-	11.00 AM TO 01.00 PM 29 JAN 2026	2ND FLOOR, SCO-4, SECTOR-17, KURUKSHETRA-136118, HARYANA-INDIA

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Place : HARYANA Date : 29-12-2025

Authorised Officer Aavas Financiers Limited