



# International Cricket at Vizag

Brochure  
celebrating the  
**India-Australia**  
2nd One day  
International Cricket Match  
at YSR ACA - VDCA Stadium  
*October 20, 2010*



from A.Prasanna Kumar's **Game of Memories**  
Published and presented by Sathyam Offset Imprints, Vizag



## .....Welcome to Visakhapatnam

This time the Aussies need no help to locate Visakhapatnam. Only in early 1996, on the eve of the World Cup, they were helped out by a Pakistani when the Australian cricketers tried to spot Visakhapatnam, the venue of their first World Cup match, on the map. They not only enjoyed their visit to the City of Destiny but also enthralled the crowd with their display as the Waugh brothers put on 207 runs for the third wicket against Kenya. Shane Warne and Vizag as a venue, made their debut in the World cup on February 23, 1996. Two years later the Aussies played here again against the Board President's XI in March 1998 and in that match Slater and Ponting emulated the Waugh brothers by adding 206 runs for the second wicket. A double century by the former, 155 by the latter and a century by Kanitkar for the home team marked the three day batting feast. Incidentally Harbhajan Singh played here for the first time against the Australians, claiming the prize wicket of Slater. For the third time in five years the Aussies came to Visakhapatnam in 2001 to play against a resurgent India led by Sourav Ganguly, in the fifth ODI on April 3, 2001. Australia won by 93 runs. Man of the Match was M.Hayden with 111 while Ponting scored 101. Sachin Tendulkar topscored for India with 62.

It all began with the great Viv Richards in 1987 when he led the West Indies team against the Board President's XI. Since then what a galaxy of players have been seen in action here - Kapil Dev, Mohinder Amarnath, Gundappa Viswanath, Sunil Gavaskar, Srikanth, Manjrekar, Ravi Shastri, Azharuddin, Mike Atherton, Courtney Walsh, Mark Taylor, Shane Warne, Wasim Akram, Aravinda de Silva and Arjuna Ranatunga and almost all the great teams of contemporary cricket. Kenya made its debut here in World Cup in 1996.

Today's tie generates tremendous excitement as a confident India takes on Australia. That too after the first match at Kochi was washed out. The Indians know how tough it is to beat the Australians in one day cricket. The Australians are not unaware of the Indian potential. Millions of viewers in the subcontinent and 'down under' would be watching on the small screen the day-night match at Vizag, the City of Destiny, in spite of the absence of Tendulkar, Ponting & Sehwag.



## When Dhoni set the stadium on **fire**.... at Vizag on April 5, 2005

■ Visakhapatnam-April 5,2005

### India vs Pakistan

...the second match in the Pepsi Cup series, the first ODI played at the packed ACA-VDCA stadium. Virender Sehwag and Sachin Tendulkar got off to a rousing start. Such was Sehwag's fury that Md. Sami was taken off. He then struck 12 off Razzaq. But at 26 Sachin was run out for 2, following Yuhana's direct hit at the stumps. Skipper Ganguly surprised everyone by sending Mahendra Singh Dhoni, the wicket-keeper

batsman, at no 3. In the first ODI at Kochi Dhoni had made just 3. All eyes were on Virender Sehwag as he pounded the Pakistani attack scoring 74 in 40 balls with 12 fours and two sixes. Then the 23 year old Dhoni took over and smashed Sami, Razzaq, Naved and Afridi for fours and sixes. Dravid kept him company after Ganguly left for 9. Never in Vizag, for that matter in Andhra, had people seen such a flurry of shots to every corner of the ground. 148 off 123 balls studded with 15 fours and 4 sixes. One of the finest knocks in one day cricket. Those privileged to sit in the stadium that day will remember that scintillating knock with pride and joy for many years to come. A fitting tribute to the immortal Col C.K.Nayudu whose statue had been unveiled in front of the stadium the previous evening. Dhoni is today a national icon. Still he has a special reason to love Vizag. That day in April, less than two years ago, Mahendra Singh Dhoni announced to the world of cricket the advent of a new era in Indian cricket. Who knows? Dhoni may do for India what Adam Gilchrist is doing for World Champions Australia!

- A. Prasanna Kumar  
April 7, 2005

# One-Day Internationals

in  
*Vizag*

## First ODI



**India vs New Zealand**  
**December 10, 1988.**

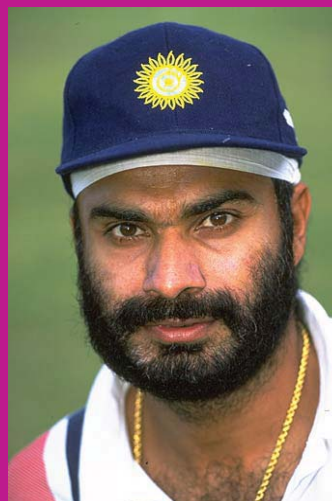
India won by 4 wickets.  
India led by Dilip Vengsarkar and New Zealand by John Wright.

Man of the Match:  
K.Srikanth 70 runs and 5 for 27.

New Zealand 196 for 9 in 50 overs ( AH Jones 66 Ken Rutherford 67)  
Srikanth 5 for 27 Kapil Dev 2 for 16) India 197 for 6 in 46.2 overs (Srikanth 70 Md. Azharuddin 48 not out Watson 2 for 37).

## Second ODI

**India vs West Indies**  
**November 7, 1994**



Match reduced to 44 overs each.  
India won by 4 runs Man of the Match Navjot Sidhu India 260 for 4 wkts Sidhu not out 114 (99 balls 8x4s and 2x6s)  
Sachin Tendulkar 54 bt West Indies 256 for 7 in 43 overs (Hooper 74 Prabhakar 2 for 61 Kumble 2 for 41).

## Third ODI



**Wills World Cup**  
**Australia vs Kenya,**  
**February 23, 1996**

Australia bt Kenya by 97 runs.

Man of the Match: Mark Waugh

Australia 304 for 7 in 50 Overs (Mark Waugh 130 Steve Waugh 82 Ali 3 for 45 Suji 2 for 55)  
Kenya 207 for 7 in 50 Overs (Otieno 85 Odumbe 50 Reiffel 2 for 18 Bevan 2 for 35)

# One-Day Internationals *in Vizag*

## Fourth ODI

Fourth<sup>th</sup> ODI Pepsi Cup Pakistan vs Sri Lanka March 27, 1999.



Sri Lanka won by 12 runs Man of the Match M. Jayawardene. Sri Lanka 253 for 8 in 50 Overs (M. Jayawardene 101 Azhar Mahmood 4 for 40) bt Pakistan 241 (Wasim Akram 79 Wickrama singhe 3 for 34).

## Fifth ODI

Fifth<sup>th</sup> ODI India vs Australia April 3, 2001



Australia won by 93 runs, Man of the Match M. Hayden. Australia 338 for 4 in 50 Overs (Hayden 111 Ponting 101) India 245 all out in 45 overs (Sachin Tendulkar 62 Harbhajan Singh 46 Warne 3 for 38 Mark Waugh 3 for 29 McGrath 2 for 62 Bracken 2 for 21).



## Sixth ODI

India vs Pakistan April 5, 2005

India won by 58 runs, Man of the Match : M.S. Dhoni.

India 356 in 50 overs (Dhoni 148 Sehwag 74 Dravid 52 Naved ul Hasan 3 for 54) Pakistan 298 all out in 44.1 overs (Abdul Razaq 88 Yousuf Youhana 71 Ashish Nehra 4 for 72 Yuvraj Singh 3 for 55).

## Seventh ODI



India Vs Sri Lanka

17th February, 2007

Man of the series : Saurav Ganguly

# Beginning with Sir Viv Richards Stars in action at Vizag



Viv Richards the West Indies Captain and Anshuman Gaekwad Captain of the Board President's XI in December 18, 1987.



India's Captain Dilip Vengsarkar and New Zealand Captain John Wright going out for the toss on December 10, 1988.



Board President's XI Captain Virender Sehwag and New Zealand Captain Stephen Fleming at the toss on September 26th, 2003 at the ACA-VDCA stadium.

It all began in December, 1987 with the legendary Sir Vivian Richards leading the West Indies against the Board President's XI in the first international cricket match Visakhapatnam was privileged to host. Cricket lovers of the city and the neighbouring areas had the pleasure of watching Viv Richards in action though he scored only 6 runs and took a wicket as the Windies overpowered the home side in less than three days.

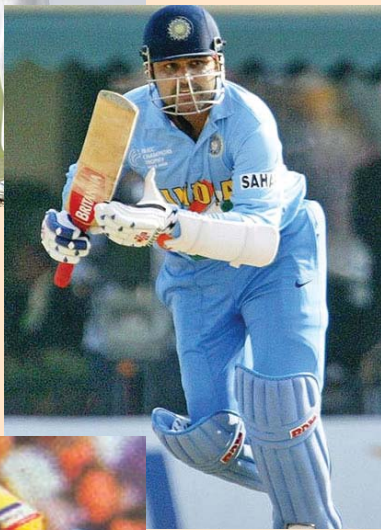
A year later in December 1988, Dilip Vengsarkar led India to a four wicket victory over John Wright's New Zealand with the mercurial, Krishnamachari Srikkanth walking away with the Man of the Match award with a haul of 5 for 27 and a brilliant knock of 70.

Sachin Tendulkar made his debut as captain against an international side when he led Rest of India against Mike Atherton's England-XI in Feb 1993. Sachin, then only 19, and the elegant Sanjay Manjrekar delighted the home crowd with their strokeplay. Mohammad Azharuddin led India to a thrilling four run win over West Indies led by Courtney Walsh in 1994 in a one day international in which Navjot Sidhu made 110 and Sachin



Sunil Gavaskar, the living legend of Indian Cricket receiving the honorary doctorate degree at the Andhra University convocation in 1986.

# Beginning with Sir Viv Richards Stars in action at Vizag



Tendulkar 54.

Shane Warne and Vizag made their debut in World Cup Cricket in 1996 at this venue when Australia played against Kenya. The Waugh brothers put on 207 runs for the third wicket with Mark making his first of the three centuries in the 1996 World Cup Cricket. Two years later the Aussies came again to play against Board President's XI led by Rahul Dravid. Slater made 207, Ponting and Kanitkar hit up centuries at Vizag.

Arjuna Ranatunga led Sri Lanka to a 12 run win over Pakistan led by Vasim Akram on March 27, 1999 in the Pepsi Cup triangular series. Mahela Jayawardene scored a century and became Man of the Match.

Australia beat India by 93 runs in the Pepsi 4th One-Day International on April 3, 2001. M.Hayden scored a century and was declared Man of the Match.

In September 2003, New Zealand led by Stephen Fleming played against Board President's XI led by Virender Sehwag. The match was washed out by rain.

India beat Pakistan by 58 runs in the Pepsi Cup 2nd ODI on April 5th, 2005. M.S. Dhoni announced his arrival on the horizon with a scintillating knock of 148.



# Celebrities

*Sunil Gavaskar, Gundappa Viswanath, Kapil Dev, Mohinder Amarnath, K.Srikanth, Dilip Vengsarkar, Ravi Shastri and Anshuman Gaekwad are among the many celebrities seen in action at Visakhapatnam during the last twenty years. Sunil Gavaskar is the first sportsman to be honoured with a doctorate degree by the Andhra University, Visakhapatnam in 1986.*





## Vizag as the *torch bearer* of the Andhra tradition

Cricket in Visakhapatnam, like the city itself, grew from modest beginnings. Football, certainly not cricket, was the most popular game with soccer stars from here making a mark in Calcutta, the Mecca of Indian football, Hockey, thanks to the Anglo-Indian community, now almost extinct, was second to football in popularity. Cricket arrived much later. A tall gentleman by name G.S.N. Rao, affectionately called Ayya, formed the Visakhapatnam Cricket Club and the Visakhapatnam Port, in spite of its infancy, encouraged the game in the early thirties.

Not many know that Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, then Vice Chancellor of Andhra University, invited Col. C.K. Nayudu, India's first Test Captain, to come to Waltair as a cricket coach. The idea, writes Sarvepalli Gopal in his biography of his illustrious father "fizzled out after Radhakrishnan's departure." Fifty years later Andhra University conferred an honorary doctorate degree, the first to be given to a sportsman, on India's greatest opening batsman Sunil Gavaskar at its Convocation. Incidentally that was the first University honour that Gavaskar received. At the glittering function both the University administration and local police ensured Gavaskar's quiet exit from the ceremony, after receiving the honour from the Chancellor, so that the huge crowd would not disturb the proceedings. Later in the evening when Gavaskar apologised to the Convocation orator for slipping out in the middle of the ceremony the latter remarked that he did not notice it. And Sunil with characteristic sharpness quipped: "That is the advantage of being short, Sir...." C.S. Nayudu became the second cricketer to **receive** such an honour from the Andhra University.

The birth of the Andhra Cricket Association was a historic event in the annals of Andhra Sport. C.K. Nayudu and C.S. Nayudu, two famous Andhras, along with Mushtaq Ali came to Guntur and played in a festival match in 1953 marking the birth of ACA. The Andhras became famous in Madras as cricketers, tennis players and footballers and the Ramaswamis and Krishnaswamis were rarely seen in action in Andhra towns. C.K. Nayudu led the first Andhra side in Ranji trophy when the little known Andhra team played against Mysore. When Andhra batting began to crumble against the pace of Kasturirangan & Co. C.K. at the age of 58, hooked Kasturirangan for a six and gave all those who were privileged to watch him a few lessons in batting with a sparkling knock of 70 and odd runs. Till then the only Andhra cricketer who attracted public attention was Vizag's G.S.N. Raju who scored the first century for Andhra University in Inter University cricket. The

Kommireddis of Kakinada brought a new dimension to Andhra Cricket. Gopanna led the clan with aggressive batting while KVR Murthy who played for three states in Ranji trophy was among test probables in the early sixties. Bhavanna, who was one of the most popular all rounders in Madras league, was the Scarlet Pimpernel of Andhra Cricket and at one stage was bracketed with Prasanna and Venkataraghavan as among the best off-spinners in the south. N.S.Ramaswami, the eminent cricketologist, described him as the best close-in fielder in the entire south.

The formation of the Visakhapatnam District Cricket Association in 1962 by the dynamic Superintendent of Police the late Mr. C.G.Saldanha was a shot in the arm for Andhra cricket. Saldanha assisted by Secretary A. Radhakrishna founded both the District Cricket and Tennis Associations and got the Governor of Anflhra Pradesh, Gen. Srinagesh, to inaugurate the association. The Governor, a former General and Army Chief, wielded the willow on the occasion. District Collectors, police chiefs and local elders backed up by public patronage raised the stature of cricket and tennis and tennis stars like the Amritraj brothers, Gulyas and Metreveli played here during the last 37 years. Andhra cricket's finest hour was when KBR Murthy, son of Gopanna, led Andhra to the top of the table in South Zone cricket in 1985. That was the first time for Andhra to enter the knockout stage. Some Andhra players have played for South Zone in national tournaments and against visiting foreign sides. The latest, knocking at the doors of Test cricket, is M.S.K. Prasad, the wicket-keeper while Ramkishan has come close to being considered for national honours.

The ACA and the VDCA have successfully hosted more than a dozen international events in the last ten years including a World Cup tie in 1996. Dilip Vengsarkar and John Wright, Viv Richards and Anshuman Gaekwad, Sachin Tendulkar and Mike Atherton, Courtney Walsh and Azharuddin, Mark Taylor and Maurice Odumbe, Rahul Dravid, Saurav Ganguly and Steve Waugh - Captains all, going out into the middle for the toss at this venue against a lovely backdrop of hill range, with the crowd cheering with enthusiasm.



Mahendra Singh Dhoni announced to the world of cricket the advent of a new era with a magnificent century at Vizag in a memorable One dayer on April 5, 2005 at the beautiful ACA-VDCA stadium which today hosts a One Day International match between India and Australia, the former replacing the later as the World's No.1 Test team.

Vizag has a special place in Dhoni's heart and the City of Destiny deems it a privilege to welcome India's successful captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni and his team. Hearty welcome to the Australians also. May this match provide a lively fare to cricket lovers.

*Three cheers to  
Visakhapatnam !*

# Why the great G.R.Viswanath loves Andhra?

The cricket fans of Vijayawada were understandably disappointed on the eve of the Ranji trophy tie between Andhra and Mysore in the second week of November 1967. Test stars like Prasanna, Chandrasekhar and Subramanyam dropped out of the Mysore team that came to Vijayawada.

As many as eight youngsters made their debut under the leadership of emergency captain Y.B. Patel. On that cloudy morning of November 11 Patel won the toss and elected to bat.

Andhra's new ball bowlers, the well-built R.P. Gupta and N Venkatarao, bowled with fire against the Mysore opening batsmen, Vijayakumar and Nagabhushan. At 10, Venkatarao bowled a beautiful inswinger that uprooted Nagabhushan's middle stump. After five runs were added by the new batsman Kirmani and Vijayakumar, Venkatarao trapped Vijayakumar leg before and Mysore were in real trouble when eighteen-year-old Viswanath joined Kirmani. Viswanath's good performances in junior cricket that year got for him a place in the State side. He had made 75 against Hyderabad, 50 against Kerala and 44 and 30 not out against Madras in junior cricket.

Gupta and Venkatarao spurred on by their early successes and cheered by the home crowd, bowled a number of bouncers in an aggressive manner that reminded one of Hall and Griffith who had a few months earlier demonstrated on Indian grounds their bowling prowess. There was in the minds of the spectators at Vijayawada pity and concern for the two tiny Mysore batsmen. Viswanath and Kirmani, although the Mysore batsmen farmed the speed of the Andhra bowlers with maturity far beyond their years. Kirmani fell at 42 to slow bowler Raju.

Viswanath after defending for a while, began to unleash a number of gorgeous cuts and pulls. To the short ball, he lay back and cut with elegance. To the flighted ones, he came down the pitch to execute neat drives and deflections off his toes to the on-side. P.S. Rangaswamy who has been watching cricket in India since the thirties remarked to me in the press box then that this youngster was going to be another Hazare. With Nataraj he added 139 runs for the fourth wicket and later was concerned in another century partnership for the sixth wicket. His century was completed with the help of twelve boundaries. He went on to score freely and at 198, some youngsters watching the game, thinking that Viswanath had reached his double century, ran onto the ground and garlanded him. The double century however, did come after he drove Mahendrakumar to the on side.

At stumps, Viswanath was unbeaten on 209. The next morning, he broke Abell's record of 210 on his debut in 1934. Viswanath was eventually out for 230. More than half of his score came in boundaries. It was a chanceless innings.

The shy Viswanath, eluding the few photographers their sneaked into the Mysore players' tent after making that historic knock. He would not come out to pose for the cameramen. Then Patel, his skipper, and a few other Mysore players literally pulled Viswanath out of the tent and made him oblige the photographers, The little hero gently raised his head and smiled coyly as a shy bride. That was seven years ago....

The lines of John Arlott written in another context apply to Gundappa Viswanath. "Recorded centuries leave no trace On memory of that timeless grace".



*G.R.Viswanath being honoured with a ring by A. Prasanna Kumar as VDCA President D.V.Subba Rao, Secretary K.Parthasaradhi and P.R.Narayana Swami join in the*

- A. Prasanna Kumar

Courtesy : Indian Express, 9-2-1975

# International Cricket at Vizag...



*India's Captain Dilip Vengsarkar and New Zealand Captain John Wright going out for the toss at Visakhapatnam on December 10, 1988 before the start of the First One Day International Dilip led India to a win The able coach of Indian team today John Wright was C Vengsarkar b Kapil Dev for 2.*

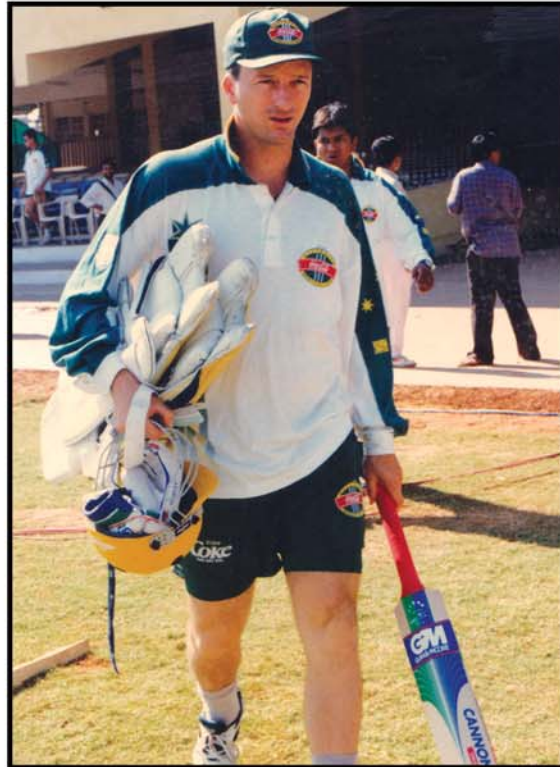


*Captained India XI in February 1993 against England.*





*G.R. Viswanath, Mike Gatting and Anshuman Gaekwad at Visakhapatnam in February 1993 when India XI led by Sachin Tendulkar played against England led by Mike Atherton*



*Steve Waugh on the eve of the One Day match in 2001*



*Sachin Tendulkar with Rival Captain Cine Hero Chiranjeevi at an Exhibition Match in Vizag in September 2003.*



# International Cricket at Vizag...



*Dilip Vengsarkar releasing the Souvenir in 2007*



*Sunil Gavaskar receiving the honorary doctorate degree at the convocation of Andhra University from Governor Kumudben Joshi... the first doctorate degree for the 'Little Master' and the University's first such honour to a sportsperson*



*Former AP Minister and ACA President Sri Ashok Gajapathi Raju handing over the first copy of Game of Memories to Saurav Ganguly, India's Captain on the eve of the One Day match against Zimbabwe at Hyderabad on March 16, 2003 at the book release function organised by Shri L.V. Subrahmanyam, IAS, then Director, SAAP. BCCI Secretary Niranjan Shah and the author A.Prasanna Kumar are also seen in the picture. G.R.Viswanath wrote a gracious foreword to the book. The material for this brochure is mostly from the Game of Memories published by Sathyam Offset Imprints, Vizag.*



## *Rich Legacy and High Responsibility...*

*The Andhra Cricket Association founded at Guntur in February 1953 was inaugurated by Col. C.K. Nayudu, India's first Test captain, who also led fledgeling Andhra in its first match in Ranji Trophy in 1953-54 against Mysore. C.K., 58 then, top scored with a majestic 74 including a six off fast bowler Kasturirangan.*

*The VDCA founded ten years later has a blemishless record of service to the game since its birth in 1963. A statue of the immortal C.K. Nayudu adorns the YSR ACA-VDCA Stadium. Andhra Cricket Association and Visakhapatnam District Cricket Association together endeavour to live up to the reputation and ideals of the Founder-President the great C.K.Nayudu.*



**Col. C.K. Nayudu**