

New Zealand batter
Daryl Mitchell



AGENCIES

The recent match between South Africa and Afghanistan showcased a sporting pitch that didn't favour spinners much. With an average first-innings score of 260, the ground tends to favour chasing teams.



India skipper Rohit Sharma on Friday inspects the pitch at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, the venue of Sunday's World Cup 2023 final also featuring Australia. Following a lot of hullabaloo regarding the pitch-switch controversy in India's semifinal game in Mumbai, a lot of curiosity will be surrounding the type of pitch used for the all-important final.

PHOTO: AFP

MAZHAR UDDIN *from Kolkata*

How Shami luckily got an opportunity in India's playing eleven in the mega event -- with Hardik Pandya's injury against Bangladesh opening the door after he



a fast bowler. I witnessed the urge to give his best in every delivery that he bowled that day. The intensity remained the same till he bowled the last one. I immediately realised the boy has a spark in him," Badruddin told The Daily Star over phone.

"I think you guys have the quality and it's just a matter of time they start believing in themselves. No matter where you come from, you can reach the top but for that you need to have the fire in you like Shami does."

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It was later announced that Hafeez, who replaced Micky Authur as director,



Pakistan cricket is never far away from the next controversy and moving



Latif also went onto mention the 2010 spot-fixing scandal in England, for which the trio of Salman Butt, Mohammad Amir and Mohammad Asif were arrested and banned, and the sacking of several captains and PCB chiefs over the years.



With Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi likely to attend the World Cup 2023 final between hosts India and Australia at Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad along with several other celebrities on Sunday, the Suryakiran acrobatic team of Indian Air Force held a rehearsal on Friday at the venue for the air show ahead of the final.

PHOTO: AFP

PHOTO: AFP

ICC

De Kock's South Africa career is far from over, however, with a T20 World Cup on the horizon in 2024.



REUTERS

"So we know the blueprint now if we're bowling first, and hopefully go again on Sunday."