

SPORT

After 28 years it came

AFP, London

India's 95-run victory against England on Monday was only the second time in 17 matches stretching back 82 years that they had won a Test at Lord's.

The success of Mahendra Singh Dhoni's men, which put them 1-0 up in the five-match series following the drawn opener at Trent Bridge, saw them follow Kapil Dev's 1986 team as a winning India Test side at the 'home of cricket'.

India's Test record at Lord's now stands at played 17, won two, drawn 11 and lost four.

Below is the breakdown of their record in Tests against England at Lord's:

- 1932: Lost 158 runs
- 1936: Lost 9 wkts
- 1946: Lost 10 wkts
- 1952: Lost 8 wkts
- 1959: Lost 8 wkts
- 1967: Lost Inns and 124 runs
- 1971: Drawn
- 1974: Lost inns and 285 runs
- 1979: Drawn
- 1982: Lost 7 wkts
- 1986: Won 5 wkts
- 1990: Lost 247 runs
- 1996: Drawn
- 2002: Lost 170 runs
- 2007: Drawn
- 2011: Lost 196 runs
- 2014: Won 95 runs



Ishant Sharma (C) is the toast of his teammates after the India pacer took the wicket of England's Ben Stokes (L) for nought on the fifth day of the second Test at Lord's in London yesterday. Sharma scripted India's win with seven wickets in the second innings. PHOTO: AFP

Back pain rules Siddikur out

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh's ace golfer Siddikur Rahman will miss this month's M2M Russian Open due to a back injury he picked up while exercising in the gymnasium.

Siddikur had been preparing for the Russian Open, to be held in Moscow from July 24-27, but he suddenly felt pain in his waist and was advised to rest for 15 days by his doctor.

"It is unfortunate that I can't take part in the Russian Open because of back pain. I request all my well-wishers to pray for my immediate recovery," said Siddikur in a statement yesterday.

Zia wins one

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman returned to winning ways in the XVI Obert International Sant Marti Chess when he beat IM Gomez Ledo Robert Carlos of Cuba in the eighth round held in Barcelona, Spain on Sunday.

Court orders fresh PCB election

AFP, Lahore

Pakistan's Supreme Court on Monday ordered cricket authorities to hold fresh elections within a week to end a 14-month administrative crisis that has sparked international ridicule.

The saga began in May last year when the then-chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), Zaka Ashraf, was suspended for holding dubious elections.

Since then, Ashraf and journalist Najam Sethi have been engaged in a power struggle for the top job. Each was reinstated in turn while the other was thrown out of office through a series of court rulings and government decrees.

Sethi is the current chairman, having been restored for the third time earlier this month.

Ishant brings Lord's win

AFP, London

Ishant Sharma took seven wickets as India ended a run of 15 Tests without an away victory courtesy of a 95-run win over England at Lord's on Monday.

This victory, only India's second in 17 Tests at Lord's, put the tourists 1-0 up in the five-match series ahead of the third Test in Southampton on Sunday after the first Test in Nottingham was drawn.

England, set 319 for victory, collapsed to 223 all out on Monday's final day.

Sharma took four wickets for nine runs in 21 balls after lunch as a succession of England batsmen were undone by his bouncer.

In total, the 25-year-old finished with a Test-best seven for 74 to win the player-of-the-match award.

"We are going to enjoy this, then we go to Southampton where we will aim to play the same cricket that we played at Lord's and Nottingham," Sharma said.

This result extended England's run without a Test win to 10 successive matches.

However, under-pressure England captain Alastair Cook said he would not quit as skipper.

"It gets harder and harder the more we don't win and of course

that heaps on you at the end of the day," Cook said.

"Until that bloke taps me on the shoulder and says 'we don't want you to captain' I'm desperate to try to turn this around for England...I'm here as long as I'm wanted."

Monday's slump saw England, who had been 173 for four, lose their last six wickets for 50 runs.

Sharma's final figures surpassed the his previous Test-best six for 51 against New Zealand in Wellington earlier this year.

England resumed Monday on 105 for four, having only three times in their history made more than 300 in the fourth innings to win a Test.

And only once before had a side made more batting last to win a Test

at Lord's, with the West Indies piling up 344 for one against England back in 1984.

But on the stroke of lunch, England were 173 for four with Joe Root and Moeen Ali holding firm.

However, to the very last ball of the session, Ali turned his head away from a Sharma bouncer and gloved a simple catch to Cheteshwar Pujara at short leg.

It was the end of his painstaking, three-hour, 39 and a fifth-wicket stand of 101 with Root, then unbeaten on 52.

The resumption saw several England batsmen fall to bouncer traps so obvious they might as well as have been signposted.

Wicketkeeper Matt Prior, who

has been having a torrid season behind the stumps, decided to hook Sharma, with several men positioned for the shot deep on the legside, but didn't get over the top of the ball and duly picked out Murali Vijay at mid-wicket.

Ben Stokes then fell for a duck when he miscued an intended pull to Pujara at wide mid-on.

England's hopes of a draw now rested with Root but on 66 he too couldn't resist a bouncer, hooking Sharma straight to Stuart Binny at deep backward square leg.

Stuart Broad also failed to cope with a rising delivery, gloving Sharma down the legside to India captain and wicketkeeper Mahendra Singh Dhoni to leave England on the brink of defeat at 216 for nine.

The match ended when James Anderson was run out by Ravindra Jadeja's direct hit, with the two players both facing a possible ban from matches in the rest of this series following their alleged confrontation at Trent Bridge.

Root and Ali had come together with England in dire straits at 72 for four after losing three wickets for two runs in 20 balls on Sunday.

England had collapsed on Sunday, with opener Cook out for just 22 to make it 27 innings since the last of his England record 25 Test hundreds.

MSC's 3rd-place hopes fading

SPORTS REPORTER



Popular Mohammedan SC all but wasted their chance of finishing third in the Nitol Tata Bangladesh Premier League after playing out a goalless draw against Brothers Union in their penultimate match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Their ninth draw in 26 matches left Mohammedan stuck in fourth position with 42 points, one point behind third-placed Muktiyoddha Sangsad, who still have two matches left against comparatively easy rivals Feni Soccer Club and bottom-placed Uttar Baridhara Club.

The Motijheel-based outfit however ensured a fourth-place finish in the 10-team table, one place higher than their position at the end of the last season, as Brothers -- in fifth position with 38 points from 26 matches -- have no chance of toppling Mohammedan with only one match in hand against Team BJMC.

Mohammedan SC could have toppled Muktiyoddha Sangsad with a straight win over Brothers, whom they beat 2-1 in their previous meeting, but the Black and Whites had to settle for a draw thanks to failure of the forwards.

With the championship being already decided, both sides lacked motivation and the absence of their foreign coaches left them no urgency, even though Mohammedan created better opportunities.

Mohammedan came close to taking a lead in the eighth minute but Arup Kumar Baddya floated over the open net while striking duo Wahed Ahmed and Towhidul Alam Sabuj failed to connect an Arup cross in front of the open net two minutes into the second half.

Brothers goalkeeper Sujan spectacularly thwarted two efforts from Mezbabul Haque Manik and Wahed Ahmed while Mohammedan goalkeeper Titumir Chowdhury denied Shafiqul Islam to play a draw match.

SCOREBOARD				
INDIA: First innings 295 (Rahane 103; Anderson 4-60)	Plunkett not out	7		
ENGLAND: First innings 319 (Ballance 110, Plunkett 55 not out; Kumar 6-82)	Anderson run out	2		
INDIA: Second innings 342 (Vijay 95, Jadeja 68, Kumar 52; Stokes 3-51, Plunkett 3-65)	Extras: (b-13, lb-16, w-1, nb-2)	32		
ENGLAND: Second innings (overnight 105-4)	Total: (All out in 88.2 overs)	223		
Robson lbw b Jadeja	Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-70, 3-71, 4-72, 5-173, 6-198, 7-201, 8-201, 9-216			
Cook c Dhoni b Sharma	Bowler	O	M	R
Ballance c Dhoni b Shami	Kumar	16	7	21
Bell b Sharma	Shami	11	3	33
Root c Binny b Sharma	Sharma	23	6	74
Ali c Pujara b Sharma	Jadeja	32.2	7	53
Prior c Vijay b Sharma	Vijay	4	1	11
Stokes c Pujara b Sharma	Dhawan	2	0	2
Broad c Dhoni b Sharma	Result: India won by 95 runs and lead five-match series 1-0.	8		
	Player-of-the-match: Ishant Sharma.			



AHM Mustafa Kamal (C), who took over as International Cricket Council's 11th president in June this year, receives a bouquet during a ceremony organised by the Bangladesh Cricket Board at a city hotel yesterday. Kamal is the first Bangladeshi to take over the ICC's reins. PHOTO: STAR

SHAKIB SUSPENSION Appeal response after Eid

SPORTS REPORTER



A decision regarding all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan's appeal against the suspension imposed on him by the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will be taken after Eid, informed BCB president Nazmul Hassan Papon yesterday.

Speaking at a ceremony organised to congratulate newly-elected ICC President AHM Mustafa Kamal at a city hotel, Papon said that he wanted to discuss Shakib's appeal with board members before taking any decision.

"The decision to suspend him was the board's, so naturally whatever happens next will take place with the permission of the entire board. The constitution allows me to take a decision on my own, but this is a big issue and I want to know the opinion of the members of the board," said Papon.

On July 7, the Board imposed a six-month ban on the 27-year-old from all cricketing activities and also decided against issuing him no objection certificates for overseas tournaments till December 31, 2015. On Sunday, Shakib submitted a plea to the BCB

asking it to reconsider the suspension.

While the BCB president did not provide any information regarding a possible reduction in Shakib's sentencing, he did say that he was content with the way the left-hander behaved since the suspension was imposed.

"I don't see any possibility of Shakib participating in the West Indies series (begins on August 20) at this point of time. Personally I can see a few positives in Shakib since the board imposed the suspension on him. But it's not possible to judge someone in such a short period.

"His appeal was very well written and that is a good sign. We will sit at the earliest possible date after Eid and come to a conclusion. The fact is that the members of the board actually wanted a harsher punishment for the player initially. So it is important to take a collective decision," said Papon.

As per the current state of the suspension Shakib will miss out on Bangladesh's series against the West Indies in August and Zimbabwe in October. Shakib was suspended for breaching the BCB's code of conduct after the star all-rounder had gotten himself involved in a series of disciplinary issues this year.