

## He didn't mean that

### Cricket

AFP, Hobart

Indian captain Saurav Ganguly on Sunday denied claiming that India could be considered the world's No.1 Test cricket team if it beats Australia in the series.

India goes to the Melbourne Boxing Day Test 1-0 up after winning the second Adelaide Test by four wickets last Tuesday.

After that victory, Ganguly appeared to suggest that if India won the four-Test series then its team could be regarded as the best in the world.

India are sixth on the International Cricket Council's World Test Championship table and at best can jump to third if they win the series-3.

After his team drew the three-day match against Australia A here on

Sunday, Ganguly said his comments were indicative of where India was aiming, not where it would be.

"We're not number one, that's for sure because the number one team is Australia," Ganguly said when pressed on the issue.

"I don't know what people have understood when I said we wanted to be at the top because any side should look to be the best."

Ganguly went on to praise Australia for the way it has played under Steve Waugh and Ricky Ponting in the one-day game.

"The way they've played over the last few years has been phenomenal, winning 16 Test matches in a row and winning a World Cup without dropping a match."

"But you have to give us credit because if any side has competed well against Australia in the past three or four years it's been India."

"That's a good sign for us because we are a young side so if we can compete with the best side in the world we should be thinking of getting close to being termed a very strong side."

"But we have some high standards to match because the standards set for Australia in the last five years under Steve (Waugh) and under (Ricky) Ponting in the one-day arena have been phenomenal."

Ganguly said he was happy with what his team had gained from the three-day match here.

He said Sachin Tendulkar was starting to hit the ball well "which is a good sign" and praised opener Akash Chopra for his doggedness after he made 25 on Sunday in a two-hour stint in which he took 64 minutes and Malek beat Shadul Islam.

Bangladesh Ansars are in the third position with 36.5 points.

In the other matches: Titas Club beat Dhaka University Chess Team by 3-1, Destiny 2000 Limited beat Farashganj Sporting Club by 2.5-1.5, Sonali Bank beat Anushilan Dabla Kira Chakrabarty 4-0, Kamalpur Samaj Kallayan and Krira Sangha drew with Nakhalpara Jubo Kallayan Sangha by 2-2 and Narayanganj City Chess Club drew with Fighter Krira Chakrabarty by 2-2 points.

### Abahani thank

FROM PAGE 13

Victoria D, who then fired an unstoppable angular shot past Raju (2-0).

**Red Card:** Idris (Victoria).

**Yellow cards:** Pranotosh, Joy and Maxim (Abahani), Mehedi and Gobinda (Victoria).

Clarke ton

FROM PAGE 13

December 26.

### SCOREBOARD

Final Scorecard at stumps Sunday on the third and final day of three-day match between Australia A and India at Bellerive Oval here:

**AUSTRALIA A:** First innings 311 for 5 declared (Love 94, Rogers 70, Hussey 67)

**INDIA:** First innings 245 (Patel 49, Chopra 46; Nicholson 4-23, Tait 3-85)

**AUSTRALIA A:** Second innings

Rogers c Chopra b Balaji 2

Hussey c Tendulkar b Pathan 7

Love b Balaji 11

Hodge b Pathan 33

Clarke not out 131

White c Dasgupta b Nehra 5

Seccombe c Schwag b Kartik 27

Nicholson c Patel b Balaji 7

Wright not out 10

Patel (b-1,lb-3, nb-2, w-3) 12

Total: (For 4 wkt in 70 overs) 112

Fall of wickets: 1-26, 2-43, 3-45, 4-46

**Bowler:** O M R W

Bikas 11 1 33 0

Anisur 11 1 26 1

Jamal 9 3 17 0

Kamal 11.3 1 27 2

Mustadir 24 4 62 1

Arman 18 3 50 1

Imran 1 0 1 0

Clarke not out 131

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Total: (For 4 wkt in 70 overs) 112

Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-9, 3-28, 4-97, 5-112, 6-150, 7-195

**Bowler:** O M R W

Pathan 14 1 40 2

Balaji 22 2 87 3

Kartik 12 3 53 1

Nehra 15 0 49 1

Tendulkar 2 0 10 0

**INDIA:** Second innings

Chopra c Seccombe b Rofe 25

Ramesh c Hussey b Wright 22

Dasgupta not out 19

Patel not out 0

Total: (For 2 wkt in 33 overs) 66

Fall of wickets: 1-22, 2-66

**Bowler:** O M R W

Nicholson 8 5 19 0

Wright 8 4 17 1

Tait 5 1 22 0

Rofe 8 4 5 1

White 4 2 3 0

**Result:** Match drawn.

**Man-of-the-match:** Tushar Imran (Khulna)

**Man-of-the-match:** Parvez Ahmed (Sylhet)

**CHITTAGONG:** First innings 134 all out in 65.3 overs (Faisal 52, Masum 29, Azam 27; Rafique 6-45, Mahmud 3-31)

**DHAKA:** Second innings (overnight 220-6 in 67 overs)

Rashedul runout 12

Al Shahriar c Anisul b Sabir 87

Sanwar c Sabir b Sabir 52

Halim c Masum b Sabir 8

Naimur c sub b Sabir 38

Neeyamur c sub b Arifat 8

Sajjad not out 33

Mahmud b Arifat 45

Fahim b Arifat 17

Rafique lbw b Arifat 3

Extras: (b-12,lb-2,w-1) 15

Total: (For 9 wkt in 89.4 overs dec) 318

Fall of wkt: 1-29, 2-145, 3-160, 4-198, 5-211, 6-211, 7-289, 8-314, 9-318

**Bowler:** O M R W

Alamgir 13 2 46 0

Sabir 37 7 106 4

Arafat 30.4 5 126 4

Faisal 2 0 9 0

Debabrata 7 3 17 0

**CHITTAGONG:** Second innings

Anisul b Sabir 3

Masum c Al-Shahriar b Rafique 4

Azam c & b Rafique 12

Faisal c Rashedul b Naimur 43

Akram b Naimur 1

Minhazul c Naimur b Rafique 10

Sabir b Naimur 4

Shabirul c Naimur b Rafique 0

Arafat not out 14

Alamgir b Naimur 1

Dababroto c Mahmud b Naimur 4

Extras: (lb-4,w-1) 5

Total: (All out in 37.2 overs) 101

**RAJSHAHI VS SYLHET:** First innings 102 all out in 85.1 overs (Parvez 31, Hadi 19, Moula 12; Aminul 2-7, Shahjada 3-23, Saifullah 4-43)

**RAJSHAHI:** First innings 200 for nine dec in 81.2 overs (Nuruzzaman 26, Hasnuzzaman 77, Shamsul 33 n.o., Tapash 2-37, Nabil 5-41, Wadud 2-26)

**RAJSHAHI:** Second innings 233 all out in 97 overs (Parvez 91, Himmel 36, Tushar 34, Nasirul 24; Saifullah 3-83, Shahjada 3-41)

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