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Cricket in India

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Cricket is the most loved sport in India. Crowds fill stadiums, and streets turn into pitches on weekends.

This lesson covers who runs the game, the big World Cup wins and the money behind the IPL. Read each short card, then try the quick checks.

BCCI: the Board of Control for Cricket in India. It runs the game in the country. It is the national body for the sport.

World Cup: the world title in one-day cricket, played in the 50-over format. India has won it twice.

T20: a short, fast format with 20 overs for each side. A match is much shorter than a one-day game.

IPL: the Indian Premier League, a T20 league with city-based teams. It began in 2008.

Who Runs Cricket in India?

What is the BCCI?

BCCI stands for the **Board of Control for Cricket in India**. It is the body that runs the sport in the country.

India first formed a provisional board, and the permanent board took shape at a meeting in **December 1928**. So exams give **1928** as the founding year.

Sources: bcci.tv; mcqquestion.com

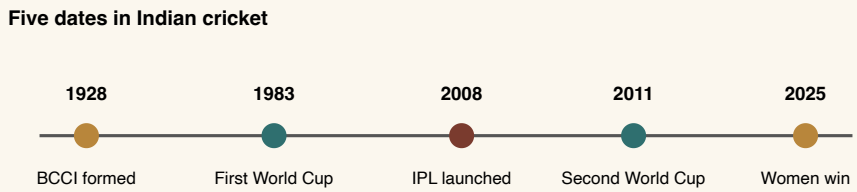
> **Quick check 1.** The BCCI was founded in 1928. *(True or False?)*
>
> See answer ↓

Where is the BCCI head office?

The BCCI head office is in **Mumbai**. Competitive exams ask this directly, and the answer is always Mumbai.

Do not confuse it with Delhi or Kolkata, which are popular wrong options. Remember that Mumbai is also the city of the 2011 final.

Sources: mcqquestion.com



Read left to right. The board came first, then the titles and the league.

How Did India Win Its Two Men's World Cups?

How did India win the 1983 World Cup?

India beat the West Indies by **43 runs** in the final at **Lord's**. **Kapil Dev** was the captain.

India scored only 183, a low total. The West Indies were firm favourites, yet they were bowled out for 140. The result was as surprising as it was convincing.

Sources: wisden.com

Quick check 2. India beat the West Indies by 43 runs in the 1983 final. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Why was the 1983 win such a shock?

The West Indies were the **firm favourites**. India batted first and made only 183 runs.

Then the Indian bowlers fought back. The West Indies were bowled out for 140. Madan Lal and Mohinder Amarnath took key wickets, and Kapil Dev took the catch that ended Viv Richards' innings on 33.

This is why the win is called a turning point for Indian cricket.

Sources: wisden.com

Quick check 3. The West Indies were the favourites in the 1983 final. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

How many men's World Cups has India won?

India has won the men's one-day World Cup **twice**, in **1983** and **2011**. The women's team added a first title in 2025.

Year	Final venue	Opponent	Result
1983	Lord's, London	West Indies	Won by 43 runs
2011	Wankhede, Mumbai	Sri Lanka	Won by 6 wickets

The 2011 win came at home, in Mumbai.

Sources: wisden.com; bcci.tv

How did India win the 2011 World Cup?

India beat Sri Lanka by **six wickets** in the final at the **Wankhede Stadium**, Mumbai. The date was 2 April 2011.

Sri Lanka scored 274 for six. **M.S. Dhoni** finished unbeaten on 91 and ended the chase with a six. India became the first host country to win the World Cup.

Sources: bcci.tv

> **Quick check 4.** India won the 2011 World Cup final in Mumbai. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

How did the 2011 chase go?

Sri Lanka made 274 for six. **Mahela Jayawardene** scored an unbeaten 103 and held the innings together.

India replied with 277 for four in 48.2 overs. **Gautam Gambhir** made 97 and **M.S. Dhoni** made 91 not out. Dhoni won the Man of the Match award.

So India won with more than ten balls to spare.

Sources: bcci.tv

> **Quick check 5.** Gautam Gambhir scored a century in the 2011 final. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Who starred across the 2011 tournament?

Yuvraj Singh was the Man of the Tournament in 2011. He won four Man of the Match awards, scored 362 runs and took 15 wickets.

So the final shows Dhoni and Gambhir, but the whole tournament belongs to Yuvraj. Exams can ask for either name, so keep both.

Sources: bcci.tv

Which cricketers do exams remember?

Two names come up again and again. **Kapil Dev** captained the 1983 winners. **M.S. Dhoni** captained the 2011 winners.

Sachin Tendulkar is also a famous name from the 2011 team. Match each captain to the right year before you answer.

Sources: bcci.tv

> **Quick check 6.** M.S. Dhoni captained India in the 1983 final. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

India's three World Cup final wins

1983	2011	2025 (women)
Lord's, London	Wankhede, Mumbai	Navi Mumbai
beat West Indies	beat Sri Lanka	beat South Africa
by 43 runs	**by 6 wickets**	**by 52 runs**

Each box gives the year, the venue, the opponent and the margin. Learn all four facts together.

Why Is Cricket So Rich in India?

What is the IPL?

The **IPL** started in **2008**. It is a T20 league with teams that stand for cities such as Mumbai and Chennai.

T20 is short and fast, so a match ends in a few hours. That makes it easy to watch on a busy day.

Because matches are short, more people can watch them and more sponsors want to pay for them. This is why the league became so rich so quickly.

The IPL is also the link between the sport and big money, which the next card explains.

Sources: bcci.tv

How much are IPL media rights worth?

In June 2022 the BCCI sold the IPL media rights for 2023 to 2027 for **Rs 48,390 crore**. Star won the TV rights, and Viacom18 won the digital rights for India.

For the first time, the digital rights earned more than the TV rights. Rights change with each cycle, so check the latest deal.

The BCCI earns from selling these rights, from sponsors and from the league itself. A rich board can pay for grounds, coaching and young players.

Sources: thequint.com

> **Quick check 7.** The 2022 sale of IPL rights covered the 2023 to 2027 seasons. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

What Did Women's Cricket Achieve in 2025?

Did India win the Women's World Cup?

Yes. India won the **2025 Women's Cricket World Cup** by **52 runs** over South Africa. The final was in Navi Mumbai on 2 November 2025.

It was India's **first** women's one-day World Cup title. India had reached two finals before, and this was the third. **Harmanpreet Kaur** captained the side.

Sources: ofm.co.za; skysports.com

> **Quick check 8.** India had never reached a women's World Cup final before 2025. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Which Cricket Facts Do Exams Ask?

What does the exam usually ask?

Three types of questions repeat. One asks the **year** of a founding or a win. One asks the **place**, such as the BCCI head office. One asks the **winner** of a recent event.

The NDA asked who won the 2024-25 Ranji Trophy. The answer was **Vidarbha**, who beat Kerala in the final.

Sources: mcqquestion.com

How should you revise this topic?

Make a one-page chart with three rows: the board, the men's titles and the women's title.

For each title, write the year, the venue, the captain and the margin. Then add the 2008 IPL start and the 2022 rights sale.

Read the chart twice a day for a week. Most cricket questions in exams come straight from such a chart, so the habit pays off quickly and saves revision time.

Sources: bcci.tv; wisden.com

Which sports awards matter?

Cricketers can win the National Sports Awards, like athletes from any other sport. The **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna** is India's highest sporting honour.

UPSC and SSC have asked about these awards.

Sources: mcqquestion.com

> **Quick check 9.** The Khel Ratna is India's highest sporting honour. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Practice MCQs

1. In which year was the BCCI formed?

A. 1911

B. 1928

C. 1947

D. 1932

See answer ↓

2. By how many runs did India beat the West Indies in the 1983 World Cup final?

A. 52

B. 43

C. 61

D. 25

See answer ↓

3. Who captained India when it won the 1983 World Cup?

A. Ajit Wadekar

B. Sunil Gavaskar

C. Bishan Bedi

D. Kapil Dev

See answer ↓

4. Where was the 2011 World Cup final played?

A. Eden Gardens, Kolkata

B. Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai

C. Feroz Shah Kotla, Delhi

D. Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru

See answer ↓

5. Which team did India beat in the 2025 Women's World Cup final?

A. Australia

B. South Africa

C. England

D. New Zealand

See answer ↓

6. Which team won the 2024-25 Ranji Trophy?

A. Kerala

B. Saurashtra

C. Vidarbha

D. Karnataka

See answer ↓

Answer Key

1. **B.**
   The permanent board took shape in December 1928.
   Sources: BCCI: About · MCQ: year the BCCI was founded.
   ↑ Q1
2. **B.**
   India made 183 and bowled the West Indies out for 140, a win by 43 runs.
   Sources: Wisden: 1983 final report · BCCI: 2011 final report.
   ↑ Q2
3. **D.**
   Kapil Dev led the team that won at Lord's.
   Sources: Wisden: 1983 final report · BCCI: 2011 final report.
   ↑ Q3
4. **B.**
   India beat Sri Lanka by six wickets at the Wankhede Stadium.
   Sources: BCCI: 2011 final report · Wisden: 1983 final report.
   ↑ Q4
5. **B.**
   India won the final by 52 runs over South Africa in Navi Mumbai.
   Sources: OFM: 2025 women's final · Sky Sports: 2025 results.
   ↑ Q5
6. **C.**
   Vidarbha beat Kerala in the final to win their third Ranji Trophy.
   Sources: NDA-NA-1 2026 paper, Q147 · SSC CGL 2024 paper, Q21.
   ↑ Q6

Quick-check answers

1. **True.** The board took shape in December 1928. ↑ 1
2. **True.** India made 183 and bowled the West Indies out for 140. ↑ 2
3. **True.** India won on merit against the firm favourites. ↑ 3
4. **True.** The final was at the Wankhede Stadium. ↑ 4
5. **False.** He scored 97, just three short of a hundred. ↑ 5
6. **False.** Kapil Dev led the 1983 team. Dhoni led in 2011. ↑ 6

7. **True.** It was a five-season cycle. ↑ 7
8. **False.** India lost the earlier finals before this win, and 2025 was the third final. ↑ 8
9. **True.** It is the top sports award. ↑ 9

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