**Mahendra Singh Dhoni** (born 7 July 1981) is an Indian professional [cricketer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cricket) who was captain of the [Indian national cricket team](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India_men%27s_national_cricket_team) in limited-overs formats from 2007 to 2017 and in [Test cricket](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Test_cricket) from 2008 to 2014. He is a right-handed [wicket-keeper](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wicket-keeper) [batsman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Batsman). He led the team to three ICC trophies including the [2007 ICC World Twenty20](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2007_ICC_World_Twenty20), [2011 ICC Cricket World Cup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011_ICC_Cricket_World_Cup) and [2013 ICC Champions Trophy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2013_ICC_Champions_Trophy). Under his captaincy, India won the [Asia Cup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia_Cup) two times, in [2010](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010_Asia_Cup) and [2016](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016_Asia_Cup). India also won ICC Test Championship Mace two times in 2010 and 2011 under his leadership. He is considered as one of the greatest Captains and Wicket Keeper–Batsmen of all time. Throughout his 15 year long international career, Dhoni has won several awards and accolades.

In Indian domestic cricket he played for [Bihar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bihar_cricket_team) and [Jharkhand Cricket team.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jharkhand_cricket_team) He is the captain of Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in the [Indian Premier League](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Premier_League). He was captain when it won the [2010](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010_Indian_Premier_League), [2011](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011_Indian_Premier_League), [2018](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Indian_Premier_League) and [2021](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2021_Indian_Premier_League) editions of IPL league. Also under his captaincy Chennai Super Kings (CSK) Won [Champions League T20](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Champions_League_T20) two times, in [2010](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010_Champions_League_Twenty20) and [2014](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2014_Champions_League_Twenty20). He vacated the captaincy on 24 March 2022. He took back the captaincy on 30 April 2022.

Dhoni made his ODI debut on 23 December 2004 against [Bangladesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangladesh_national_cricket_team) in [Chittagong](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chittagong), and played his first Test a year later against [Sri Lanka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sri_Lanka_national_cricket_team). He played his first T20I also a year later against [South Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Africa_national_cricket_team). In 2007, he took over the ODI captaincy from [Rahul Dravid](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rahul_Dravid). In 2008 he selected as Test Captain. In test cricket his captaincy record was mixed, successfully leading India to a series win against New Zealand in 2009 and the [Border-Gavaskar Trophy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Border-Gavaskar_Trophy) (home series in 2010 and 2013) against Australia while losing to Sri Lanka, Australia, England, and South Africa by big margins in away conditions.

In 1998, Dhoni was selected by Deval Sahay, a former Bihar Cricket Association Vice President and Ranchi District Cricket President, to play for the [Central Coal Fields Limited](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Coalfields_Limited) (CCL) team Till 1998 Dhoni, who was in 12th grade, had never played professional cricket. At CCL, he got an opportunity to bat higher up the order, where he performed exceptionally, which had helped CCL move to the A division. Deval Sahay, impressed by his performance, pushed for his selection in the Bihar team. Dhoni moved to the Ranchi team, the junior Bihar cricket team and eventually the senior [Bihar Ranji Team](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bihar_cricket_team) within one year.

In the 1998–99 Cooch Behar Trophy, Dhoni played for the U-19 Bihar team and scored 176 runs in 5 matches (7 innings). However, Bihar finished fourth in the group of six and did not make it to the quarter-finals. Dhoni was not picked for the East Zone U-19 squad ([CK Nayudu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C._K._Nayudu) Trophy) or Rest of India squad (MA Chidambaram Trophy and [Vinoo Mankad Trophy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vinoo_Mankad_Trophy" \o "Vinoo Mankad Trophy)). In the 1999–2000 Cooch Behar Trophy, the Bihar U-19 cricket team made it to the finals, where Dhoni's 84 helped Bihar post a total of 357 Nevertheless, Bihar's efforts were thwarted by [Punjab's](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punjab_cricket_team_(India)) 839 with Dhoni's future teammate [Yuvraj Singh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yuvraj_Singh" \o "Yuvraj Singh) making 358. Dhoni's contribution in the tournament included 488 runs (9 matches, 12 innings), 5 fifties, 17 catches and 7 stumpings. Dhoni made it to the East Zone U-19 squad for the CK Nayudu trophy in the 1999–2000 season but scored only 97 runs in four matches, as East Zone lost all four matches and finished last in the tournament.