

# Older and hungrier

## Cricket

AFP, Faisalabad

At a age when most elite cricketers are past their use-by date, Sri Lankan opener Sanath Jayasuriya blasted a Test century against Pakistan on Friday and declared he was as hungry as ever.

"You are motivated when you play for your country, it's something some other people don't get. Whenever I play for my country it's always unique and I am very proud and I always want to perform," the 35-year-old said after his unbeaten 131.

Jayasuriya's century was his 13th in the long version of the game and brought him to within just 229 runs of overtaking Aravinda de Silva's record as the most prolific scorer for Sri Lanka in Test cricket.

De Silva scored 6,361 runs in 93 Tests, while Jayasuriya has scored 6,133 in the same number of matches.

Jayasuriya's performance on the third day of first Test on Friday helped give Sri Lanka a commanding 264-run lead over Pakistan with seven wickets in hand.

"I think with my hundred, and I think Kumar (Sangakkara) and Mahela (Jayawardene) played good innings, we are on top at the moment," Jayasuriya said.

Jayasuriya teamed with Sangakkara, who scored 59, for a 98-run second-wicket partnership, and with Jayawardene, 57, to put on 118 runs for the third wicket.

Known as the master blaster for his hard hitting, Jayasuriya curbed his instincts after express Pakistan pace bowler Shoaib Akhtar dismissed skipper Marvan Atapattu for

a duck in the first over.

"A 100 is always important in your career and it's an important

innings for me and I am happy the way I got it," he said.

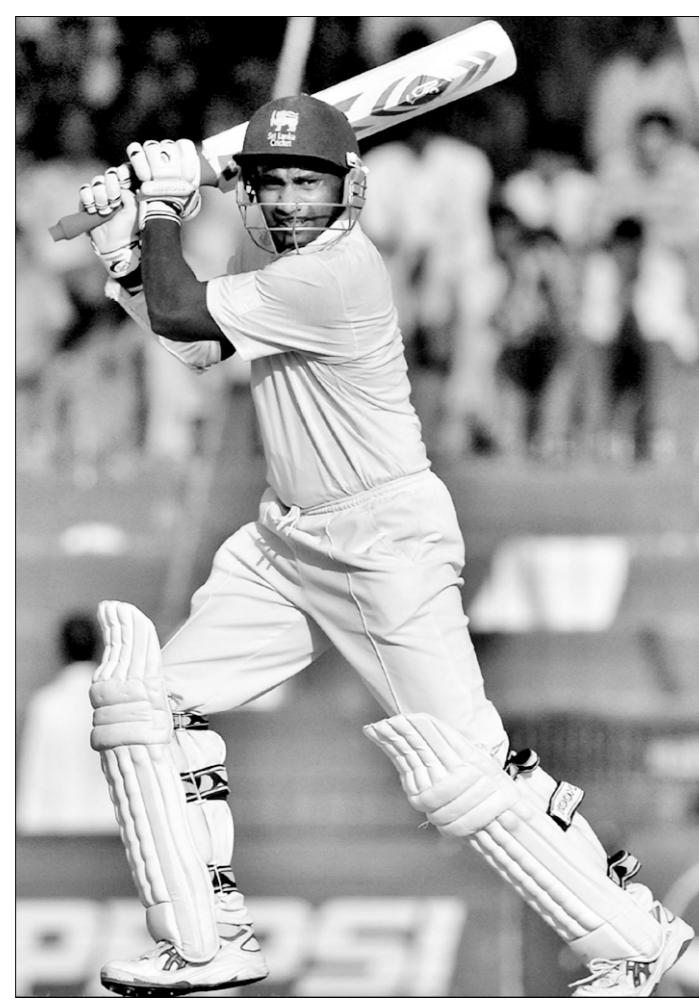


PHOTO: AFP

SUPERB SANATH: Sri Lanka opener Sanath Jayasuriya follows through on a square-drive on way to scoring an unbeaten 131 on the third day of the first Test against Pakistan at Faisalabad yesterday.

## Chucking meet next week

## Cricket

AFP/REUTERS, Faisalabad

The International Cricket Council (ICC) said Friday its "comprehensive review" of illegal bowling would begin next week in Dubai with a high-profile committee meeting involving former players.

The meeting of experts will be held on October 25-26 to review its process of dealing with suspect bowling action reports.

Sri Lanka's Aravinda de Silva, England's Angus Fraser and Tony Lewis, West Indian Michael Holding and Australian Tim May will discuss the issue with ICC general manager David Richardson and a panel of human movement specialists.

The meeting is the first for the committee, which is charged with reviewing the ICC's system for dealing with potentially flawed bowling actions, the ICC said in a statement received here during the first Test between Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

"This is the first stage of a comprehensive review of bowling

actions," the statement said.

The Dubai meeting will study a report on bowlers from last month's ICC Champions Trophy tournament as well as the findings of biomedical experts who have investigated previous suspect actions.

The statement said the committee would make recommendations on any required changes, which would be submitted to a November meeting of the full ICC Cricket Committee, of which Fraser, De Silva and May are also members.

The Cricket Committee, which is chaired by former Indian batsman Sunil Gavaskar, will make the final recommendations on any changes to the ICC chief executives committee.

Throwing or 'chucking', which is illegal in bowling, has been a persistent problem for the ICC, with the ruling body's handling of the issue often a cause of controversy.

The current review is part of its determination to define a strict set of rules on the issue.

Sri Lanka's magical off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan's action has come under the closest scrutiny in recent years.

He was no-balled for throwing during games in Australia, but was finally cleared after it was scientifically proved he had a congenital deformity in his bowling arm.

Pakistan's express pacer Shoaib Akhtar, reported three times for a suspect action, was cleared on the same grounds.

"I would blame the ICC over the issue, it's chucking or it's not chucking," former Pakistan paceman Waqar Younis said last week, reflecting discontent among players over the confusion.

Pakistani off-spinner Shoaib Malik became the latest to be forced to undergo chucking corrective measures after he was reported last week.

Current rules allow spinners to bend their arms five degrees while delivering -- half that allowed for fast bowlers.

The sub-committee is expected to conclude that the current tolerance levels should be increased after analysis showed that a considerable number of international bowlers are exceeding the permitted levels of arm-bend.

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