

## INDIA vs NEPAL

### Sunil and Deepak appointed new ODI and T20I captains

The selection committee of the Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) named the 14 member squad for the bilateral series against Nepal at Kanpur and Dehradun. Selection committee chairman, John David and his co selectors in consultation with CABI President, GK Mahantesh picked two new captains in Sunil Ramesh and Deepak Malik for the ODI and T20I series respectively.

India play in a three match ODI series in Kanpur from December 2 to 4, followed by a three match T20I series in Dehradun from December 6 to 8.

India are defending world champions in both the ODI and T20 formats.

The team:

**B1 Category:** Vishnu B, Madhavalu, Nilesh, Sovendra Bhandari, Kalia Pradhan

**B2 Category:** Ajay Kumar Reddy, Lokesh, Md. Irfan, Md. Faisal (ODIs at Kanpur only) Vineet Kumar (T20Is at Dehradun only)

**B3 Category:** Sunil Ramesh, A Ravi (wk), Deepak Malik, Rahul Mahale, Lingaraj Routra.

**ODI Captain: Sunil Ramesh**

**T20I Captain: Deepak Malik**

### ODI series

#### Dominant India too strong for Nepal

India began their three match ODI series against Nepal with a comfortable six wicket victory here in Kanpur. Newly appointed ODI captain Sunil Ramesh won the toss and asked the visitors to bat first. India fielded five debutants in the match and it was one of the debutant Rahul who provided the host the initial breakthrough as he picked up two wickets in his very first over. The experienced Ajay Reddy picked up three wickets and the fielders were on the mark from ball one and were involved in four run outs. The Nepal innings folded with the score on 93 at the end of the 23<sup>rd</sup> over.

Chasing a small target, India decided to put the inexperienced batting line up to test and tried out a different opening combination. The openers made a decent start before the team lost four wickets in quick succession. Opener Faisal and Vishnu saw the innings through without any further damage as India chased down the target in just the 11<sup>th</sup> over.

Brief Scores:

Nepal: 93 all out in 23 overs.

Bharat 16(34b) Manoj 8(32b)

Ajay 3/11 Rahul 2/8

India 94/4 in 10.4 overs

Faisal 35(34b, 3\*4s) Vishnu 16(14b)

Sunil 2/28 Naresh 2/29

### **India takes unassailable lead against Nepal**

World champions India took an unassailable two nil lead against Nepal in the three match ODI series played here at Kanpur. Nepal captain won the toss and opted to bat first on a cold day. The visitors made a cautious start and did not lose their first wicket until the 10<sup>th</sup> over. B1 opener Naresh Chaudhari was the top scorer with 20, but that came from a whopping 80 deliveries which slowed down the run rate immensely. Indian bowlers were very ill disciplined as they conceded a massive 79 extras which helped Nepal finish on a score of 155 as they were bowled out in the 37<sup>th</sup> over.

India in pursuit of the small target sent out two debutants, 15 year old Irfan Divan and 18 year old Souvendra Bhandari to open the innings. The nerves showed as the youngsters found it difficult out there in the middle. Lingaraj played a quick cameo before the experienced pair of Deepak Malik and Ajay Reddy took the team over the line as India once again won the game by a comfortable margin of six wickets.

Brief Scores:

Nepal: 155/10 in 36.2 overs

Naresh 20(80b) Ramesh 16(27b)

Deepak 2/8 Kalia 2/23

India 158/4 in 20 overs

Deepak 48\*(31) Ajay 39 (34b)

Badri 2/25 Sunil 1/36

**Man of the match: Deepak Malik**

### **India whitewash Nepal in the ODI series**

India beat Nepal by 126 runs in the third ODI to win the three match series 3-0 and complete a comprehensive whitewash. India won the toss and opted to bat first. And for the third game running they tried a new opening combination as Lokesh and Ravi walked out to the middle. The openers put on a half century partnership before Lokesh was caught for 24. Ravi batted well for his 46 before an umpiring error sent him back to the pavilion. Captain Sunil and local boy Faisal both brought up their half centuries as India finished on 254/5 in their allotted 40 overs.

After having already won the series, India started off with two B1(totally blind) bowlers. And they stuck gold as the first four wickets to fall were due to their amazing bowling and fielding. Nilesh and Vishnu got the three wickets among them while Kalia was super impressive in the field as he ran out the Nepal opener. The innings folded with Nepal managing to score only a

paltry 128. The action now shifts to the shortest format for a three match series from December 6<sup>th</sup> as both teams now travel to Dehradun.

Brief Scores:

India 254/5 in 40 overs  
Sunil 76(71b, 11\*4s) Faisal 59(50b, 6\*4s)  
Hem Raj 3/51

Nepal: 128 all out in 24.4 overs  
Madan 14(32b) Manoj 12(39b)  
Nilesh 2/17 Irfan 2/25

**Man of the match: Sunil Ramesh**

## **T20 series**

### **Debutant Vineet stars as India begin T20 series with a win**

India beat Nepal by a comfortable margin of 8 wickets here in Dehradun to take a one nil lead in the three match T20I series. Newly appointed T20 captain Deepak Malik won the toss and opted to field first. The Nepal team showed much more resilience with the bat than they did in the ODI series. Opener Hem Raj and Santa Pahari added 96 runs for the third wicket which took the team's score past 100. After reaching the three figure mark, the batting line up like in the ODI series collapsed once again as the visitors finished with a paltry score of 128/7 in 20 overs.

Chasing a reasonably small target, India for the fourth game running sent out a new opening pair. Wicketkeeper batsman Ravi and debutant Vineet added 62 for the first wicket before Ravi was run out for 24. B1 batsman Nilesh made a quick fire 27 and Vineet bought up a well composed half century which saw the hosts complete a comfortable 8 wicket win the last over of the game.

Brief Scores:

Nepal: 128/7 in 20 overs  
Hem Raj 45(51b, 4\*4s) Santa 43(43b, 2\*4s)  
Vineet 1/5 Kalia 1/27

India 129/2 in 19.1 overs  
Vineet 53\*(59b, 5\*4s) Nilesh 27(13b, 1\*4s)

Man of the match: Vineet Kumar

### **India clinch T20 series with a game to spare**

India beat Nepal by 9 wickets here in Dehradun to clinch the three match T20 series with one game remaining. Nepal having won the toss opted to bat first. For the first time in the series Nepal batsman looked composed in the middle as they scored their highest total of the tour. Opener Badri Chaulagai top scored with 57 and was supported well by Santa Pahari as they put on 75 runs for the third wicket. The Indian bowlers were inconsistent with their line and length as Nepal finished their innings on 174/4 in their 20 overs.

For the first time in the series, India had to chase a target at almost 9 runs per over. Captain Deepak Malik and the experienced Ajay Reddy opened the batting for the hosts and put on 154 runs for the opening wicket. Both the batsman looked calm out in the middle as they kept the required rate under check. Deepak fell in the 18<sup>th</sup> over with the team requiring 20 more runs to win. Ajay Reddy took the mantle on his shoulders as he reduced the target to one before local boy and debutant Sovendra Bhandari hit the winning runs.

Brief Scores:

Nepal: 174/4 in 20 overs  
Badri 57(41b, 9\*4s) Santa 35(39b, 4\*4s)

India: 176/1 in 19.1 overs  
Ajay 84\*(59b, 14\*4s) Deepak 68 (56b, 11\*4s)  
Badri 1/41

**Man of the match: Ajay Reddy**

### **India prevail over Nepal in super over**

India overcame a spirited Nepal team in the super over to win the three match T20I series 3-0. Nepal captain Ramesh Baniya won the toss and for the final time in the series opted to bat first. Opening batsman Hem Raj was the start of the day as he scored a fantastic unbeaten century which helped Nepal reach 200 for the very first time in the series as they finished their innings with a total of 209 for the loss of three wickets.

For the sixth game running, India sent out a new opening pair out to the middle. Youngsters Rahul and Irfan were given the task of chasing down the huge target. Rahul was the aggressor and Irfan played the anchor role as they put on 70 runs for the opening wicket. But it was once again time for Hem Raj to shine as he picked up two quick wickets. Lokesh played a wonderful cameo while Irfan bought up his maiden fifty in his first outing with the bat. With the required run rate hovering around 13, captain Deepak Malik looked to have almost grabbed the game by the scruff of its neck. A wonderful last over from Badri Chaulagai with India needing only seven

to win, took the game to the super over. India eventually managed to overcome the visitors by seven runs and complete a 3-0 whitewash.

Brief Scores:

Nepal: 209/3 in 20 overs

Hem Raj 104\*(65b, 16\*4s) Shankar 23\*(24b, 1\*4s)

Kalia 1/21

India: 209/6 in 20 overs

Irfan 65(50b, 6\*4s) Deepak 49\*(21b, 9\*4s)

Hem Raj 3/29 Bharat 2/51

Man of the match: Hem Raj Bhajj

Man of the series:

B1: Kalia Pradhan

B2: Irfan Divan

B3: Hem Raj Bhajj

