

KOHLI, RAHANE LEAD INDIA'S DOMINANCE AGAINST NZ ZEALAND

INDORE: Skipper Virat Kohli recorded his second double-century in Tests as he and Ajinkya Rahane helped India post a crushing 557 for five declared against New Zealand at Indore yesterday.

The visitors were 28 without loss at stumps on day two of the third and final Test, with Martin Gupthill on 17 and Tom Latham on six, trailing by 529. The hosts, who started the day on 267 for three, rode on the 365-run fourth-wicket partnership between Kohli (211) and Rahane (188) to flatten the New Zealand bowling.

The partnership was India's best for the fourth wicket, surpassing the 353-run stand between Sachin Tendulkar and VVS Laxman against Australia at Sydney in 2004.

"This partnership was really special. We were 100 for three and from there getting 365 was really special. It will remain in our memory for a long time," Rahane told reporters. Kohli, who scored his maiden 200 against the West Indies in July, registered his career-best Test score Sunday with a dominating display.

The batsman, who resumed the day on 103 in his 48th Test, scored runs all around the park with 20 boundaries during his 366-ball stay at the crease.

Overnight partner Rahane was also in blazing form, posting a career-best score in his 29th match after completing his eighth Test century. Rahane had to face a barrage of bouncers in the morning session from the New Zealand quicks, with one of the short-pitched deliveries from Matt Henry hitting his helmet.

But the incident only appeared to strengthen his resolve and his marathon knock included 18 fours and four sixes. The batsman surpassed his previous best of 147 against Australia in 2015.

"It was tough out there, I was struggling yesterday and I took my time. Today we both decided to dominate the spinners after we got our hundreds," said Rahane,

who started the day on 79.

Off-spinner Jeetan Patel finally broke the big stand by trapping a tired Kohli lbw as he tried to whip away the turning ball but missed the line completely.

STANDING OVATION

Kohli, 27, the only Indian captain to score two double hundreds, was given a standing ovation by the capacity crowd at Indore's Holkar Stadium, which is hosting its first Test match.

Rahane continued to frustrate the New Zealand bowlers, but finally ran out of steam and was caught behind off Trent Boult. He was also given a rousing send-off.

"It was great to see Virat bat the way he did, learnt a lot of things. He's improving as a batsman and a leader," said Rahane.

Rohit Sharma (51) and Ravindra Jadeja (17) then added some quick runs with an unbeaten 53-run stand for the sixth wicket. The in-form Sharma, who hit three fours and two sixes during his 63-ball knock, struck his third half-century of the series as India gained firm control of the match.

Jadeja though was guilty of giving away five runs after being penalised by the on-field umpires for straying onto the danger area of the pitch while running between the wickets. Jadeja was warned twice by the umpires before the officials took the extreme step of crediting New Zealand with five runs.

Bowlers Boult and Patel shared two wickets apiece after the visitors were put in to field by India on Saturday. "Very, very high-quality batting. Took a very good delivery to create half-chances... I think we stuck to our plans well but we were worn down," said New Zealand coach Mike Hesson. "I think Kohli in particular, I think he took 120 singles, killed us softly." India have an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series but are looking to complete a whitewash against the tourists.— AFP



POET ELIZABERTH: Australia's batsman Mitchell Marsh (R) plays a ball during the fourth One Day International (ODI) between South Africa and Australia at the St. George's Park cricket stadium yesterday in Port Elizabeth. — AFP

AUSTRALIA FALL TO SOUTH AFRICA'S BACK-UP BOWLERS

PORT ELIZABETH: South Africa rested three of their frontline bowlers but continued to dominate Australia as they won the fourth one-day international by six wickets at St George's Park yesterday.

Kyle Abbott led what was effectively South Africa's back-up bowling attack as Australia were bowled out for 167, the lowest total of the series. South African captain Faf du Plessis made 69 as South Africa secured their fourth successive win with 14.3 overs to spare.

It left Australian captain Steve Smith having to contemplate the prospect of a 5-0 series defeat going into the final match in Cape Town on Wednesday. "We don't want a whitewash so we'll have to turn up and play," he said.

Smith said he was disappointed with the batting performance.

"The wicket maybe wasn't as good as the others but 250 was about par." Having clinched the five-match series by winning the first three games, South Africa rested fast bowlers Dale Steyn and Kagiso Rabada and leading spin bowler Imran Tahir.

They were replaced by Abbott and spinners Tabraiz Shamsi and Aaron Phangiso. Man of the match Abbott admitted that he felt nervous before the game, having not been part of the first three matches.

But he bowled both Australian opening batsmen inside the first three overs and finished with four for 40. Unorthodox left-arm wrist spinner Tabraiz Shamsi took three for 36 and orthodox left-arter Phangiso picked up the last two wickets at a cost of 17 runs.

On a slow pitch, which offered some seam movement and uneven bounce, Abbott bowled a full length and made the ball deviate in both directions. He bowled Aaron Finch with the third ball of the match and then bowled David

SCOREBOARD	
PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa: Final scores in the fourth one-day international between South Africa and Australia at St George's Park yesterday.	
Australia	Phehlukwayo 5-1-28-0 (1w), Phangiso 4.4-0-17-2, Duminy 2-0-13-0
A. Finch b Abbott	2
D. Warner b Abbott	6
S. Smith lbw b Shamsi	21
G. Bailey lbw b Pretorius	1
M. Marsh c De Kock b Abbott	50
T. Head lbw b Shamsi	0
M. Wade lbw b Phangiso	52
J. Hastings lbw b Shamsi	4
A. Zampa b Abbott	5
C. Tremain not out	23
S. Boland lbw b Phangiso	0
Extras (w3)	3
Total (36.4 overs)	167
Fall of wickets: 1-2 (Finch), 2-9 (Warner), 3-12 (Bailey), 4-49 (Smith), 5-49 (Head), 6-111 (Marsh), 7-116 (Hastings), 8-121 (Zampa), 9-167 (Wade)	
South Africa	
H. Amla lbw b Tremain	4
Q. de Kock c Zampa b Tremain	18
F. du Plessis c Head b Marsh	69
J. Duminy c Marsh b Zampa	25
R. Rossouw not out	33
F. Behardien not out	12
Extras (lb3, w4)	7
Total (4 wkts, 35.3 overs)	168
Fall of wickets: 1-8 (Amla), 2-29 (De Kock), 3-85 (Duminy), 4-140 (Du Plessis)	
Bowling: Tremain 10-0-48-2 (3w), Boland 10-2-36-0 (1w), Hastings 4-0-27-0, Zampa 6.3-0-32-1, Marsh 5-0-22-1	
Did not bat: D. Pretorius, A. Phehlukwayo, K. Abbott, A. Phangiso, T. Shamsi	
Result: South Africa won by six wickets.	

Warner with the first ball of his second over. He struck another crucial blow when he was brought back into the attack and had Mitchell Marsh caught behind for 50, ending a 62-run sixth wicket partnership with Matthew Wade. George Bailey was leg before wicket to Dwaine Pretorius as Australia slumped to 12 for three.

It became 49 for five when Shamsi deceived Australian captain Steve Smith and Travis Head, trapping them both leg before, in the space of three balls. Wade hit a defiant 52 off 58 deliveries and found some support from number ten batsman Chris Tremain, who made 23 not out and helped Wade add 46 for the ninth wicket.

Tremain, who took some heavy punishment in his first two matches for Australia earlier in the

series, gave South Africa some early worries by dismissing both opening batsmen, Hashim Amla and Quinton de Kock. With a strong wind blowing across the field, Du Plessis survived a chance on 16 when Adam Zampa misjudged a high catch off John Hastings at point. He shared half-century partnerships with JP Duminy and Rilee Rossouw before holing out to deep square leg off Marsh's bowling. He hit eight fours in an 87-ball innings. "4-0 sounds amazing," said Du Plessis.

"We said before the game that if we put Australia under pressure we should really hammer down. Abbo (Abbott) was outstanding with the new ball and Shamsi spun a web around them." — AFP



INDORE: Indian batsman Rohit Sharma, left, celebrates his half century with Ravindra Jadeja during the second day of the third test cricket match between India and New Zealand in Indore, India, yesterday. — AP

SCOREBOARD

INDORE, India: Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the third and final Test between India and New Zealand in Indore yesterday:

India 1st innings: overnight 267/3 (V. Kohli 103 not out, A. Rahane 79 not out)	Patel 40-5-120-2, Santner 44-4-137-1, Neesham 18-1-53-0 (nb2)
M. Vijay c Latham b Patel	10
G. Gambhir lbw b Boult	29
C. Pujara b Santner	41
V. Kohli lbw b Patel	211
A. Rahane c Watling b Boult	188
R. Sharma not out	51
R. Jadeja not out	17
Extras (lb3, w1, nb2)	10
Total (5 wickets dec; 169 overs)	557
Fall of wickets: 1-26 (Vijay), 2-60 (Gambhir), 3-100 (Pujara), 4-465 (Kohli), 5-504 (Rahane)	
Bowling: Boult 32-2-113-2 (1w), Henry 35-3-127-0	
New Zealand:	
M. Gupthill not out	17
T. Latham not out	6
Extras (penalty 5)	5
Total (no loss; 9 overs)	28
Bowling: Shami 2-0-5-0, Yadav 2-0-7-0, Ashwin 3-1-9-0, Jadeja 2-1-2-0	
T bat: K. Williamson, R. Taylor, L. Ronchi, B.J. Watling, M. Santner, J. Patel, M. Henry, J. Neesham, T. Boult.	

FAN'S DREAM COMES TRUE AFTER SIGHT RESTORED

DHAKA: Blind from his infancy, 19-year-old Bangladeshi cricket fan Samiul Islam finally had the opportunity to see his favourite team in action yesterday after his eyesight was restored following an operation funded by a reality TV show.

Hailing from a poor labourer's family in northern Sherpur district, 180 kilometres (112 miles) from Dhaka, Islam was brought to Mirpur stadium in the capital to fulfil his dream of watching the Tigers play after his eyesight was successfully restored.

A reality show named Shwapno Dekhe Chokh (Eyes see the dream) funded Islam's treatment in cooperation with international charity Sight Savers.

Islam, who lost his eyesight when he was only six months old, said he endured a harsh childhood filled with bullying and

neglect due to his blindness.

But despite the disability and hardships, he fostered a love for cricket and listened carefully to the commentary during matches. "I use to listen to commentary on the radio and TV. Whenever there was a big match I would go before the TV set. I could not see the game, but for sure, I could hear the commentary and feel the thrill," Islam said. When asked by the donors what he wished to see first after his operation, Islam said he would love to watch a Bangladesh cricket match live.

"Today my dream came true," he told AFP during the second one-day international between Bangladesh and England.

"I could see some of my favourite players like Shakib (Al Hasan) and Tamim (Iqbal) play in front of my eyes." — AFP

BANGLADESH HUMBLE ENGLAND TO LEVEL ONE-DAY SERIES

DHAKA: Bangladesh thumped England in a bowler-dominated contest after home skipper Mashrafe Mortaza's all-round brilliance secured their series-levelling 34-run victory in the second one-day international yesterday.

Mortaza blasted 44 runs off 29 balls and then returned to marshal his bowlers intelligently while claiming 4-29 himself as England collapsed for 204 in 44.4 overs.

Jos Buttler (57) and Jonny Bairstow (35) provided the only resistance in an otherwise spectacular England batting collapse chasing a modest 239-run victory target.

Put in to bat, Bangladesh had slumped to 39-3 in the 14th over but Mahmudullah's 75 and Mortaza's breezy knock helped the hosts recover and put on a competitive 238 for eight at Mirpur's Shere Bangla National Stadium. Chris Woakes came up with a double strike to vindicate Buttler's decision to field at the venue of their 21-run victory in Friday's series opener.

Woakes dismissed Imrul Kayes (11), who struck a blistering century in the previous match, and Tamim Iqbal (14) as Bangladesh

suffered a top order collapse.

Mahmudullah added 50 runs with Mushfiqur Rahim (21) and raised 48 with Mosaddek Hossain (29) but wickets kept tumbling at regular intervals.

Mortaza hit three sixes in his brisk knock before running himself out in the final over of the innings. The paceman then returned to lead by example. Mortaza dismissed James Vince, Jason Roy and Ben Stokes, while left-arm spinner Shakib Al Hasan sent back Ben Duckett to reduce England to 26-4 inside 10 overs. Buttler and Bairstow added 79 runs to try and put the chase back on track when Taskin Ahmed (3-47) ripped the heart out of the England lineup with some impressive fast bowling. The lanky paceman dismissed Bairstow and then virtually killed off the contest when he ended Buttler's run-a-ball-knock before sending back Woakes in his fiery spell.

Adil Rashid (33 not out) and Jake Ball (28) offered some late resistance but it was not enough in the end. The teams move to Chittagong for the third and final one-day on Wednesday. — Reuters

SCOREBOARD

DHAKA: Scoreboard on the second one-day international between Bangladesh and England at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Dhaka yesterday:

Bangladesh		England	
Tamim Iqbal c Ali b Woakes	14	J. Roy lbw b Mortaza	13
Imrul Kayes c Willey b Woakes	11	J. Vince c Mosaddek b Mortaza	5
Sabbir Rahman b Ball	3	B. Duckett b Shakib	0
Mahmudullah Riyad lbw b Rashid	75	J. Bairstow c Rahim b Taskin	35
Mushfiqur Rahim c Ali b Ball	21	B. Stokes b Mortaza	0
Shakib Al Hasan c Buttler b Stokes	3	J. Buttler lbw b Taskin	57
Mosaddek Hossain c Ali b Rashid	29	M. Ali c Shakib b Nasir	4
Nasir Hossain not out	27	C. Woakes c Rahim b Taskin	7
Mashrafe Mortaza run out	44	A. Rashid not out	33
Shafiqul Islam not out	0	D. Willey lbw b Mosaddek	9
Extras (lb 4, w6, nb1)	11	J. Ball c Nasir b Mortaza	28
Total (eight wickets, 50 overs)	238	Extras (lb7, w6)	13
Fall of wickets: 1-25 (Kayes), 2-26 (Tamim), 3-39 (Sabbir), 4-89 (Rahim), 5-113 (Shakib), 6-161 (Mahmudullah), 7-169 (Mosaddek), 8-238 (Mortaza)		Total (all out 44.4 overs)	204
Did not bat: Taskin Ahmed		Fall of wickets: 1-12 (Vince), 2-14 (Duckett), 3-24 (Roy), 4-26 (Stokes), 5-105 (Bairstow), 6-120 (Ali), 7-123 (Buttler), 8-132 (Woakes), 9-159 (Willey), 10-204 (Ball)	
Bowling: Woakes 9-0-40-2, Willey 8-1-36-0 (w3), Rashid 10-0-53-2 (w2), Ball 8-0-44-2 (w1), Stokes 6-1-22-1 (nb1), Ali 9-0-39-0.		Bowling: Shakib 9-0-50-1 (w1), Mortaza 8.4-0-29-4 (w1), Shafiqul 8-0-37-0 (w1), Taskin 8-0-47-3 (w3), Nasir 10-1-29-1, Mosaddek 1-0-5-1	
		Result: Bangladesh won by 34 runs.	



DHAKA: Bangladesh's wicketkeeper Mushfiqur Rahim, left, successfully makes an LBW appeal to dismissal of England's David Willey, right, during their second one-day international cricket match in Dhaka, Bangladesh, yesterday. — AP