

IND vs WI 1st Test: Predicted Playing XI – Will Kuldeep Yadav Feature for India?

The stage is set as India prepares to lock horns with the West Indies in the much-anticipated first Test of the series. Fans and cricket analysts alike are buzzing with speculation about India's playing XI, particularly whether Kuldeep Yadav will make a comeback. With the series being crucial for both teams, India's selection choices could play a decisive role.



India has traditionally relied on a strong top-order anchored by seasoned batsmen like Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill, and Cheteshwar Pujara, who provide stability. The middle order, featuring Rishabh Pant and the in-form Shreyas Iyer, adds the perfect mix of aggression and experience. However, the bowling department is where the real debate lies.

Kuldeep Yadav, India's crafty left-arm wrist-spinner, has been a topic of discussion due to his inconsistent appearances in recent Tests. Known for his ability to bamboozle batsmen with flight and turn, Kuldeep could be an essential weapon, especially on pitches that offer some assistance to spinners. If selected, he would complement the spin duo of Ravichandran Ashwin and Axar Patel, providing India with a potent spin attack capable of challenging even the most resilient West Indies batsmen.

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The fast-bowling lineup is expected to feature Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, and Ishant Sharma, offering a balanced mix of pace, bounce, and experience. Bumrah's lethal yorkers and Shami's swing could trouble the West Indies top order, while Ishant brings the old-school menace with his height and seam movement.

Considering the pitch conditions and West Indies' historical struggles against quality spin, many experts predict that India might give Kuldeep a chance, especially if the wicket shows signs of turning. His inclusion could tilt the balance in India's favor, giving the spinners more options to attack in tandem.

Predicted Playing XI (India): Rohit Sharma (C), Shubman Gill, Cheteshwar Pujara, Shreyas Iyer, Rishabh Pant (WK), Ravichandran Ashwin, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav (if selected), Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Ishant Sharma.

As the first Test approaches, all eyes will be on the toss and pitch report, but one thing is certain—India's selection choices, especially regarding Kuldeep Yadav, could prove pivotal in setting the tone for the series. Fans will be eagerly waiting to see whether the young wrist-spinner gets a chance to showcase his magic once again.

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