

## Ganguly days all but over

AFP, New Delhi

The Indian media on Wednesday predicted the end of Sourav Ganguly's cricket career after the former captain failed miserably in a trial one-day series.

The left-hander, making a last-ditch attempt to regain his place in the Indian team, made 24 and three in the two matches he played in the domestic Challenger series in Chennai over the last three days.

Ganguly, playing for India B, slashed a catch to point off Munaf Patel in the first match on Monday against India Seniors captained by Rahul Dravid.

In the second game against India A on Tuesday, he was bowled by Test seamer Shanthakumaran Sreesanth for three.

Ganguly was Wednesday left out of the Rest of India squad for another trial fixture, the five-day Irani Cup match against Ranji Trophy champions Uttar Pradesh starting in Nagpur from October 9.

"Sourav's name was discussed, but he will have to do well in other domestic matches to stay in contention," India's new chief selector Dilip Vengsarkar, a former Test captain, told reporters.

Television channels ran special programmes to highlight Ganguly's failures and the mass-circulating Hindustan Times newspaper said the Challenger series may have dealt the final blow.

"This effort pushes him back to a point from where comeback doors seem to be closed, forever," the newspaper said.

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## Epillion

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players' jersey and on their practice kits.

"It is a lifetime opportunity for us. The idea of our logo carried by the national team gives us immense pleasure and makes us really proud," said Epillion Group managing director and BCB joint-secretary Reazuddin Al Mamun.

Meanwhile, Mahbub Anam informed that the BCB will invite open tenders for TV rights for the next five years within a week.

"The deadline to submit tenders would be October 31. It would be a two-folder tender with technical evaluation and financial offer," said the BCB general secretary.

"The tenders would be opened in front BCB officials and the media," he said adding that a BCB appointed agent will handle the deal.

## Lampard

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and not take to heart what is being said, because we all doubt ourselves in certain moments.

"I had a few weeks off and now I just want to work hard. The only way you can put things right is on the pitch," Lampard added on BBC Radio Five Live.

## About time

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English county cricket by batsmen such as Lou Vincent and Hamish Marshall, who were among those who struggled last season.

Marshall could average only 17.43 from 18 one-day innings during the last New Zealand summer season but has performed well for Gloucestershire over the northern summer, averaging just under 61.

"We are confident he will deliver on the faith we have shown in him," Bracewell said.

New Zealand is ranked fourth in the international one day rankings behind Australia, South Africa and Pakistan. Under Fleming, New Zealand has made the most of their limited resources in the shorter form of the game compared to Test cricket, where they are ranked seventh.

New Zealand's opening match at the Champions Trophy is against South Africa on October 15.

## WI look on

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and we have no doubt that he will be firing on all cylinders," King said.

"At the camp we've been concentrating a lot on our batting," King said.

"Because of the tournament in Malaysia we need to spend more time on the part of the game that we were weakest and that's the batting."



Netherlands' Sylvia Karres (L) takes the ball away from Germany's Marion Rodewald during Women's World Cup Hockey match in Madrid on Wednesday. The match ended 0-0.

## Dutch cruise into semis

### Hockey

AFP, Madrid

The Netherlands maintained their unbeaten record in its pool games after eking out a 0-0 draw with Germany in the women's field hockey World Cup here on Wednesday.

Dutch coach Marc Lammers was in an understandably buoyant mood about his team after the game, and said thoughts had now turned to the possible semifinal line-up, which will be decided after Wednesday's games between Spain and England, and Argentina and Australia.

"We don't care who we play in the semifinals, both Argentina and Australia are good teams," Lammers said.

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