

Practically Impossible...’ Ajit Agarkar Explains Rohit Sharma’s ODI Captaincy Sacking as BCCI Announces Squad for Australia Tour

In a dramatic moment in Indian cricket, the BCCI has unveiled the squad for the upcoming Australia tour, and with it came a bombshell: **Rohit Sharma has been removed as India’s ODI captain**, replaced by **Shubman Gill**. Chief selector **Ajit Agarkar** didn’t shy away from defensively explaining the decision – his eyebrow-raising phrase: *“practically impossible.”*



The “Practically Impossible” Case

According to Agarkar, one of the main reasons for this tough call is the logistical and strategic difficulty of managing **three different captains across the formats**. In his view,

the burden on planning, coordination, and vision becomes unwieldy when leadership is fractured. He emphasized that having one captain per format consumes more than just time – it dilutes clarity.

He also noted that **ODIs** have become relatively rarer, leaving fewer opportunities for a new captain to learn, adapt, and build a stable unit. Thus, giving Gill maximum exposure in this format now matters, especially with the **2027 World Cup** in the pipeline.

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Beyond the Change: Sensitive Ground

Agarkar admitted that removing a figure like Rohit was far from easy. Despite Rohit's recent success – including leading India to a Champions Trophy title – selectors believe now was the moment to transition. The decision was reportedly communicated to Rohit before the public announcement, but even then, Agarkar declined to reveal Rohit's personal reaction.

By sidelining Rohit from the captaincy role (though he remains part of the squad as a batter), the selectors are signaling a shift. It's not a dismissal of his legacy, but a bold move to future-proof the team. As Agarkar put it, age and past achievements don't automatically guarantee leadership roles when the focus shifts to long-term planning.

What This Means for India

With Gill taking over the ODI reins, India now has unified captains in multiple formats, eliminating overlap and potential confusion. The Australia tour becomes Gill's baptism by fire in the 50-over game. For Rohit, the transition may mark a new chapter – one more focused on performance with bat than on team management.

To fans, it's a tough break: seeing a beloved captain relinquish his role. But for Indian cricket, it may just be the recalibration needed for a new era – leaner, more cohesive, and future-oriented. Only time will tell if the move pays off, but with Agarkar's explanation out in the open, the rationale is no longer hidden in the dressing room.

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