

# What to WATCH

## T SPORTS

Bangladesh vs Pakistan  
2nd Test, Day 2  
Live from 09:30 am  
Independence Cup  
Uttar Baridhara Club vs

Bangladesh Air Force  
Live from 04:00 pm  
Sheikh Russel KC vs Sheikh  
Jamal DC  
Live from 06:00 pm  
La Liga

Rayo Vallecano vs Espanyol  
Live from 08:00 pm  
Elche vs Cadiz  
Live from 09:15 pm  
Levante vs Osasuna  
Live from 11:30 pm

Celta Vigo vs Valencia  
Live from 02:00 am (Monday)  
STAR SPORTS HD 1  
EPL  
Manchester United vs  
Crystal Palace

Live from 08:00 pm  
Aston Villa vs Leicester City  
Live from 10:30 pm  
STAR SPORTS HD 2  
EPL  
Tottenham Hotspur vs

Norwich City  
Live from 08:00 pm  
STAR SPORTS 1  
India vs New Zealand  
2nd Test, Day 3  
Live from 10:00 am

# 'IT'S SURREAL'

AGENCIES

After picking up four wickets on the first day, Ajaz Patel said: "This is what dreams are made of." What happened in the second day of the second Test against India was the stuff of pure fantasy.

Patel became the third bowler in the 144-year history of Test cricket to take 10 wickets in one innings and wrote a new page into the annals of New Zealand sport.

New Zealand's Mumbai-born spinner added to his tally of four wickets on the opening day to return figures of 10-119. India were all out for 325.

England off-spinner Jim Laker was the first bowler to take a Test ten-for, against Australia in 1956 at Old Trafford. He ended up with 19 wickets in an encounter that came to be known as "Laker's Match".

Indian spin ace Anil Kumble is the only other player to do so, against Pakistan in 1999 at Delhi's Feroz Shah Kotla.

"Welcome to the club #AjazPatel #Perfect10 Well bowled! A special effort to achieve it on Day 1 & 2 of a test match," the former leg-spinner tweeted.

Ajaz, who emigrated to New Zealand in 1996 with his parents, was playing just his 11th Test for New Zealand since making his debut in 2018.

Now 33, his previous Test best was 5-59.

"Honestly, it's surreal and to be able to do that in my career is pretty special," he said. "The stars have aligned for me to do it in Mumbai."

"I'm in very illustrious company with Kumble sir as well."

Veteran Indian spinner Harbhajan Singh lauded his feat, saying: "Ajaz Patel This

dreams are made of. Take a bow, Ajaz Patel, you are in the elite company of Jim Laker and Anil Kumble. And to do it in the city of your birth, wow!!," said VVS Laxman.

On the eve of the Test, the 33-year-old spoke of his excitement about returning to India's largest city once more, this time wearing a silver fern on his cap.

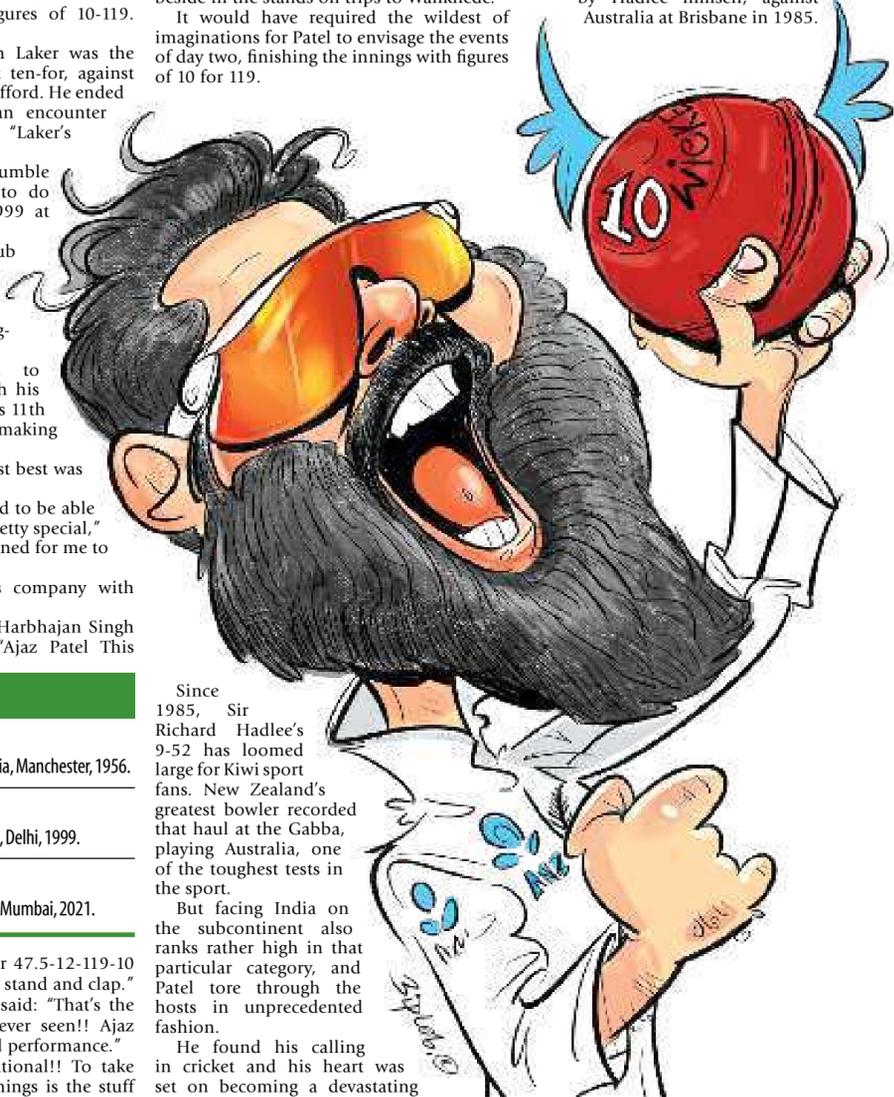
And after removing the Indian top order on day one, Patel called it a dream come true, flourishing in his first chance to play in front of the family members he usually sits beside in the stands on trips to Wankhede.

It would have required the wildest of imaginations for Patel to envisage the events of day two, finishing the innings with figures of 10 for 119.

fast bowler in the mould of national hero Richard Hadlee.

It was not until his mid-20s that he realised he was too short to make it as a quick, and switched from left-arm medium-pace to spin under former New Zealand spinner Dipak Patel. He thought it "might be fun" to try being a spinner, he once recalled.

The change transformed his career: he was selected for the national team at the late age of 30, and has now overtaken New Zealand's previous Test best of 9-52 by Hadlee himself, against Australia at Brisbane in 1985.



Since 1985, Sir Richard Hadlee's 9-52 has loomed large for Kiwi sport fans. New Zealand's greatest bowler recorded that haul at the Gabba, playing Australia, one of the toughest tests in the sport.

But facing India on the subcontinent also ranks rather high in that particular category, and Patel tore through the hosts in unprecedented fashion.

He found his calling in cricket and his heart was set on becoming a devastating

## PERFECT 10

### ➤ JC LAKER (ENGLAND):

51.2-23-53-10 against Australia, Manchester, 1956.

### ➤ A KUMBLE (INDIA):

26.3-9-74-10 against Pakistan, Delhi, 1999.

### ➤ AJAZ PATEL (NEW ZEALAND):

47.5-12-119-10 against India, Mumbai, 2021.

will be remembered forever 47.5-12-119-10 simply outstanding. Let me stand and clap."

Australia's Aaron Finch said: "That's the most amazing thing I've ever seen!! Ajaz Patel... What a phenomenal performance."

"Sensational!! Just sensational!! To take all 10 wickets in a Test innings is the stuff



## India in command despite Ajaz's rare feat

REUTERS, MUMBAI



New Zealand spinner Ajaz Patel claimed the rare honour of bagging all 10 wickets in an innings before India demonstrated their own bowling might to take control of the second and final Test at the Wankhede Stadium on Saturday.

The Mumbai-born Ajaz became only the third player in international cricket to take all wickets in an innings after England off-spinner Jim Laker and India leg-spinner Anil Kumble, but the tourists could not stop India from getting to 325.

In reply, New Zealand could bat only a little over two hours before being bundled out for 62 to concede a first-innings lead of 263.

India decided against enforcing the follow-on and then tightened the screws by reaching 69 for no loss in their second innings, stretching their overall lead to

332 runs at the close of the second day's play.

Cheteshwar Pujara opened the batting in place of Shubman Gill, who suffered a blow to his right elbow while fielding at close-in, and was unbeaten on 29 with Mayank Agarwal 38 not out.

On a pitch offering plenty of assistance to the spin bowlers, India's Mohammed Siraj, who was left out of the first Test in Kanpur, bowled with aggression and pace with the new ball to rattle the touring side.

The fast bowler sent back New Zealand's stand-in captain Tom Latham, Will Young and the experienced Ross Taylor to reduce them to 17-3 in his opening spell.

After Siraj's initial blast, the top-ranked test side's batters surrendered meekly to India's spinners. Off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin picked up four wickets for eight runs as the New Zealand innings folded in just 28.1 overs.



## 'I've never tried to be the best'

REUTERS

Ballon d'Or winner Lionel Messi said he is grateful to be named among the greatest players in world soccer, but the Argentina forward stressed he does not attach too much importance to individual glory.

Messi won the Ballon d'Or award for a record-stretching seventh time on Monday. The Paris St Germain player added the prestigious trophy to his 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2015 and 2019 wins after topping LaLiga's goal scoring charts last season and winning the Copa America for the first time with his country last July.

"For me, the mere fact that I can be considered or cited as one of the best players in the world is more than enough," Messi said in an interview with French newspaper L'Equipe.

"I don't know how to say it so it won't be misinterpreted... It's not that I'm not interested, but I don't attach much importance to it. It doesn't matter to me if I'm the best or not. And I've never tried to be the best either."

## Robinho puts Kings in quarters

SPORTS REPORTER



Robson Robinho converted a 16th-minute spot-kick as defending champions

Bashundhara Kings moved into the quarterfinals of the Riviera Independence Cup with a 1-0 win over Bangladesh Police in their Group D fixture yesterday.

The Brazilian picked the right corner of the net past Mohammad Nehal's diving hands after his compatriot Jonathan Fernandes was brought down inside the box by Isa Faysal to make the difference in the first game of the day at the Bishreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur.

It was a hard-fought victory, though, for the 2018 champions, who were coming into the match on the back of a 6-0 thrashing of Bangladesh Navy.

The second win in two matches took Kings to six points and they would meet Chattogram Abahani in their last group match on Wednesday.

Robson's goal was the first shot on target and one of the very few in the entire match.

Police's first real chance came in the 31st minute when Monaem Khan Raju delivered a low cross from close range but Bishwanath Ghosh cleared the danger with an excellent block.

Police's Moroccan attacker Adil Kouskous saw his shot parried away by Kings goalkeeper Anisur Rahman four minutes later as the defending champions went into the break with a slender lead.

Bonsnian centre-forward Stojan Vranjes had a powerful volley from outside the box on the hour-mark but Nehal was equal to the task at Police goal.

Police almost got a deserved equaliser on 79 minutes when Kouskous unleashed a curling effort from the top of

the box, only for Anisur to palm it to the underside of the bar, the ball dropping just outside the goalline as Kings edged a solitary-goal victory against a plucky Police side.

### Ctg Abahani deny Navy

Ten-man Chattogram Abahani came from a goal down to hold Bangladesh Navy to a 1-1 draw in the second match of the day.

Jewel Rana broke the deadlock for the services team in the 14th minute of the match with a header on a floated cross from Rahmat Mia.

That one goal seemed enough to settle the tie when Chattogram Abahani were reduced to 10 men on 85 minutes as midfielder Sohel Rana was shown a second yellow card for a reckless challenge on Galibe Newaz.

However, the port city outfit found an equaliser out of nowhere in the 89th minute, Nigerian defender Kehinde Yisa, unmarked inside the box, nodding home Kamrul Islam's free-kick.

The draw took Maruful Haque's charges to second position with two points while Navy, studded with former and current national team players, stay bottom of the group with a single point.

Police, also with a single point, are in third position due to superior goal difference over Navy.



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