



The sports minister for Victoria state says tennis players at January's Australian Open can expect fewer restrictions on their movements around Melbourne if they are vaccinated for Covid-19. Martin Pakula also said he was "very confident" of the first Grand Slam tournament of 2022 proceeding at Melbourne Park from Jan. 17-30.

# India need all-round game at Oval

Visitors' batsmen will have to step up and perform in order for the team to bounce back in the fourth Test

VENKATA KRISHNA B @Chennai

COLOMBO (2015), Bengaluru (2017), Johannesburg (2018), Nottingham (2018), Melbourne (2018), Melbourne (2020). Chennai (2021). Not that they need inspiration with the Pataudi Trophy tied 1-1 with two Tests to play, but if the visitors need it, they only need to look within. It is not just a team filled with match-winners, but also characters who have triumphed past adversities when odds weren't in their favour.

They have been in this space before where doubts have been raised, with questions over specific individuals. However, this team has silenced the doubters in a manner that past teams have seldom done.

The current batting line-up may not be as star-studded as the Fab Five or have loads of runs or good averages to show, but there is something about the resilience they show when their backs are against the wall. Those headline-grabbing wins mentioned above have been preceded by collapses in Galle, Pune, Centurion, Lord's and Adelaide and big defeats in Perth and Chennai. "We've been

## Changes likely for teams

Undecided combinations, wholesale changes and warm weather. It's all to play for as the two sides head to the fourth Test at The Oval. A look at few talking points...

### COMBINATIONS

There is less than 10 hours to go but who makes both XIs is still up in the air. Shardul Thakur could get a look in, R Ashwin may be considered. For England, Chris Woakes may get a chance. With Jonny Bairstow keeping wickets in place of the absent Jos Buttler, both sides could have multiple changes.

bowled out for 36 and bounced back from that," India's bowler

coach Bharat Arun said on

Wednesday. "We can take the confidence of what we've done in the past and I am sure you'll

### PACER(S) TO REST, ROTATE

Five Tests in six weeks is tough on the players. With the series set to be alive till the final Test, both captains may mull resting one of their frontline pacers (Jasprit Bumrah, Mohd Shami or Mohd Siraj for India and Ollie Robinson or James Anderson for England). They have played all three Tests and the mileage in their legs could mean that they are in the red zone.

### WARM AND DRY

As far as the weather is concerned, London is expected to be largely warm and dry on the first four days. Will that tempt the visitors into playing Ashwin? With sun beating down on a historically spin-friendly track, this is the off-spinner's best chance of getting a look in.

**3**  
India have lost their last three Tests at The Oval, with two of those being innings defeats.

**1**  
In Ashwin's only Test at The Oval in 2014, the off-spinner took 3/72 in 21.3 overs with two maidens in the lone innings that India bowled.

Live on Sony network from 3:30 pm

see a much more spirited performance in the Test matches.

As India enter The Oval in search of their second win of the series, the onus remains on the batting unit to put up a total which the bowlers can defend. In the four Tests India have played this summer in England, the middle-order has remained susceptible to deliveries outside off. The indecisiveness showed by Cheteshwar Pujara, Virat Kohli and Ajinkya Rahane at No 3, 4, and 5 can happen to visiting batsmen in England, where the conditions over the past five years happen to be amongst the most difficult for batsmen across the world.

Amid the crushing defeat in Leeds, there were a few positives to take home for India and it happened to be the performances of Pujara and Kohli in the second innings. While the two may still be far away from being considered 'batsmen who have returned to form', there were encouraging signs which were greeted by head coach Ravi Shastri. Someone who rarely shows his emotions in the dressing room, he twice walked out of the coach's

cabin at Headingley with a grin on his face to applaud as Pujara, fought his way back to score 91. More than the runs, the time the No 3 spent in the middle will have reassured the team management. That he was beginning to behind the line of the ball will have been noticed.

Amidst this, it is impossible to overlook the faith the team management has retained in their under fire batting line-up.

It is a stark contrast to what went on during the 2018 tour, where by the middle of it, few players felt they were just one bad performance away from being benched. Although plenty of noise has been made about Pujara and his strike-rate on this tour, the team management values his presence. It is why they were more than happy to wait for the No 3 to be back spending time in the middle. The visitors believe that when that happens, the rest will automatically fall in place as it would give their No 4 and 5 and 6 more breathing space.

It is over to the batting unit to repay the faith and do what they like doing: rise from the ashes.

## TRANSFER HIGHLIGHTS IN EUROPE

Messi moved on a free, Jack Grealish set a record, Antoine Griezmann returned to Atletico, Cristiano Ronaldo is back in Manchester and PSG refused to sell Kylian Mbappe. A look at the transfer window after it shut on Tuesday...

### PSG FLEX THEIR MUSCLES, IN A DIFFERENT WAY

At some level, the Parisiens are playing a different game. Bankrolled by an oil-rich country, they have obliterated the field by offering rich contracts to free agents. They have picked up Gianluigi Donnarumma, Lionel Messi, Sergio Ramos and Georginio Wijnaldum, all without paying a transfer fee. They did all that and still refused to sell Mbappe, for north of 150 million pounds in the final year of his year contact.

### PREMIER LEAGUE STILL THE BIG DADDY

While clubs up and down Europe are still feeling the effects of a Covid-19 market, Premier League sides, thanks in large part to rich and willing owners as well as a gigantic existing TV rights deal, have managed to push the boat out in terms of spending. In all, the English league spent 1.1 billion pounds, comfortably clear of the other big-spending European leagues. Grealish set an English transfer record while Arsenal set their own record for money spent in a single window.

### LEGACY PLAYERS HAVE NEW HOMES

Much of elite club football in Europe has been shaped by the fortunes of Messi and Ronaldo over the last 14-15 years. For the first time ever, the Clasico, one of the biggest matches in club football, will have never neither of these two talents since the early part of theughties. While Real vs Barcelona will always grab eyeballs, the rivalry will perhaps warm down for a bit. Also, where does this leave Barcelona who might have a painful rebuild ahead of them?

### HAALAND AND MBAPPE THE NEXT BATTLE

Premium attackers will always go for top dollar: Romelu Lukaku's Chelsea deal is an example. And the next in line will heat up next season when Mbappe will be out of contract at PSG and a specific clause gets activated in Erling Haaland's contract. They are football's next biggest things and with both not even close to hitting their peak years, next year's summer transfer window will be another blockbuster.

### MISSING PERSON

Mr. Santhosh @ Sojan, Age 50 years shown in the above photo is missing since 28/07/2020 from Kudiyannala Police Station Limit, Valiya Aarekkamala, Eruvessy Village, Taliparamba Taluk, Kannur District, Kerala State. The above said person is showing traces of Mental Disorder. Any information about him may be intimated to the given address or phone number. **PHYSICAL FEATURES:** Height - 5.5 Feet, Complexion - White. **CONTACT NO.:** 9479980864, 9479964174, 0460 2218240.

Sd/- Inspector of Police, Kudiyannala Police Station, Kannur District, Kerala State.

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### TENDER ENQUIRY NO: QQ-2321/PO-P

Chief Purchase Officer/MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd Floor, Multistory Building, The Mall, Patiala, invites E-Tender for Procurement of 6,00,000 No. Galvanized Steel Pipe of small steel head made by forging process, suitable for 11 KV Pin Insulators as per PSPCL Specification Number: QO-2321/PSPCL/PO-P. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 31.08.2021 onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

397/C-325-21-9/2021  
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### GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, PROJECT CIRCLE, COIMBATORE TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No.01 / 2021-22 / SDO / Dated: 01.09.2021.

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu Schedule tender through online only will be received upto 04.10.2021, 15.00 hours by the Superintending Engineer (H) Projects Circle, Coimbatore for S.No.1 under Work Announced by Hon'ble Highways & Minor Ports Minister During Budget Demand 2017 – 2018 pertaining Salem (H) Projects Division.

Details of work, approximate value of work, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available in the Government website <https://tntenders.gov.in> from 03.09.2021. If any changes / corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.

DIPR/2571/Tender/2021  
Superintending Engineer (H),  
Project Circle, Coimbatore-43.

"தமிழ்நாடு வசதிக் கலைக்டர் கூட்டுரை மற்றும் தொழில் வசதிக் குழுமம்"

### GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER PHULBANI (R&B) CIRCLE, PHULBANI

Phone - 06842 254004, Email: sernbphulbani@gmail.com

### INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Bid Identification No. SE-(R&B)-PLB- 06/2021-22

No. 1129 Dated: 27.08.2021

1 The Superintending Engineer, Phulbani (R & B) Circle, Phulbani on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid (Composite Tender) in double cover system in **ONLINE MODE** for construction of building work detailed in the table below from eligible contractors.

2 Nature of work :- Building work  
3. No. of tenders :- 1 No of Building work

4 Tender cost :- Rs. 10,000/- (through online) only.

5 Class of Contractor :- "A" & "Special" Class

6 Date & Time of sale & receipt of bids :- 10.00 AM of 03.09.2021 to 5.00PM of 17.09.2021

7 Date of Opening of bid :- 11.00 AM of 18.09.2021

8 The Bidders shall have to participate in online bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website <https://tendersodisha.gov.in> . any addendum/Corrigendum/Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason.

Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer,

Phulbani (R&B) Circle, Phulbani

OIPR-34129/11/0006/2122

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