

England cancel out India's first innings lead as visitors have another ordinary day

India dropped as many as five catches and barring Bumrah, the effort from the pacers left a lot to be desired allowing England to even out the game

PTI, LEEDS: K L Rahul drove his way to a sublime 47 after England negated India's advantage by totalling 465 in their first innings as the visitors had another ordinary day on the field on Day 3 of the first Test, here, on Sunday.

India dropped as many as five catches and barring Jasprit Bumrah, the effort from the pacers left a lot to be desired, allowing England to even out the game after the Shubman Gill-led side posted 471 in its first essay.

1ST TEST: ENGLAND VS INDIA

At stumps, India reached 90 for two with Rahul (47 batting off 75) and Shubman Gill (6 batting off 10).

Brydon Carse had Yashasvi Jaiswal (4 off 11) caught behind with a ball that seamed away while Ben Stokes got rid of debutant Sai Sudharsan (30 off 48) for the second time in the game, the southpaw's flick falling into the hands of Zak Crawley at mid-wicket. Rahul was a delight to watch as majority of his seven fours came via the cover and square drive off the fast bowlers. He did not look any discomfort whatsoever despite the ball doing a bit in overcast conditions.

Stumps were drawn when rain arrived at Head-



India's Jasprit Bumrah celebrates with teammates after taking the wicket of England's Chris Woakes on Day 3 of the first Test match at Headingley cricket ground in Leeds, England on Sunday

ingley with India leading by 96 runs.

In an extended afternoon session, Harry Brook ran out of luck on 99 before Jasprit Bumrah completed a well deserved five-wicket haul to ensure a slender six-run first innings lead for India. Before Bumrah castled Josh Tongue to end England innings, Chris Woakes (38 off 55) punished a predictable Indian pace attack to take his team close to India's 471.

Hosts continued to find the boundaries at will as

they collected 138 runs in 23.4 overs in the afternoon session with the loss of five wickets.

Prasidh Krishna removed Jamie Smith (40 off 52) and Brook (99 off 112) with the short ball but leaked too many runs at the same time with his one dimensional tactic, conceding 128 runs in 20 overs.

Bowling all-rounder Shardul Thakur was under bowled again, raising questions over his selection. Bumrah, who has by far

been the best Indian bowler on display, picked up his 14th fiver in the longest format ending with figures of 5/83 in 24.4 overs.

India's fielding have been their weakest link so far in the game and having been give two lives, Brook was dropped again, on 82, by Jaiswal off Bumrah.

The explosive England batter however could not use those chances to score a famous hundred and was dismissed on 99 in the 88th over. India had taken the

India, England players wear black armband in respect of David

PTI, LEEDS: India and England players wore black armbands to pay their respect to former fast bowler David Lawrence, who passed away on Sunday. He was 61. "Both teams are wearing black armbands to pay their respects to former England Cricketer, David 'Syd' Lawrence, who has sadly passed away. There was a moment's applause before the start of play on Day 3," the BCCI said in a statement.

new ball after 80 overs but were not able to make good use of it.

Captain Shubman Gill made questionable calls like introducing Ravindra Jadeja towards the end of the session and bringing back Bumrah for a late burst. In the opening session, Brook went on the offensive against an inconsistent Indian pace attack, taking England to 327 for

five at lunch.

Resuming at an overnight 209 for three, Brook ensured that England scored at a brisk pace, totalling 118 runs in 28 overs.

The visitors got two welcome wickets of overnight centurion Ollie Pope (106 off 137) and England captain Ben Stokes (20 off 52).

Like Day 2, the other Indian pacers could not match the accuracy of Bumrah.

SCOREBOARD

India 1st Innings: 471 all out

England 1st Innings: (Overnight 209/3) Zak Crawley c Nair b Bumrah 4, Ben Duckett b Bumrah 62, Ollie Pope c Pant b Prasidh 106, Joe Root c Karun b Bumrah 28, Harry Brook c Thakur b Prasidh 99, Ben Stokes c Pant b Siraj 20, Jamie Smith c Sudharsan b Prasidh 40, Chris Woakes b Bumrah 38, Brydon Carse b Siraj 22, Josh Tongue b Bumrah 11, Shoaib Bashir (not out) 1. Extras: 34. Total: 465 all out. Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-126, 3-206, 4-225, 5-276, 6-349, 7-398, 8-453, 9-460. Bowling: Jasprit Bumrah 24-4-5-83-5, Mohammed Siraj 27-0-122-2, Prasidh Krishna 20-0-128-3, Ravindra Jadeja 23-4-68-0, Shardul Thakur 6-0-38-0.

India second innings: Yashasvi Jaiswal c Jamie Smith b Brydon Carse 4, K L Rahul batting 47, Sai Sudharsan c Zak Crawley b Ben Stokes 30, Shubman Gill batting 6. Extras: 3. Fall of wickets: 1-16, 2-82. Bowling: Chris Woakes 6-2-18-0, Brydon Carse 5-0-27-1, Josh Tongue 5-0-15-0, Shoaib Bashir 2.5-1-11-0, Ben Stokes 5-1-18-1.

David, first British-born Black cricketer dies at 61

AP, GLOUCESTER (England): David 'Syd' Lawrence, the first British-born Black cricketer to play for England, has died. He was 61. Lawrence's family made the announcement on Sunday with a statement through Gloucestershire, where Lawrence was the club president.

He announced a year ago he had motor neurone disease. "It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Dave Law-

rence MBE following his brave battle with motor neurone disease," the family said. "Syd" was an inspirational figure on and off the cricket field and no more so than to his family who were with him when he passed.

"A proud Gloucestershire man, Syd took on every challenge with everything he could and his final contest with MND was no different. His willingness to encourage and think of others right up to the



end was typical of the man he was." He played five tests for England

from 1988-92, taking 18 wickets. His international career prematurely ended at 28 when he broke his knee cap after falling awkwardly when running in to bowl against New Zealand on the final day of a test in Wellington.

A strapping fast bowler who was renowned for being one of the quickest on the English county circuit, Lawrence was beginning to establish himself in tests and a five-for against the West Indies

in 1991 helped England seal a series-levelling win at the Oval, with Viv Richards among his haul.

Lawrence also played a sole one-day international against the West Indies at Lord's in 1991, taking 4-67. For Gloucestershire, he grabbed 625 wickets in 280 matches. The England and India teams gave Lawrence a moment's silence on Sunday in Leeds before the third day's play in the first test.

Open to coaching Team India, says Ganguly

PTI, KOLKATA: Former skipper Sourav Ganguly has categorically ruled out entering politics, but says he is not averse to coaching the Indian team.

Ganguly, who will turn 53 this July, was the Team Director of Delhi Capitals between 2018-19 and 2022-24.

"I never really thought about it because I got into different roles," Ganguly told PTI in a free-wheeling podcast interview when asked if he would like to coach the Indian team.

"I finished (competitive cricket) in 2013 and then became Board (BCCI) President," said Ganguly, noting that his biggest contribution to Indian cricket in that role was to promote women's cricket.

When suggested that he could have contributed more by becoming India coach, Ganguly said: "We'll see what the future holds. I'm just 50 (53), so let's see what happens. I'm open to it. We'll see where it goes," the veteran cricketer.



One thing he is not getting into is politics.

Asked if he would like to join a political party ahead of West Bengal assembly elections in 2026, Ganguly said with a smile: "I am not interested."

Ganguly was all praise for incumbent coach Gautam Gambhir, who he feels, has picked up pace as coach since Champions Trophy victory in Dubai earlier this year.

"Gautam (Gambhir) is doing a good job. He started off a little slow, losing to Australia and New Zealand, but he picked up with the Champions Trophy. This is

going to be a big series (vs England)," Ganguly said.

Asked how astute a tactician Gambhir is, Ganguly praised the southpaw's passion and his ability to express his opinions in a straight forward manner.

"I haven't seen him from very close in this role, but I know he is very passionate. I haven't observed his strategies closely because I haven't worked with him as a coach.

"He's very straightforward, he sees things clearly, and he's very open about what he feels, about the team, players, people, everything. From the outside, you can tell he's a very transparent person - what you see is what you get."

Ganguly recollected his playing days when he found Gambhir to be very respectful towards senior.

"I've played with him. He was a great guy with a lot of respect for me and the senior players. Even now, I can see he is extremely passionate about his job."

...won't be easy for RoKo to play 2027 World Cup

PTI, KOLKATA: It won't be easy for Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma to remain fit and find a place in India's ODI World Cup squad in 2027, former captain Sourav Ganguly says.

"All of us must understand, just like everyone, the game will go away from them and they will go away from the game," Ganguly told PTI in a lengthy interview at his residence.

The next ODI World Cup is scheduled in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia and by the time the prestigious ICC event is played Kohli will be 38 years old and Rohit will touch 40.

Till then India have 27 ODIs to play spread across nine bilateral series. That means Kohli and Rohit will hardly get 15 international games a year.

"It won't be easy, with 15

games a year," Ganguly said.

With 25,000 runs and 83 international hundreds between them, both Kohli and Rohit have expressed their desire to play the 50-over global event after recently retiring from Test cricket.

Ganguly, an exceptional ODI batter during his career, was asked if he had any word of advice for them. "I have got no advice. I think they know the game as much I do. They will take a call."

Ganguly acknowledged that finding a player of the caliber of Kohli to replace him won't be easy, though he is not worried about Indian cricket after the retirement of the two stalwarts.

"I was not concerned at all. Virat is a class player. Finding his replacement will take time. But the rest,

I wasn't surprised."

Talking about Yuvraj Singh, Ganguly said he was a special player who flourished in white-ball formats but did not get enough chances to touch his real potential in traditional format.

"I remember seeing Yuvraj for the first time in Nairobi and saw that he is special. What he went on to do for India after that in one-day cricket is unreal. He was 2007 World T20 player of the series, 2011 World Cup, player of the series, runs, wickets, fielding, he was special."

"Unfortunately he did not get many opportunities in Test matches. He played about 30 odd Test matches, he got stuck between Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar, Ganguly and VVS Laxman, but a special player," he said.

shorttakes

Some said I will be finished in 8 months, I have played for nearly 10 years: Bumrah

LEEDS: His critics expected him to go from 'boom' to bust in eight to 10 months due to his unconventional injury prone bowling action but it is his self belief that has allowed India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah to complete almost a decade in international cricket. Having taken his 14th five-wicket haul in Tests, Bumrah spoke about how his secret recipe for success. Asked if he feels bad when people write his epitaph after every big injury, Bumrah replied: "People had said in all these years, some said, (I will play only) eight months, some said 10 months but now I have played 10 years of international cricket, 12-13 years of IPL. "Even now people say (after every injury), he will be finished, he is gone. Let them say, I will do my own work. Every four months these things will crop up, but as long as Almighty wants, I will play. "I prepare my best, and then will leave it on God as to how much more blessings he will bestow upon me." He said that he is not here to change people's perceptions. "What people write is beyond my control and I can't advise people on what to write about me. My name in headline gets viewership but I don't get bothered by that," Bumrah, who took 5 for 83 in England's first innings said. "At this moment pretty good wicket to bat on. It is a little bit two paced, no big demons in wicket. Due to weather, new ball will swing but that is what you expect in Test cricket. We would like to get a big total and get that cushion."

Canada qualify for men's T20 World Cup

ONTARIO (Canada): The Canadian men's cricket team has qualified for next year's ICC T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka after defeating Bahamas by seven wickets in the Americas Qualifiers here. Thanks to their fifth successive victory in as many games, Canada, who had also featured in last year's men's T20 World Cup in the Americas, have joined defending champions India, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, England, South Africa, United States, West Indies, Ireland, New Zealand and Pakistan, in the 20-team event. "Seven more teams -- two from Europe Qualifier (to be played from July 5-11, 2025), two from Africa Qualifier (to be played from September 19 to October 4) and three from Asia-EAP Qualifier (to be played from October 1-17) -- will join the Men's T20 World Cup through the Regional Qualifiers," said ICC in a statement.

Archer set to play for Sussex in County match, could be in mix for 2nd Test against India

LONDON: Injury-prone pacer Jofra Archer could be in the England mix for the second Test against India beginning July 2 as he is set for a red-ball comeback with Sussex at Durham in the County Championship, according to a report. "Jofra Archer will return to red-ball cricket with Sussex -- despite not being named in squad for County Championship match at Durham. If he comes through the match unscathed, he could be in the mix to play in the second Test against India at Edgbaston," said a report in Sky Sports. It said the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has confirmed that the pacer will be in Sussex's travelling group for the four-day fixture beginning later Sunday.

Indian men's team beats Belgium 4-3 to end losing streak

ANTWERP (Belgium): The Indian men's hockey team edged past Belgium 4-3 to register its first win in the European leg of FIH Pro League, here, on Sunday, ending a run of seven successive losses. With the scores tied at 3-3 with just two minutes left for the final hooter, India asked for a referral after a strong challenge inside the circle. The decision went in India's favour and the brilliant Harmanpreet Singh stepped up to convert the penalty stroke and seal the issue in his team's favour.

India women lose 0-2 to Belgium, suffer sixth straight defeat in European leg

ANTWERP (Belgium): The Indian women's hockey team went down 0-2 to Belgium to suffer its sixth successive defeat in the European leg of the FIH Pro League and inch closer to relegation here on Sunday. After two goal-less quarters, Belgium scored twice in quick succession in the third quarter to win the reverse fixture a day after a 5-1 mauling of the beleaguered Indian side. Ambre Ballenghie broke the deadlock in the 40th minute of the game and Lien Hillewaert struck the team's second in the blink of an eye at Sportcentrum Wilrijkse Plein. Both India and Belgium displayed attacking intent in the first half, testing each other's defence throughout with the visitors also earning two penalty corners even as Belgium threatened with more circle entries.

Men's freestyle wrestlers also win team title at U-23 Asian championship

VUNG TAU (Vietnam): The Indian men's freestyle team produced its best ever show at the U23 Asian Wrestling Championship, winning six gold and a silver to clinch the team title. In an unprecedented success for India, both men's and women's teams won the team championships. The women team had won medal in each of the 10 categories. Winning the gold were Nikhil (61kg), Sujet Kalkal (65kg), Jaideep (74kg), Chander Mohan (79kg), Sachin (92kg) and Vicky (97kg). Jaspooran Singh won the silver in 125kg weight class. The Greco Roman team won three medals, including a gold, in the tournament.

Six Indian boxers in finals of Seychelles National Day Tournament

MAHE (Seychelles): India is assured of several top-podium finishes with six of its pugilists entering the finals of the Seychelles National Day Boxing Tournament here. Aditya Pratap (65kg) of Uttar Pradesh, who has represented the country in the Elorda Cup in Kazakhstan and had bagged a silver in the National Combined Finals, impressed with an RSC win in the third round over home favourite Jovannie Bouzin. Neeraj (75kg), another silver medalist at the National Combined, too came up with a referee stops contest (RSC) verdict against his opponent in the second round. Himanshu Sharma (50kg) of Haryana, a former Belgrade Boxing champion and bronze medalist at the 6th Elite Nationals, secured a confident 4-1 win against Mathieu Soupprayen of Mauritius. In the 55kg bout, Ashish Mudshaniya of Uttar Pradesh, the reigning National Combined champion, continued his fine form with an easy 4-1 victory over Guillaume Francis, also from Mauritius. Haryana's Anmol (60kg), a National Combined silver medalist, earned a composed 4-1 split decision win against Dario Gabriel of Seychelles. Kartik Dalal (70kg) showed heart in a closely contested bout but lost 1-4 on points to South Africa's Blessing Nziyana. Gaurav Chauhan (90+kg) from Services, a seasoned heavyweight who won gold at the 37th National Games and bronze at the 2024 Elorda Cup, has received a direct entry into the final.

Inter Milan rally to victory, Borussia Dortmund win

AFF, PHILADELPHIA (United States): Inter Milan came from behind to beat Urawa Red Diamonds and knock the Japanese side out of the Club World Cup on Saturday, while Borussia Dortmund held off Mamelodi Sundowns to win a seven-goal thriller.

Fluminense rallied in the second half to beat Ulsan 4-2 and knock out the South Korean side while Monterrey and River Plate ended goalless. At Lumen Field in Seattle, Ryoma Watanabe got an early opening goal

for Urawa Reds, who were backed by a noisy contingent of their supporters.

But captain Lautaro Martinez -- who got Inter's equaliser in their 1-1 draw with Monterrey of Mexico in their opening game -- repeated the trick to level matters with a clever overhead kick 12 minutes from time.

Valentin Carboni was then the unlikely hero as he grabbed the winner two minutes into injury time. The 20-year-old Argentine had not played a competitive game since early Octo-

ber after suffering a serious knee injury while on loan at Marseille.

Carboni had not made an appearance for Inter in over two years, but he was on to hand to sidefoot home when the ball fell to him in the

area. The result left some Urawa fans in tears and Inter level on four points with River Plate with the two teams meeting next.

River Plate were let down by their finishing in a scrappy, foul-ridden encounter

RESULTS

Inter Milan 2 (Martinez 78, Carboni 90+2) Urawa Red Diamonds 1 (Watanabe 11), Borussia Dortmund 4 (Nmecha 16, Guirassy 34, Bellingham 45, Mudau 59- og) Mamelodi Sundowns 3 (Ribeiro 11, Rayners 62, Mothiba 90), River Plate 0 Monterrey 0, Fluminense 4 (Arias 27, Nonato 66, Freytes 83, Keno 90+2) Ulsan HD 2 (Lee Jinhyun 37, Um Won-sang 45-3)

with Mexico's Monterrey, who sit on two points.

Esteban Andrada, Monterrey's Argentine keeper, made a series of saves while River's forwards were unable to put away the few chances that came their way.

Monterrey could still make it into the last 16 if they beat Urawa and River or Inter win their game.

Earlier Jobe Bellingham got his first goal for Dortmund as his new club over-

came stifling heat in Cincinnati to beat Sundowns 4-3 and move to four points

from two matches in Group F. Sundowns will still go into their final game in Group F with a chance of qualifying for the last 16.

South Korea's Ulsan gave Fluminense a real scare in their Group F clash at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey, leading 2-1 until the 66th minute before the Brazilians ran out 4-2 winners, eliminating the K-League champions in the process.

A win or draw for the Rio club in their final group game will ensure their passage into the last 16.

