

India remain unchanged

AFP, Kanpur

India have retained their squad for the second Test against South Africa starting from Sunday, a top cricket official said here Wednesday.

"The selectors have decided not to make any change in the team for the second Test to be played in Kolkata," said board secretary Karunakaran Nair.

India will then undertake a tour of Bangladesh next month, the team for which will be announced during the Kolkata Test.

"The team to tour Bangladesh will be announced on November 30," said Nair.

India leave for Bangladesh on December 7 to play two Tests and three one-dayers.

The squad: Sourav Ganguly (capt), Rahul Dravid, Virender Sehwag, Gautam Gambhir, Sachin Tendulkar, Venkatesh Lakman, Dinesh Karthik, Mohammad Kaif, Anil Kumble, Harbhajan Singh, Murali Kartik, Irfan Pathan, Zaheer Khan, Ashish Nehra.

No retirement plan for Lehmann

INTERNET SOURCE

Darren Lehmann has rejected talk of retiring after the Adelaide Test against New Zealand and wants to stay until next year's Ashes tour.

Lehmann was picked for the first game ahead of Simon Katich and will look to secure his place on his home ground from Friday after making just eight at Brisbane.

"I'm definitely not retiring," Lehmann told reporters as he arrived in Adelaide. "If I'm enjoying cricket I'll keep playing and I certainly am enjoying playing -- so there's no thoughts of that in my mind at all."

Lehmann also said his teammates had spoken to Adam Gilchrist, who has been under heavy scrutiny following his walking disagreement with Craig McMillan in the first Test.

"We'll support him in whichever way he goes and whatever help he needs he'll get it," Lehmann said.

James Sutherland, Cricket Australia's chief executive, said the walking debate had been "blown out of proportion" and Gilchrist did not deserve to be at the centre of it.

Despite playing several seasons for Yorkshire, Lehmann has never been on an Ashes tour and wants to make the trip next year.

"That's the whole goal," he said. "I want to get there and play a full Ashes tour."

Charity race

AFP, Adelaide

A charity foot race between the two slowest members of the Australian and New Zealand cricket teams for this week's Adelaide Test here has been arranged with full-length body suits.

Kiwi opening batsman Mark Richardson has challenged senior Aussie batsman Darren Lehmann to a 100-metre race on Adelaide Oval after the second Test, which gets underway here on Friday.

A figure-hugging, full-length body suit is being couriered from New Zealand, replete in bright yellow and green colours for Lehmann, known as 'Boof' to don, while Richardson sports a skin-tight 1980s beige and brown NZ one-day outfit, complete with Cathy Freeman-stylehood.

Boof v Rig was given the green light last Wednesday when Lehmann said he would, fitness permitting, answer Richardson's challenge.

Dour left-hander and noted prankster Richardson, nicknamed Rig (as in rigor mortis), throws down the gauntlet to the slowest member of the opposition after every New Zealand Test series.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

