

# Every game we play is with the World Cup in mind: Arun

India returns to the one-day format for the first time in four months with the series against the West Indies



**Power of wrist spin:** India's bowling coach B. Arun says that, on their day, Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav can prove to be match-winners. ■B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

## WI IN INDIA

S. DIPAK RAGAV  
CHENNAI

After dominating the Tests and T20Is at home in the recent past, India returns to the ODI format for the first time in four months, incidentally against the same opponent – West Indies – it last played. The three-match series gets underway at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium here on Sunday.

With the next 50-over World Cup to be held in India in 2023, the preparation for the quadrennial event will begin in earnest from now.

Bowling coach B. Arun explained the process here on Friday. “You do plan for the World Cup much ahead. Every game we play is with the World Cup in mind. You want to try out different options and try out players in different circumstances and understand what the best combination is.

“All the players here are resources. How best you utilise them, where one will bat, where one will bowl, and understanding these aspects

will be very important for the World Cup,” he said.

One such move for the 2019 World Cup was the decision to back the two wrist spinners – Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav – a partnership whose effectiveness first came to light at the same ground here two years ago against Australia, where the duo picked up five wickets in the middle-overs to script a 26-run win (D/L method).

However, after the loss to

England in the World Cup earlier this year, the team-management has started to rethink its strategy and the duo hasn’t been fielded in the same XI since then after playing 34 matches together and taking 118 wickets between them.

That is not something that is going to change going forward. “We were looking at an ideal combination which gives absolute balance to the team. Also, there was an option where we could use (Ra-

vindra) Jadeja as an all-rounder. “So that really helped us and yes, there maybe occasions when there are conducive conditions in which both can play. But we will have to look at the overall balance,” said Arun.

In September, Virat Kohli had also indicated that Kuldeep and Chahal’s ability with the bat was also a factor in them not being guaranteed starters in the shorter formats and T20s, especially as the team wanted depth in batting.

## Bhuvu injured

Bhuvneshwar Kumar has joined Shikhar Dhawan in the injured players’ list ahead of the ODI series against the West Indies. With Bhuvneshwar’s groin injury recurring during the T20 series, Mumbai’s Shardul Thakur is set to replace him in the squad.

Meanwhile, West Indies’ Evin Lewis, who suffered an injury in the final T20 in Mumbai, is still a doubtful starter. The opening batsman suffered soft tissue damage to his right knee.

## Learn from Kohli: Estwicks

SPORTS REPORTER  
CHENNAI

After losing the T20 series 2-1, the West Indies faces an uphill task in the three-match ODI series starting on Sunday, since it is a format the team has struggled in the recent past. Its recent 3-0 series win over Afghanistan was the side’s first in five years.

The Caribbean side has struggled in building an innings in the 50-over

format and assistant coach Roddy Estwicks wants his young batsmen to take inspiration from Indian skipper Virat Kohli.

“You have got a benchmark in (Virat) Kohli. He is somebody who will be in the gym and work very hard.

“A lot of players can learn from him.

“Hard work is boring but it can give you great success.”

## Rain truncates play again

### SL IN PAKISTAN

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
RAWALPINDI

Pakistan’s first home Test in a decade was affected by bad weather on Friday, with rain and an already sodden pitch forcing officials to suspend play on the third day of the contest against Sri Lanka.

After day three’s first session was washed out, only 27 minutes of play was possible. In the 5.2 overs bowled during the day, Sri Lanka progressed to 282 for six from 263 for six, with Dhananjaya de Silva remaining unbeaten on 87 and Dilruwan Perera on six.

## Consolation win for Sindhu

PRESS’ TRUST OF INDIA  
GUANGZHOU

Already out of the reckoning, India’s P.V. Sindhu recorded a consolation win over China’s He Bingjiao in the third Group A match to end her campaign on a positive note at the year-ending BWF World Tour Final here on Friday.

Sindhu, whose title defence lay in tatters after her second successive loss on Thursday, scripted an incredible turnaround after being 9-18 down in the opening game to eventually outwit Bingjiao 21-19, 21-19 and finish third in the group.

## Bravo does a u-turn, to play T20Is

DOMINIC RICHARD  
CHENNAI

Former West Indies captain Dwayne Bravo announced his return to international cricket here on Friday, making himself available for selection to the West Indies T20I side in the lead-up to the T20 World Cup in Australia next year.

“I’d be making a return to international T20 cricket, but not ODIs or Tests.

“I want to fully commit myself to the West Indies

cricket team and play the T20 World Cup,” said the all-rounder at a media interaction.

Bravo had called time on his international career in October last year.

“(Kieron) Pollard is a very passionate guy. His leadership skills are good.

“The coach-captain relationship is very important for any team.

“He and Phil (Simmons) enjoy a good relationship, said Bravo.



Bravo. ■SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

## Starc puts Kiwis on the backfoot

### NZ IN AUSTRALIA

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
PERTH

A stunning catch by Steve Smith snared the prized wicket of Kane Williamson as Mitchell Starc tore through the New Zealand top-order on the second day of the first Test on Friday.

Smith dived to his right at second slip to remove Williamson for 34 off the bowling of Starc just when it appeared that the Kiwis were fighting back after losing the openers with just one on the board.

After Australia posted 416, the visitors were struggling at 109 for five in reply at stumps, still 307 in arrears.

Ross Taylor, who put on 76 for the third wicket with Williamson and had made 290 in his previous Test in Perth, was batting on 66 and B-J Watling was yet to score.

Smith’s catch was a key moment as the Kiwis slumped to 97 for five, losing three wickets for just 20 runs. Starc (4-31) did the damage with four wickets, including those of Henry Nicholls (7) and nightwatch-

man Neil Wagner (0) off successive balls.

Australia had also lost opening bowler Josh Hazlewood to a left hamstring injury after he had bowled opener Jeet Raval (0) in his first over.

### SCOREBOARD

**Australia — 1st innings:** David Warner c & b Wagner 43, Joe Burns lbw b de Grandhomme 9, Grandhomme 22-8-37-1, Santner 33-5-111-0, Raval 13-1-33-1. **New Zealand — 1st innings:** Jeet Raval b Hazlewood 1, Tom Latham c & b Starc 0, Kane Williamson c Smith b Starc 34, Ross Taylor (batting) 66, Henry Nicholls c Paine b Starc 7, Neil Wagner b Starc 0, B-J. Watling (batting) 0; Extras (b-1): 1; Total (for five wkts. in 32 overs): 109.

**Fall of wickets:** 1-40, 2-75, 3-207, 4-225, 5-301, 6-325, 7-363, 8-408, 9-416.

**New Zealand bowling:** Southee

30.2-7-93-4, Ferguson 11-1-47-0, Wagner 37-7-92-4, de Grandhomme 22-8-37-1, Santner 33-5-111-0, Raval 13-1-33-1. **New Zealand — 1st innings:** Jeet Raval b Hazlewood 1, Tom Latham c & b Starc 0, Kane Williamson c Smith b Starc 34, Ross Taylor (batting) 66, Henry Nicholls c Paine b Starc 7, Neil Wagner b Starc 0, B-J. Watling (batting) 0; Extras (b-1): 1; Total (for five wkts. in 32 overs): 109.

**Fall of wickets:** 1-1, 2-1, 3-77, 4-97, 5-97. **Australia bowling:** Starc 11-1-31-4, Hazlewood 12-1-0-1, Cummins 10.4-2-34-0, Wade 2-0-8-0, Lyon 7-0-35-0.

# Mind Master will become a sporting classic, says Ram

Anand recalls his wonderful journey with witty anecdotes

## BOOK LAUNCH

K. KEERTHIVASAN  
CHENNAI

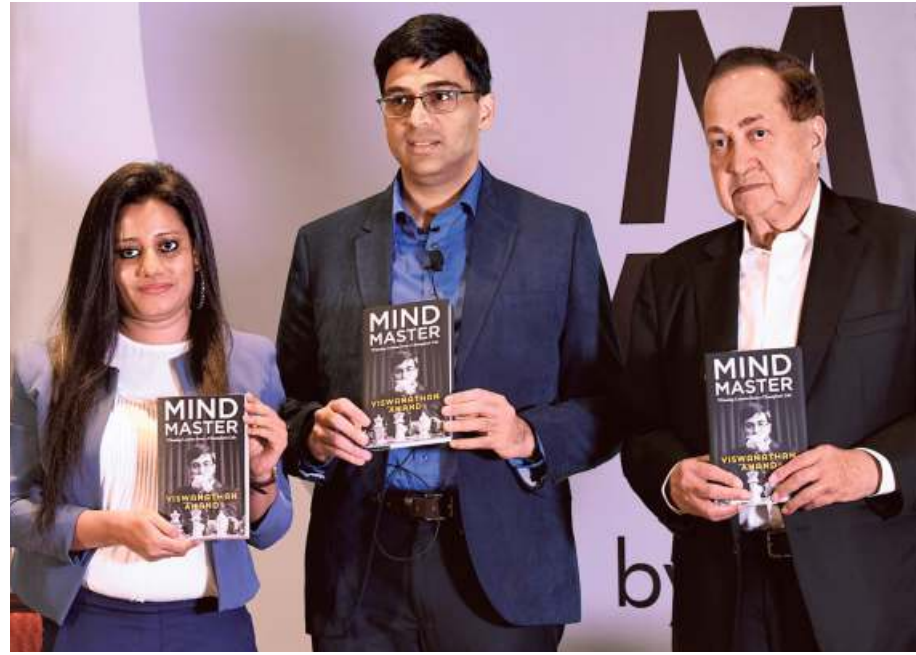
It was an evening when everyone at the ballroom of Hotel Taj Coromandel came face to face with how intelligent, thoughtful and humorous Viswanathan Anand, the five-time world chess champion, is off the chess board.

While releasing his book ‘Mind Master’, co-authored by sports journalist Susan Ninan, the chess legend, in a conversation with N. Ram, Chairman, THG Publishing Private Limited, on Friday recalled some wonderful memories of his journey through witty anecdotes and astute observations.

## The Putin quip

Reading from portions of the book, Ram said when Anand won his fourth successive World Championship crown in 2012 in Moscow – he defeated Boris Gelfand of Israel – the Russian President Vladimir Putin, after coming to know that Anand had learnt his early lessons at the Tal Chess Club in Madras, joked: “So it is a problem we have brought upon ourselves!”

While praising the book, Ram said it is destined to become a “sporting classic.” “It strikes a fine balance between being a book for keen



**A champion's story:** Viswanathan Anand, centre, with N. Ram, Chairman, THG Publishing Private Limited, and Susan Ninan, left, the co-author of *Mind Master*. ■R. RAVINDRAN

chess readers, including top players and non-chess readers, and one that can be read with pleasure.”

Anand said he developed the habit of taking notes right from an early age after his mother Sushila insisted on it.

The champion revealed that the words of Ljubomir Ljubojevic, a senior Grandmaster, had left a lasting impression on him. “Vishy boy, you should keep a diary. Then he said beautifully how streams have many interesting stories to tell at the

beginning, but once they reach the ocean, they have nothing left to say.”

## Sparring partner

On having Magnus Carlsen as a sparring partner when the Norwegian was a teenager, Anand said even then he observed how sharp he was.

“After training with him, I had more questions than answers,” said Anand.

The Indian Grandmaster felt that the gap between Russia and the other countries has considerably narrowed.

“If you see the top 10 players in the world, there is a lot of diversity,” he said.

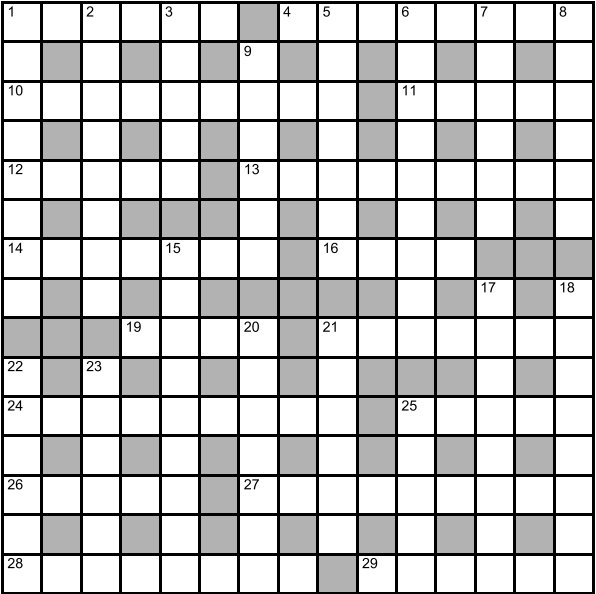
On why there aren’t many strong women Grandmasters and World champions, Anand said there is no definitive answer, but said that between the Elo rating of 2300 and 2600, there were women players, but from 2700 and upwards, there is a gap,” he said.

## Like father like son

Anand said he saw himself in son Akhil who, too, loves mathematics and puzzles.

## THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12806

Log on to crossword.thehindu.com for more puzzles



### ACROSS

- 1 Gems of quiet noblemen (6)
- 4 Is inside kid’s rail (8)
- 10 Reporters ran back to gunners on hills (9)
- 11 Precise demand (5)
- 12 Temp typist’s available (5)
- 13 Wrongly enamoured by appearance (9)

### DOWN

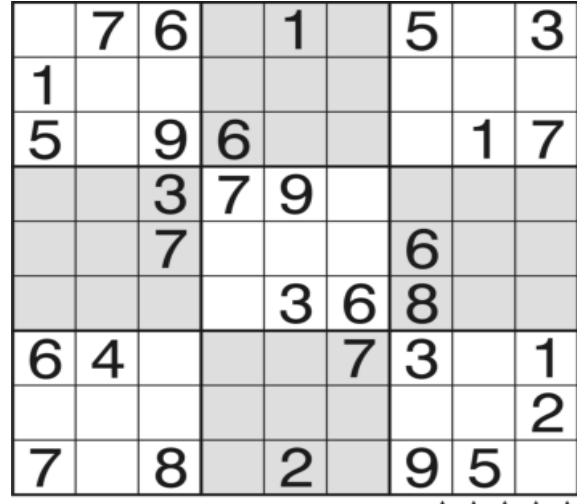
- 1 Glasses to fix engineer having acid reflux (5-3)
- 2 Degeneration of a prize mostly given by Iowa (8)
- 3 Porous meadows near Kentucky (5)

(set by Sunnet)

- 14 First off, treason is an issue (7)
- 16 See dry fruit (4)
- 19 Grain in gelato machine (4)
- 21 Small quantity (around a yard) given to lean rider (7)
- 24 Former student has pets taken back to the French blocks (9)
- 25 River is on the other side of husband’s home (5)
- 26 Males cooked food (5)
- 27 Wind a wire to explode (4,1,4)
- 28 Therefore heartless intellectual is alone (8)
- 29 Black lodge for rich travellers (3,3)

- 5 Adopted or used sad muse (7)
- 6 Rigid elected jerk avoids backing deal (9)
- 7 Kettle’s companion ate crumpled ‘pan’ (6)
- 8 Put back on shift (6)
- 9 Excellent General’s over the hill (6)
- 15 New train isn’t on the way (2,7)
- 17 Spirits live near one unfinished row house (8)
- 18 Road engineer’s trial is most expensive (8)
- 20 Coast of Malta according to court (7)
- 21 Every other cruise by boy is routine (6)
- 22 Say pads for detective (6)
- 23 Attack when on voyage (6)
- 25 Lift given by man on street (5)

## SUDOKU



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

### Solution to puzzle 12805

TENNIS PLAYER  
B N E I E E E C  
E N D O W E D  
I U R E S C U E  
U E I J C O A  
T A R A N T U L A  
E S T R  
C L A R A T W O  
A F I R I C A E  
V A G A B O N D  
E H L B C E D  
A L A B A M A  
T N S S H N A  
I N T H E L O N G

### Solution to yesterday’s Sudoku

3 6 5 7 4 9 2 8 1  
8 9 1 2 6 5 4 3 7  
4 7 2 3 1 8 6 5 9  
7 1 8 6 5 2 3 9 4  
5 2 4 9 7 3 1 6 8  
9 3 6 1 8 4 7 2 5  
2 5 7 8 3 1 9 4 6  
6 8 9 4 2 7 5 1 3  
1 4 3 5 9 6 8 7 2

## FAITH

### Consciousness principle

Krishna’s outline sketch of the select areas that proclaim His presence makes it clear that whatever is worthwhile and meritorious in this world only reflects His greatness. Internalising the spirit of this truth automatically frees one from ego sense as one is able to perceive all graces, achievements, attainments, etc, of mankind right from the past to this day as having their source in Him, pointed out Srimati Rukmini Ramamurthy in a discourse. The Lord says that He is present as the mind among the senses. All living beings are endowed with consciousness or a special awareness that he is a living entity and this awareness is present until such time when the sukshma sarira leaves the body and goes away.

The mind is a very subtle internal instrument known as the anta-karana that is responsible for the functioning of karmendriyas and jnanendriyas. It is capable of mental modifications and can take any shape and travel anywhere at will. It can play tricks and when it swings towards the senses it finds attraction towards the world around. The same mind can remove ajnana and lead one to the blissful state if it is trained to dissociate itself from the senses, ahankara and all else. Realised souls are engaged in the effort to reach the state of pure mental existence, and hence practise mind control through meditation. In that stage known as taijasa, there is no awareness of the body, sense organs, the mind, etc, for the mind is merged with the Supreme Brahman and the atma. There is no experience of feeling of change that is the characteristic of worldly existence.

The process of spiritual evolution is the effort to nullify the deep rooted identification of the atma with the body and realise its far superior and inherent nature as the essence of Sat-Chit-Ananda, which is very nature of Supreme Brahman.



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