

Shreyas Iyer Steps Away from Red-Ball Cricket, Named India A Captain for ODIs as ICC Hearing Looms over BCCI's Case Against Rauf, Farhan

In a move that has reshaped perceptions of his career trajectory, Shreyas Iyer has announced a hiatus from **red-ball cricket**, opting to focus on shorter formats as he battles a recurrent back issue. Simultaneously, the BCCI has lodged a formal complaint with the ICC against Pakistan's Haris Rauf and Sahibzada Farhan for their on-field gestures, and an ICC hearing now looms large amid mounting drama.



Back Troubles Force a Format Shift

After undergoing back surgery abroad and showing promise in recovery, Iyer has experienced renewed stiffness and spasms when attempting longer spells in multi-day matches. As a result, he requested a six-month break from first-class and Test cricket, citing physical limitations that make sustained four-day or five-day efforts untenable. Though he had previously attempted to manage these challenges with intermittent rest, this appears to be a more decisive pivot.

By stepping away from red-ball formats for now, Iyer allows his body to recuperate and perhaps preserve longevity in white-ball cricket—where he continues to shine.

Also Read - [Shreyas Iyer Career Stats And Overview](#)

Leadership in ODIs: India A Appointment

In striking contrast to his withdrawal from red-ball formats, Iyer has been entrusted with the captaincy of **India A** for a three-match ODI series against Australia A, set to begin September 30. This shift suggests that selectors still value his tactical acumen, composure, and experience in limited-overs cricket. While some voices interpret this as grooming for higher leadership in the main ODI unit, BCCI officials have clarified that it does *not* guarantee any immediate change in senior team captaincy.

Iyer's selection and captaincy highlight the board's faith in his skills—especially given how central he has been to India's white-ball sobriety in recent times.

Off the Field: ICC Hearing & Cricket Diplomacy

Beyond Iyer's personal journey, Indian cricket is embroiled in controversy. The BCCI has lodged a complaint with the ICC over Rauf's alleged "plane crash" / "6-0" gesture and Farhan's bat gun celebration during the Asia Cup match against India. The ICC is set to convene a hearing to scrutinize those actions under its Code of Conduct. At the same time, the PCB countered with its own complaint against Suryakumar Yadav's post-match remarks, accusing them of being political in nature.

With hearings expected, cricket diplomacy and disciplinary precedent hang in balance. The outcomes could redefine how on-field expressions are policed, and how player conduct is judged between emotion and rulebook.

Iyer's shift away from red-ball cricket and elevation to ODI leadership come at a charged moment in international rivalry. As the ICC hearing approaches, the sport is witnessing a tough balancing act between managing player health, competitive spirit, and the boundaries of acceptable conduct.

Know More:- [Shreyas Iyer to Lead: Full India A Squad vs Australia](#)