Indian Cricket: The Way Forward

By Sunil Sarpal

Some of the issues in Indian Cricket need deliberation :-

1) After the triumph in T-20 World Cup, Indian Cricket set an example of winning streak. Both Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli have stepped down from inclusion in T-20 squad. They may be in the age group of 35-36 years but because of their reputation and performance at the highest level of cricket, India could lift the trophy. It is Rohit's all out attack up-front the order gives India an edge over their opposition and create a panic like situation in opposition camp. He set the stage on fire with his trade mark pulls and hooks that the following batsmen need not indulge in hara kiri shot selection and play their normal self to guide India home. On the other hand, Virat Kohli's stay at the wicket gives stability to the side. He is reputed to be the most prolific run-getting machine on whose shoulder India always shine. Taking retirement from T-20 when both of them in their pink form is a half-baked decision. It is time for both of them to stay in the team for a longer period of time so that in their benign presence the new generation like Shobham Gill and Rinku Singh are nurtured. Once these new comers provide steller performance to the team's case, the vetern Rohit and Virat should ease out of the T-20 format. Being new comers to International cricket, both Shubham Gill and Rinku Singh may

not feel the heat of International pressure and succumb to pressure.

2) This apart the fabulous performers such as Rituraj Gaekwad and Tilak Verma not being considered for India cap. It is but natural if a batsman perform consistently and not considered for India cap, his confidence level is shattered and he looks for different ways and means to evolve his game. Such a scenario may back firing and prove debilitating results for the players. The Selection Committee should introduce rotation policy on the lines suggested by Australian Cricket and give chance to budding cricketers.

3) With the completion of Rahul Dravid's tenure as India Coach, the onus of doing the coaching falls on the shoulders of Gautam Gambhir. Gautam may bring good amount of experience to the table but is known to be temperamental. There have been a number of instances during his playing when this was found to be so. If the performance of past coaches are taken into consideration, the most successful ones such as Gary Kirsten and John Wright, both were cool headed and resolved any issue amicably.

BCCI should take into consideration the above contentious issues seriously and work out future strategy accordingly.