

History at stake as India, New Zealand clash in Indore ODI decider

Indore, (UNI) History is at stake as India take on New Zealand in the third and deciding One-Day International of the New Zealand tour of India at the Holkar Cricket Stadium here on Sunday, with the visitors aiming to script a rare ODI series victory on Indian soil after nearly two decades.

With the series evenly poised at 1-1, the decider has assumed added significance. India will look to draw confidence from their formidable home record, having never lost an ODI series to New Zealand in India over the last 20 years and remaining unbeaten at Indore with a perfect 7-0



record at the venue.

India enter the contest after suffering a seven-wicket defeat in the second ODI at Rajkot, where despite a fighting unbeaten century from KL Rahul (112) and a fluent half-century by skipper Shubman Gill (56), they were restrict-

ed to 284 for seven on a good batting surface. The total proved insufficient as New Zealand chased it down comfortably, reaching 286 for three in 47.3 overs.

Daryl Mitchell starred for the Black Caps with a magnificent unbeaten 131, forg-

ing a decisive 162-run partnership with Will Young (87). Mitchell has been New Zealand's standout performer in the series, amassing 215 runs, while Rahul leads India's batting charts with 141 runs.

India's bowling, particularly the spin department, has come under scrutiny after conceding runs at crucial stages. Kuldeep Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja will be under pressure to deliver, while the possible inclusion of Arshdeep Singh could add a much-needed swing option alongside Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh Krishna.

New Zealand, on the other hand, will be buoyed

by their disciplined bowling effort in the previous match, led by Kristian Clarke, who picked up three key wickets in the middle overs. Although the visitors have been slightly expensive at the death, their overall performance has given them a genuine chance to clinch a rare series win in India.

The pitch at the Holkar Cricket Stadium is known to favour batsmen, with short boundaries and an average first-innings score of 316 in ODIs. While teams batting first have enjoyed success in the past, recent matches suggest chasing sides hold an advantage, making the toss crucial.

Hero HIL 2025-26: Van Doren Excited to Play in Bhubaneswar



Bhubaneswar, (UNI)

When the Vedanta Kalinga Lancers walk out onto the turf in Kalinga Hockey Stadium in Bhubaneswar on Saturday, they will not just be defending their position at the top of the table — they will be stepping into an atmosphere their Captain, Arthur Van Doren, believes is unlike any other in world hockey.

The final leg of the Men's Hero Hockey India League 2025-26 begins in the Odisha capital, a city that has quietly built a reputation as Indian hockey's spiritual home. For Van Doren, the return is both strategic and deeply personal.

"Obviously, we know that the final phase will be here in Bhubaneswar, in Kalinga's home city. Bhubaneswar and Odisha in general is a hockey-loving environment. The people that come and watch here are hockey-loving people, and we are very much looking forward to playing here, especially since we are doing well," the Belgian defender said.

The Lancers have set the pace

this season, but Van Doren insists the focus remains on evolution rather than entitlement.

"We started off very well in this competition and we want to improve, grow and make sure that we reach our full potential to have a chance to be successful," he said. "This is hopefully only the beginning, and this is the standard we want to push and push and push."

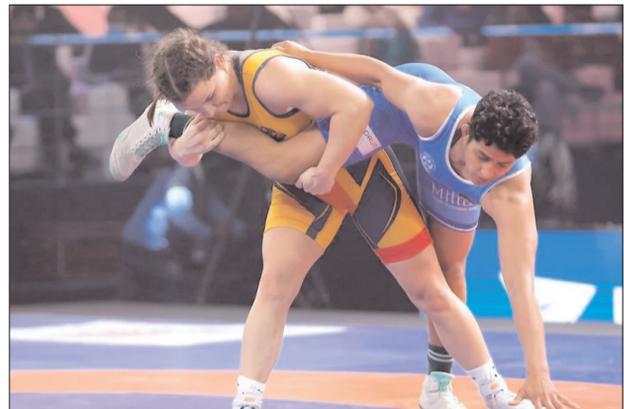
If form is the foundation, the Bhubaneswar crowd may well be the final layer. Van Doren speaks of the Kalinga Stadium stands as a force that alters the physical rhythm of the game.

"I think it gives you a boost, that's for sure. Knowing that the crowd here will be very loud, it will only help us. It makes the hard metres a little bit less hard," he said with a smile.

Later, he distilled the feeling into a single word — impressive.

"If there are 10,000 people in Indian stadium, specially in venues like Kalinga Stadium, it feels like 15,000. In Europe, 10,000 feels like 10 sometimes.

Pro Wrestling League: Delhi Dangal Warriors beats Maharashtra Kesari 6-3



Noida, (UNI)

Delhi Dangal Warriors walked away with a comfortable 6-3 win over Maharashtra Kesari in their first match of the Pro Wrestling League 2026 today. 17-year-old Saarika starred in the biggest upset of the day with a 7-0 win over Paris 2024 Silver medalist Guzman Lopez Yusneylis. Delhi Dangal Warriors, Anastasiya Alpyeva was awarded the Player of the Match award while Maharashtra Kesari's Robert Baran was awarded the Fighter of the Match Award. The Pro Wrestling League 2026 is being played at the Noida Indoor Stadium from the 15th January - February 1 2026.

Maharashtra Kesari struck first through Manisha Bhanvala in the 57kg women's bout with a disciplined 6-0 win to give her side the early lead. Delhi responded immediately with Shubham Kaushik's impressive win against Atish Thodkar in the men's 57kg category. Shubham staged a dramatic comeback in the bout sealing a 12-10 victory with a decisive four-point takedowns in the Power Minute.

Momentum firmly shifted Delhi's way in the 53kg women's contest, where 17-year-old Saarika stunned Paris 2024 silver medalist Guzman Lopez Yusneylis with a controlled 7-0 win. Maharashtra levelled the tie at 2-2 through experienced campaigner Dudova Bilyana Zhivkova, who dominated the second period to defeat Anjali 10-2. The heavyweight 125kg bout proved pivotal for Maharashtra, as former European champion Robert Baran outclassed Ronak 5-0 to put his team back in front. However, Delhi showcased depth and resilience from that point onward.

Turan Bayramov out wrestled Yash 14-10 in a high-octane 74kg clash, before Anastasiya Alpyeva swung the tie decisively to Delhi's favour with a swift fall over Harshita Mor in the 76kg women's bout.

Following a thrilling Round 3 at the Kari Motor Speedway in Coimbatore, the championship now heads west as the title battle intensifies. The spotlight shifts to Goa, which will host a historic FIA-grade street circuit making its debut. Spanning 2.064 km, the

Indian Racing Festival set to make Goa debut on February 14-15

New Delhi, (UNI)

The Indian Racing Festival will make its much-anticipated Goa debut with a high-octane formula Street Race Weekend scheduled for February 14-15, as Round 4 of the championship unfolds at the Manohar International Airport. Announced by the Chief Minister of Goa, Dr. Pramod Sawant, the event promises to elevate Goa's status as a premier motorsport destination.

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circuit has been specially designed to deliver a compelling visual spectacle alongside a demanding technical challenge.

With 12 turns, this one-of-a-kind layout will test teams and drivers alike, while ensuring accessibility and a high-quality experience for fans witnessing top-tier racing in Goa for the very first time. Welcoming the Indian Racing Festival to the state, Chief Minister of Goa, Shri Pramod Sawant, said, "After much anticipation, the Indian Racing Festival is finally coming to Goa on February 14 and 15.

Hosting a motorsport event of this scale underscores Goa's capability to stage world-class sports and entertainment experiences.

HIL: Ranchi Royals cap off home leg with third win on the trot

Ranchi, (UNI)

Ranchi Royals continued to build on their winning run in the Men's Hero Hockey India League (HIL), registering their third win on the bounce to prevail 4-1 against JSW Soorma Hockey Club in their final home game of the season at the Marang Gomke Jagpal Singh Astro Turf Hockey Stadium on Friday.

A brace from Tom Boon (20', 22') and goals from Mandeep Singh (47') and Manmeet Singh Rai (14') helped Ranchi Royals jump to third place on the points table. Meanwhile, Jeetpal (52') scored the only goal of the game for Soorma.

It was an engaging start to the game with both teams looking to lay down the marker in the early exchanges. JSW Soorma Hockey Club earned their first penalty corner within the first five minutes, creating the first set-piece opportunity of the game.



Despite three penalty corners in the first quarter, they couldn't find a way past Suraj Karkera in goal for Ranchi Royals. Both teams had 8 circle entries in the first fifteen minutes but it was the Royals who took the lead against the run of play after Sam Lane's clever ricochet found its way to Manmeet Singh Rai (14'). The midfielder managed to guide

the ball into the back of the net, putting his side in the ascendancy towards the end of the first quarter.

Having got their noses in front, the Ranchi Royals grew in confidence and began to spring passes around to stretch the Soorma defence. They soon doubled their lead courtesy Tom Boon (20') scoring from close range after Lachlan Sharp's initial effort fell his way in the circle. The Belgian then converted his dragkick from a penalty corner two minutes later, giving the Royals a three goal cushion as they dominated the contest heading into half time.

JSW Soorma Hockey Club had the majority of possession in the second half as they looked to find some momentum. They were a whisker away from netting a goal before it was cleared off the line by Joshua Beltz, keeping Ranchi Royals' three goal advantage intact.

BUSINESS

Growing self-confidence in "New India's" youth is visible transformation: Piyush Goyal

New Delhi, (UNI)

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal today highlighted that one of the most visible transformations in a resurgent and new India is the growing self-confidence among the country's youth.

While addressing the "Startup Pe Charcha" interaction at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, Minister Goyal highlighted that one of the most visible transformations in a resurgent and new India is the growing self-confidence among the country's youth.

He noted that young Indians today are



increasingly willing to take risks, pursue entrepreneurship and experimentation with ideas, marking a significant shift from earlier hesitations around career choices, and said that this self-confidence reflects a fundamental change in

India's mindset towards innovation and future-ready growth.

Speaking on the Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), Goyal said India's recent agreements with developed economies provide significant opportunities for start-

tups and entrepreneurs.

He explained that these agreements create certainty and confidence for investors while opening new markets for Indian goods and services.

Further, the minister encouraged startups to explore startup-to-startup collaborations and partnerships with countries abroad to attract investment and expand globally, highlighting opportunities across services, mobility, payments, sustainability, renewable energy and advanced technologies.

On deep-tech innovation, Goyal expressed

optimism about the progress being made across the country, and noted that recent policy discussions have brought sharper focus to deep-tech development and said that the second Rs 10,000-crore Startup Fund of Funds announced by the government will significantly support deep-tech startups, particularly at early and critical stages of growth.

He added that his interactions with incubators and academic institutions across the country reflect strong momentum in this sector.

Mumbai to host first Global Economic Cooperation 2026 from February 17 to 19

New Delhi (UNI)

Senior policymakers, global corporate leaders, investors and heads of multilateral institutions from India and abroad will gather in Mumbai from February 17-19 for the inaugural Global Economic Cooperation 2026, a high-level, invitation-only forum aimed at redefining economic cooperation in an increasingly multipolar global order.

The three-day forum is being convened by the Future Economic Cooperation Council in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and the Government of Maharashtra.

Global Economic Cooperation 2026 is designed to address deeper structural changes reshaping global commerce and investment flows.

The forum will feature structured

engagement across key areas such as infrastructure financing, advanced manufacturing, technology systems, energy transition and resilient supply chains.

The focus will extend beyond trade to broader dimensions of economic diplomacy, cooperation and capital alignment. The summit will also place emphasis on future leadership in global economic affairs. On the third day, the forum will launch the Emerging Leaders Circle, a platform aimed at engaging young business leaders through curated panels and discussions on global economic change and innovation.

The initiative will be conducted in collaboration with leading academic institutions, including the Indian Institutes of Management and Columbia University.



Amazon Business brings great deals and bulk purchase benefits for B2B customers

Bengaluru: Amazon Business is enabling Indian businesses to unlock significant savings across a wide range of categories during the Amazon Great Republic Day Sale 2026. Businesses and corporate customers can avail incredible deals across laptops, monitors, office furniture, industrial equipment, and packaging supplies. Customers can also enjoy up to 80% off on best-selling products from leading brands such as HP, Samsung, Havells, Prestige, BOSCH, Philips, Whirlpool, LG, Xiaomi and more.

RCCPL Maihar Organizes Mother & Baby Kit Distribution

Maihar: The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Department of M.P. Birla Corporation Limited (RCCPL) organized the "Ankuram Mother and Child Health Program - Arogya Sakhi" in Village Salaiya on January 15, 2026. The event featured distribution of Mother & Baby Kits and an Annaprashan (First Feeding) Ceremony.



along with Mrs. Booti Bai Kushwaha, Sarpanch of Gram Salaiya Ram; Mrs. Savitri Bai Kol, Deputy Sarpanch; Mrs. Arushi Pawan, Community Health Officer (CHO) of Salaiya Sub-Health Center; and a large number of women from the village.

part of this program organized under the Ankuram initiative of M.P. Birla Corporation Limited. This initiative focuses on the health and well-being of mothers, newborns, and adolescent girls. The distribution of newborn baby kits provides crucial support to mothers, ensuring safe, hygienic, and improved health-care during the early days of a child's life. Mother's milk is the complete nutrition for infants from birth to six months.

Command Max with the All-New Tata Punch: The SUV India Loves is now Faster, Smarter, Safer, and Bolder

Mumbai: Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd. (TMPV), India's leading manufacturer of cars and SUVs, today announced the launch of India's most loved SUV in an all-new, faster, smarter and bolder avatar. The new Tata Punch combines unmatched power, superior comfort, cutting-edge technology, and muscular styling under its unique signature "Command Max" and is available at an introductory starting price of just ₹ 5.59 lakh (ex-showroom, New Delhi).



Drive the first SUV to feature the revolutionary combination of twin-cylinder iCNG technology paired with an AMT gearbox for unmatched efficiency and convenience.

Launching the all-new Tata Punch, Mr. Shailesh Chandra, MD & CEO, Tata Motors Passenger Vehi-

cles Ltd. said, "The Punch has always been a reflection of India's evolving ambitions, democratizing the SUV experience with a feature-rich package that earned it a place among India's best-selling SUVs. The Punch gave India the freedom to explore long, stress-free, inter-city drives with its commanding position and confidence behind the wheel. Today, we have taken this experience to the next level. With the new Punch, we've redefined what an SUV in this segment can be - shaped by customer insights and engineered with new age technology at its core. It's faster, smarter, and safer, complemented by a bold, muscular stance with the confidence to truly Command Max. This evolution reflects our passion for continuous innovation towards enhancing customer delight.