

IND vs SA – 1st ODI Match Summary (30 November 2025, Ranchi)

India and South Africa faced off in the opening match of their three-match ODI series at the JSCA International Stadium, Ranchi. South Africa won the toss and opted to field first, expecting early movement under cloudy conditions. However, India responded with a commanding batting performance that eventually shaped the outcome of the match.

India posted an impressive 349/8 in 50 overs. Virat Kohli delivered a masterful innings, scoring 135 runs with classical strokeplay and exceptional control. His knock stabilized the innings after an early wicket and provided the backbone for India's total. Rohit Sharma contributed a well-constructed 57, playing aggressively in the powerplay, while KL Rahul added 60 runs with calculated risks, ensuring the momentum never dipped. Contributions from the lower middle order pushed India beyond the 340-run mark, giving them a strong platform heading into the second innings.

South Africa's bowling attack struggled for consistency. Kagiso Rabada bowled with pace but lacked control in key overs. Marco Jansen and Keshav Maharaj attempted to break partnerships, but India's top order showed resilience and kept rotating strike effectively.

Chasing 350, South Africa suffered a disastrous start, slipping to 11/3 within the first few overs. Harshit Rana's disciplined seam bowling created instant pressure and removed two key batters early. Just as the game seemed one-sided, South Africa staged a strong comeback through Marco Jansen and Matthew Breetzke, who added 97 runs off 69 balls. Their partnership revived the chase and momentarily shifted momentum.

However, India regained full control thanks to Kuldeep Yadav's decisive spell. He picked up four wickets (4/68), breaking the middle-order resistance and dismantling any hopes South Africa had of completing the chase. Rana, returning later in the innings, removed Jansen and ended South Africa's last major threat.

Despite late hitting from the lower order, South Africa were bowled out for 332 in 49.2 overs, falling short by 17 runs. The match remained tense until the final overs, but India's balanced performance—anchored by Kohli's century and Kuldeep's breakthroughs—secured a well-deserved win. India now leads the series 1-0.