

Boult's fifer hands NZ consolation win over India in 4th ODI

HAMILTON, JAN 31 /-/- India seemed shorn of their aura in the absence of talismanic skipper Virat Kohli as pacer Trent Boult's fiery five-wicket haul guided New Zealand to a stunning eight-wicket win in the fourth one-day...

somehow managed to surpass the 88 scored at Danbulla. "I don't think we expected this much. But the guys bowled well. It was nice to bowl them out for 90 odd. It was just one of those days. It was an outstanding performance today," said New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson...

Yadav (15) and Yuvendra Chahal (18 not out) - posted double digit scores. Dhawan's search for big runs continued and he was the first to depart, caught plumb in front of the wicket by Boult in the sixth over...



Trent Boult exults after picking up a wicket

New Zealand 93 for 2 (Taylor 37*, Nicholls 30*, Bhuvneshwar 2-25) beat India 92 (Chahal 18*, Boult 5-21, de Grandhomme 3-26) by eight wickets

Loss in fourth ODI is a reality check for us: Bhuvneshwar

One of our worst batting performances, says Rohit after loss to NZ in 4th ODI

HAMILTON, JAN 31 /-/- Outplayed in the fourth cricket one-day, Indian pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar on Thursday said the eight-wicket loss to New Zealand is a "reality check" for the team ahead of the remainder of the series...

HAMILTON, JAN 31 /-/- Stand-in captain Rohit Sharma Thursday described India's batting performance as "one of the worst in a long time" after the visitors were dismissed here in the lowest ODI total in a shocking eight-wicket loss to New Zealand in the fourth one-day here...

"Something to learn for us. At times, you need to absorb pressure (when asked about how to bat in swinging conditions). We need to blame ourselves for it. Things were looking good at one stage. It was about applying ourselves"



Zealand captain Kane Williamson was all praise for his bowlers for their splendid effort of handling India out under 100. "We didn't expect the surface to behave like this. Nice to restrict them to a 90-odd total. It stood up a little bit and nipped a bit. It spun as well. One of those days, things went well," he said...

I'm a different bowler when the ball swings: Boult

HAMILTON, JAN 31 /-/- New Zealand pacer spearhead Trent Boult Thursday said he is a different bowler in conditions arising swing bowling after destroying India with an incisive five-wicket haul in the fourth ODI here...

"It's just one of those things. You get a couple of wickets at the top... the rhythm felt good. The ball was still swinging later in the spell, so it was about making the most of it"

India in no danger of losing World Cup 2023 rights: ICC

New Delhi, Jan 31 /-/- India are not in danger of losing the hosting rights of the 2021 Champions Trophy and 2023 World Cup despite tax exemption issues, the International Cricket Council (ICC) CEO David Richardson declared Thursday, ending speculation that has swirled around the two events...

Real Kashmir vs Churchill Brothers match ends 1-1 draw

VASCO (GOA), JAN 31 /-/- Real Kashmir FC played out a 1-1 draw with Churchill Brothers of Goa in their 15th round I-League match to remain in contention for the title here on Thursday. Farhan Ganje gave Real Kashmir the lead in the 55th minute but the league's top-scorer Willis Plaza - with 16 strikes so far - equalised for Churchill in the 70th minute as the two sides grabbed a draw apiece from the match...

extended Real Kashmir's unbeaten run to 11 matches. The first leg match had also ended in a draw (0-0) in Srinagar in November last year. With Thursday's draw, both Real Kashmir and Churchill Brothers are on joint second in the I-League table with 29 points from 15 matches. Chhatrapati City FC, whom Real Kashmir had beaten twice this season, are leading the table with 30 points from 14 matches. A total of 20 matches will be played by each team. (PTI)

India bank on Prajnesh, CSC grass courts to upset Italy in Davis Cup



KOLKATA, JAN 31 /-/- India would rely heavily on in-form Prajnesh Gunneswaran and favourable home conditions to upset former champions Italy in their bid to qualify for the inaugural Davis Cup Group F matches when the two teams clash in the Qualifiers starting here from Friday. At the official draw on the eve of their matches, Italy pulled a surprise on India when they left out their top-ranked Marco Cecchinato out of the singles draw, naming veteran Andreas Seppi and Matteo Berrettini, who will make Davis Cup debut at 22 years. Ramlakumar Ramanathan will take over number 37 Seppi, while Berrettini is seen to lead the X-factor to the side as he will face India...

number one Prajnesh in the opening day's rubbers. Cecchinato has been named in the doubles and he would partner the 2015 Australian Open doubles winner Simone Bolaffi against India's formidable duo of Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan. The reigned Davis Cup enters a new era with 12 qualifiers across the globe on the road to Madrid Finais in November. Against a team which leads 4-1 on head-to-head record, India have returned to their favourite Calcutta South Club (CSC) grass courts after 16 years. The venue boasts of an impressive 8-2 win-loss record for India, including the solitary victory over Italy in the 1985's World Group...

1st Round. "It's grass, not clay! Maybe next time, we will play on clay against India. We have nothing to complain," said 1976 Davis Cup winner Corrado Barazzutti, the non-playing captain of Italy. Another boost for India is the shortened format. The popular 'home-away' format has been retained for the qualifiers and the ties now will be held in two days with two singles on Friday and a doubles plus two return singles on Saturday. Matches will now be played over best-of-three sets in place of grueling best of five, adding to the unpredictability factor and Italy despite having three of their five players inside top-50, cannot breathe easy. (Photo : Arjit Ganguly)

Quiz Contest. WHAT IS A SMEW? THE SMEW OVERHEAD. Yesterday's Answer: Ques. Name: Pritish, Coast Guard: Vyaas Vithya, Garachanna, Ankur. Date: Jan 31, 2019. Email: M. Anshu, Only@gmail.com. We will publish your name, correct answer in this space. SMS the answers alongwith your name, address, phone number to 8334626380. mobile number: 8334626380