

In a major blow, injured Rohit ruled out of New Zealand tour

Mayank Agarwal likely to be replacement for the three ODIs and Shubman Gill for the two Tests

INDIA IN NZ

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI**
Limited-overs vice-captain Rohit Sharma was on Monday ruled out of the upcoming One-Day International and Test series against New Zealand after sustaining a calf injury during the fifth T20 International in Mount Maunganui.

Rohit retired hurt on 60 off 41 balls after he pulled his calf muscle while going for a quick single during the match that India won on Sunday.

Being assessed

"He is out of the tour. Right now, it's not looking good. The physio is assessing him. We will get to know how bad it is, but he is not taking any further part in the series," a top BCCI source told PTI.

India is set to play three ODIs, starting Wednesday, and two Tests after that. It is learnt that Mayank Agarwal will replace Rohit as the third opener along with K.L. Rahul and Prithvi Shaw.

Mayank was the logical choice in the white-ball format since he was the reserve opener during the home ODI series against the West Indies



Hors de combat: Rohit Sharma is attended to after he suffered a leg injury during the fifth T20I against New Zealand at Mount Maunganui on Sunday. •GETTY IMAGES

when Shikhar Dhawan was absent owing to knee injury. In the Test squad, Shubman Gill will join Rahul and Shaw as the third opener.

During India's last two Test

series at home (vs South Africa and Bangladesh), Gill was the back-up opener to Rohit and Mayank. His place was sealed in the squad after scores of 83 and 204 not out

in a drawn first 'A' Test against New Zealand in Christchurch.

The Test squad is yet to be officially announced, but it is learnt that it has already been

selected and only the official announcement is due.

The old selection committee under M.S.K. Prasad picked the replacements but it might take some time for

The T20I series in numbers

BATTING							
Name	Innings	Runs	Highest	Avg.	S/R	50/100s	
K.L. Rahul	5	224	57*	56	144.51	2/0	
Colin Munro	5	178	64	35.6	130.88	2/0	
Ross Taylor	5	166	54*	41.5	131.74	2/0	
Kane Williamson	3	160	95	53.33	170.21	2/0	
Shreyas Iyer	5	153	58*	51	131.89	1/0	

BOWLING							
Name	Matches	Wickets	BBI	Avg.	Econ.	4/5W	
Shardul Thakur	5	8	2/21	19.62	9.81	0/0	
Jasprit Bumrah	5	6	3/12	21.5	6.45	0/0	
Ish Sodhi	5	6	3/26	24.33	7.3	0/0	
Hamish Bennett	5	6	3/54	30.16	9.52	0/0	
Ravindra Jadeja	3	4	2/18	14.75	5.9	0/0	

*The runs and wickets in the Super Overs haven't been included

the official announcement as convenor of the selection committee, secretary Jay Shah, is on his way to New Zealand along with treasurer Arun Dhimal.

"Once the secretary's approval comes, the replacements will be officially announced. But the selectors have already sent the names," the source added.

It has still not been ascertained whether Rohit has endured a calf muscle tear, but he looked in severe pain even after physio Nitin Patel attended to him. Despite that, he smacked a six off Ish Sodhi but had to be replaced after the pain became unbearable.

India fined for slow over-rate in final T20I

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DUBAI**

The Indian cricket team has been fined 20% of its match fee for maintaining a slow over-rate against New Zealand in the fifth and final T20 International on Sunday.

Match referee Chris Broad imposed the sanction after India was ruled to be one over short

of the target after time allowances were taken into consideration. Stand-in captain Rohit Sharma pleaded guilty to the offence and accepted the sanction.

On Saturday, the Indian team had been docked 40% of its match fee after falling short of target by two overs in the fourth T20I.

Rahul jumps to second place

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DUBAI**

K.L. Rahul reaped the reward for his stellar all-round show in India's 5-0 drubbing of New Zealand as he rose to a career-best second position in the ICC T20 rankings released on Monday.

Pakistan's Babar Azam maintained pole position while Rohit Sharma entered the top-10 of the rankings. Virat Kohli remains in ninth position.

Shreyas Iyer (up 63 places to 55th) and Manish Pandey (up 12 places to 58th) advanced in the latest rankings.

Among bowlers, Jasprit Bumrah gained 26 places to reach 11th position, Yuzvendra Chahal has advanced 10 places to 30th and Shardul Thakur's eight wickets in the series have lifted him 34 places to 57th.

Navdeep Saini (up 25 places to 71st) and Ravindra Jadeja (up 34 places to 76th) have also moved up.

India takes on Pakistan for place in final

Both teams are unbeaten in the tournament

U-19 WORLD CUP

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
POTCHEFSTROOM**

Four-time champion India will look to reach a third successive final at the U-19 World Cup when it faces Pakistan in a last-four clash here on Tuesday.

Both teams go into the semifinal unbeaten. While India beat Australia in the quarterfinals, Pakistan outplayed Afghanistan.

Pakistan captain Rohail Nazir played down the hype surrounding the game but an India-Pakistan contest is always high on pressure.

"It is a high-pressure game and has a lot of buzz in the world. We will play it like a normal game and hope to do well," said Pakistan opener Mohammad Hurraira after the win over Afghanistan.

Like at the highest level, the India juniors have had the upper hand over Pakistan of late, having won the Asia Cup encounter last September when they emerged tournament winners.

India, the defending



Captain's ace: Ravi Bishnoi has delivered whenever skipper Priyam Garg needed him to, even with the bat. •COURTESY: ICC

champion here, had trounced Pakistan by 203 runs in the last edition in 2018.

However, history counts for little and the Priyam Garg-led India will have to be at its best to knock Pakistan out. Opener Yashasvi Jaiswal has been the backbone of the Indian batting, scoring three half-centuries in four games, including against Australia.

The rest of the batsmen

have not done much to write home about and if the lower-order had not rescued India in the quarterfinal, the outcome of the game could have been different. Not to forget the match-winning spell from pacer Kartik Tyagi.

Atharva Ankolekar and in-form leggie Ravi Bishnoi shared a 61-run stand for the seventh wicket to give their team a fighting chance. In the end, India won rather



Atharva Ankolekar. •COURTESY: ICC

comfortably.

Facing Pakistan fast bowlers Abbas Afridi, Mohammad Amir Khan and Tahir Hussain will be a challenge. Opener Hurraira made an impressive debut in the last game, scoring 64 to lead his team to a comprehensive win over Afghanistan after the bowlers had set up the game.

Match starts at 1.30 p.m. IST.

Tendulkar's WC win in shortlist

LAUREUS AWARD

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI**

Sachin Tendulkar has been shortlisted as one among five contenders for the Laureus Sporting Moment 2000-2020 Award.

The winner will be selected after the third and final round of voting, which will

end on February 16.

The moment, titled 'Carried On the Shoulders Of A Nation', is a reference to the Indian cricket team's 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup triumph.

In his sixth attempt, Tendulkar finally tasted success in 2011 as India beat Sri Lanka by six wickets. Carried on the shoulders of the Indian

team, Tendulkar made a lap of honour, shedding tears of joy after the victory was sealed in his home city of Mumbai.

Earlier, Tendulkar was one of the 20 contenders for the award.

The winner will be announced during the Laureus World Sports Awards Show on February 17 in Berlin.

Sindhu, Mary Kom among nominees

Phogat, Dutee and Manasi are the others in the fray

BBC AWARD

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI**

Shuttler P.V. Sindhu and boxer Mary Kom are among the five nominees for the inaugu-

ral BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year award to be presented here on March 8.

The other three are Vinesh Phogat (wrestling), Dutee Chand (athletics) and Manasi Joshi (para-badminton),

The winner will be decided following online voting. Those interested in voting can log on to any one of the various Indian language websites of BBC. Voting closes on Feb. 17 at 11.30 p.m.



Dutee Chand. Mary Kom. Vinesh Phogat. Sindhu. Manasi Joshi.

Fati-Messi combo comes alive



On the prowl: Ansu Fati was on fire for Barcelona. •AP

EURO LEAGUES

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MADRID**

Ansu Fati became the youngest player ever to score a brace in La Liga by capitalising on two brilliant Lionel Messi assists to give Barcelona a 2-1 victory over Levante on Sunday.

Fati, at 17 years and 94 days old, broke the previous record held by Juanmi Jimenez, who scored twice for Malaga against Real Zaragoza at 17 years and 115 days old in 2010.

Weaving run

Messi teed up Fati's quick-fire double with a defence-splitting pass and then a trademark weaving run before Ruben Rochina scored Levante's goal in the 92nd minute, which really should have come sooner.

Barca reduce the gap at the top to three points behind Real Madrid and begin to regain some rhythm under new coach Quique Setien after Thursday's 5-0 thumping of Leganes in the Copa del Rey.

Setien's take "We could have won 8-2 or 8-3," said Setien.

"We lost a little control in the second half and conceded too much but it was a good job from the team."

Yet Levante should have converted more of a handful of excellent chances in the second half, that suggested Barcelona's defensive problems and fragility when in the lead are far from solved. Leganes and Levante,

who sit 18th and 13th respectively, offered a relatively straight-forward route back to winning ways too for Barcelona, which was wobbling last weekend when it followed a last-gasp win over Segunda side Ibiza with a convincing defeat by Valencia.

The results: Serie A: Lecce 4 (Deiola 11, Barak 19, Falco 64, Lapadula 78-pen) bt Torino 0; Udinese 0 lost to Inter Milan 2 (Lukaku 64, 71-pen).

La Liga: Villarreal 3 (Paco Alcacer 45+1, Pena 54, Cazorla 59-pen) bt Osasuna 1 (Aridane Hernandez Umpierrez 48); Sevilla 1 (Ocampos 77-pen) drew with Alaves 1 (Joselu 70); Barcelona 2 (Fati 30, 31) bt Levante 1 (Rochina 90+2).

Bundesliga: Paderborn 2 (Zolinski 22, Vasilias 72) lost to Wolfsburg 4 (Knoche 26, Ginczek 40, 60, Arnold 76).

Rituparna and Kean Yew do it for Aces

The win over Warriors virtually assures them of a place in the last-four stage

PBL

**V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD**

Pune 7 Aces rode on the brilliance of Rituparna Das and Loh Kean Yew to score an emphatic 4-1 win against Awadhe Warriors and virtually assure itself of a place in the last-four stage of the Premier Badminton League at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium here on Monday.

First loss

In the first match, former World champions Ko Sung Hyun and Shin Baek Cheol of Warriors raised the bar in the decider, handing a gallant Chirag Shetty and Hendra Setiawan their first defeat of the season.

It was anybody's game before Chirag faltered with his net play and committed three unforced errors at the crunch.

The Warriors duo cashed in on this to claw back and clinch the issue.

Big blow

Warriors suffered a huge blow as World No. 14 Beiwenzhang, playing the Trump match, was beaten by World No. 100 Rituparna Das. The two were meeting for the first time.

It was a stunning display by Rituparna, who returned most of the big smashes and

was also solid at the net against the former India Open champion.

Special win

"I am really happy with this win. I played it safe and ensured that I didn't make too many mistakes. And the team supported me really well. This is a very special win for me," said a delighted Rituparna.

Later, former World Championship silver medal-

lists Chris Adcock and Gabrielle Adcock scored a fluent win over Ivan Sozonov and Christinna Pedersen to give Aces a 2-0 advantage.

All over

With Loh Kean Yew winning the Trump for Pune against Subhankar Dey, the contest was over as Aces took an unbeatable 4-0 lead even before the final contest.

Ajay Jayaram overcame Kazumasa Sakai to score a

consolation point for Warriors.

The results: Pune 7 Aces bt Awadhe Warriors 4-1 (Chirag Shetty & Hendra Setiawan lost to Ko Sung Hyun & Shin Baek Cheol 15-6, 9-15, 12-15; Rituparna Das bt Beiwenzhang (T) 15-13, 15-12; Chris Adcock & Gabrielle Adcock bt Ivan Sozonov & Christinna Pedersen 15-6, 15-9; Loh Kean Yew (T) bt Subhankar Dey 15-12, 15-14; Kazumasa Sakai lost to Ajay Jayaram 15-6, 10-15, 13-15).



Causing a flutter: Rituparna stunned Zhang as Aces fought back against Warriors. •NAGARA GOPAL

Manpreet at the helm

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI**

Manpreet Singh will lead India in the upcoming FIH Pro League matches against World No. 1 Belgium, for which a 24-member team was announced on Monday with a newcomer in Raj Kumar Pal.

Harmanpreet Singh will be the vice-captain in the matches to be held on Feb. 8 and 9 at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.

Raj Kumar Pal was impressive in his stint with the India Colts team.

Chief coach Graham Reid said, "The objective of these matches of the FIH Hockey Pro League is to find the balance between giving players opportunities for Olympic selection, working out our strongest combinations and continuing to demonstrate that we can compete with the best teams in the world."

The squad: P.R. Sreejesh, Krishan Bahadur Pathak, Harmanpreet Singh, Gurinder Singh, Amit Rohidas, Surender Kumar, Jarmanpreet Singh, Rupinder Pal Singh, Manpreet Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, Chinglensana Singh, Raj Kumar Pal, Dilpreet Singh, Hardik Singh, Ramandeep Singh, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay, Mandeep Singh, Shamsher Singh, Gursahibjit Singh, Kothajit Singh Kadangbam, Birendra Lakra, Nilakanta Sharma, Gurnant Singh and S.V. Sunil.