



A Study on Bowling Performance of Cricket Players in India

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Abstract

This study considered and restricted its scope to analyse the bowlers of India at international level matches, test matches. The bowling performances of the top bowlers of India were further analysed using Rate of Over's per innings, Percentage of innings to maiden over's bowled, Rate of Wickets per innings, Percentage of 5 wicket haul, and Percentage of 10 wicket haul. In order to analyse the performance of Indian cricket bowlers in Test Matches, data on current bowlers numbering 22 were collected. Among the 22, 5 were not bowled during 2018 and 2 were not bowled during 2017 and 2018. Based on the wickets taken, top 5 bowlers who played in International Test Matches were considered for this study. Based on the wickets taken, top 5 bowlers who played in International Test Matches were considered for this study. It was concluded that top level bowlers of Indian cricket players performances contributed for victories at international level test matches.

Keywords: Bowling, Cricket Players, India.

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Introduction

The Indian cricket team has rivalries with other Test-playing nations, most notably with Pakistan, the political arch-rival of India. However, in recent times, rivalries with nations like Australia and England have also gained prominence. Bowling, in cricket, is the action of propelling the ball toward the wicket defended by a batsman. A player skilled at bowling is called a bowler; a bowler who is also a competent batsman is known as an all-rounder. Bowling the ball is distinguished from throwing the ball by a strictly specified biomechanical definition, which restricts the angle of extension of the elbow. A single act of bowling the ball towards the batsman is called a ball or a delivery. Bowlers bowl deliveries in sets of six, called an over. Once a bowler has bowled an over, a teammate will bowl an over from the other end of the pitch. The Laws of Cricket govern how a ball must be bowled. If a ball is bowled illegally, an umpire will rule it a no-ball. If a ball is bowled too wide of the striker for the batsman to be able to play at it with a proper cricket shot, the bowler's end umpire will rule it a wide. There are different types of bowlers, from fast bowlers, whose primary weapon is pace, through swing and seam bowlers who try to make the ball deviate in its course through the air or when it bounces, to slow bowlers, who will attempt to deceive the batsmen with a variety of flight and spin. A spin

bowler usually delivers the ball quite slowly and puts spin on the ball, causing it to turn at an angle while bouncing off the pitch.

Bowling actions are typically divided into side on and front on actions. In the side on action, the back foot lands parallel to the bowling crease and the bowler aims at the wicket by looking over his front shoulder. In the front on action, the back foot lands pointing down the pitch and the bowler aims at the wicket by looking inside the line of his front arm. Many bowlers operate with a mid-way action with the back foot landing at roughly 45 degrees and the upper body aligned somewhere between side on and front on. This is not to be confused with a mixed action, which mixes distinct elements of both side on and front on actions, and is generally discouraged amongst young bowlers as it can lead to problems in later life due to the twisting of the back inherent in the action. In a game of cricket, the ultimate priority of the fielding side is to restrict the total number of runs scored by the batting side, and the actions of the bowlers will be fundamental to achieving this objective. The primary means of achieving this is by dismissing the batting side by getting all ten of the opposition wickets as quickly as possible. A secondary objective will be to keep the batting side's run rate as low as possible. In fact, in most forms of cricket, the twin aims of the fielding side are targeted concurrently, as the achievement of one aim tends to have a positive effect upon the other. Taking regular opposition wickets will remove the better batsmen from the crease, typically leading to a slowing of the scoring rate. Conversely, slowing the scoring rate can put additional pressure on the batsmen and force

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them into taking extra risks, which will often lead to wickets.

Depending upon the format of the match, these two strategies will be given different weights. In an unlimited, timed or declaration match, the main aim of the bowling attack will be to take wickets, so attacking bowling and fielding strategies will be used. In a limited over's match, this aim will also be supplemented by the secondary need to prevent the batting side from scoring quickly, so more defensive strategies will be used. In general, the shorter the number of over's per side, the more priority will be given to this secondary target of maintaining a low run-rate. It is also highly probable that the need for attacking or defensive strategies can switch frequently as a cricket match progresses. It is the sign of a good cricket captain to be able to tell which strategy is most appropriate in any set of circumstances and the best way of implementing it.

Methodology

This study considered and restricted its scope to analyse the bowlers of India at international level matches, test matches. The bowling performances of the top bowlers of India were further analysed using Rate of Over's per innings, Percentage of innings to maiden over's bowled, Rate of Wickets per innings, Percentage of 5 wicket haul, and Percentage of 10 wicket haul. In order to analyse the performance of Indian cricket bowlers in Test Matches, data on current bowlers numbering 22 were collected. Among the 22, 5 were not bowled during 2018 and 2 were not bowled during 2017 and 2018. Based on the wickets taken, top 5 bowlers who played in International Test Matches were considered for this study. Based on the wickets taken, top 5 bowlers who played in International Test Matches were considered for this study. Table I shows the descriptive statistics for 5 Indian cricket bowlers who topped based on wicket taken.

Table 1

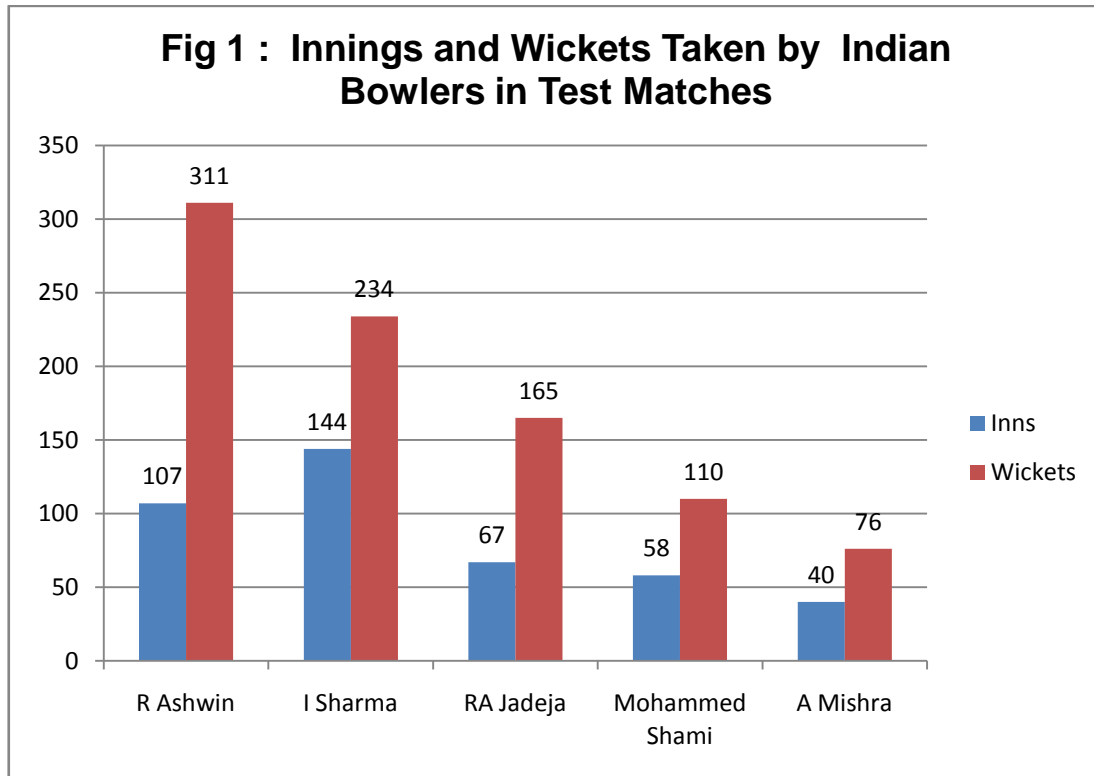
Descriptive Statistics Showing Top 5 Bowlers of Indian Cricketers in Test Matches

Player	Span	Mat	Inns	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	BBI	BBM	Ave	Econ	SR	5	10
R Ashwin	2011-2018	57	107	2752.3	558	7951	311	21732	13/140	25.56	2.88	53.1	26	7
I Sharma	2007-2018	81	144	2600	502	8411	234	27211	10/108	35.94	3.23	66.6	7	1
RA Jadeja	2012-2017	35	67	1683.4	446	3917	165	17715	10/154	23.73	2.32	61.2	9	1
Mohammed Shami	2013-2018	30	58	939	164	3180	110	43248	9/118	28.9	3.38	51.2	3	0
A Mishra	2008-2016	22	40	850.3	123	2715	76	26054	26481	35.72	3.19	67.1	1	0

Mat: Match Inns: Innings; Mdns: Maiden overst; Wkts: Wickets; BBI: Best Innings Bowling; BBM: Best Match Bowling; Ave: Bowling Average; SR: Bowling Strike

As shown in Table I, wickets taken by Indian bowlers of top 5 bowlers in International Test matches ranges from 76 from 40 innings to 311 in 57 innings. The best economy rate of 2.32 by Jadeja and highest of 3.38 being Mohammed Shami. Of the 2752.3 558 were maiden overs bowled by Ashwin followed by Sharma who bowled 2600 got 502 maiden overs in international test matches Ashwin got 5 wicket haul of 26 and 10

wicket haul of 7 innings followed by Jadeja with 5 wicket haul of 9 and 10 wicket haul of 1 innings. The analysis of data further revealed that Jadeja did not bowled during the year 2018 and Misra during 2017 and 2018. The names of the Indian bowlers, number of innings played and their wickets in International Test matches were graphically presented in Figure I for better understanding of the results.



The results were further analysed to find out average over’s bowled in each innings, percentage of maiden over’s to total over’s bowled, average wickets

taken per innings; rate of 5 wickets hauls and 10 wicket hauls of Indian bowlers in Test matches and presented in Table II. .

Table 2
Analysis of Performance of Top 5 Bowlers in International Test Matches

Player	Span	Mat	Inns	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Ave Overs	%Maidens	Wickets per Innings	5	10
R Ashwin	2011-2018	57	107	2752.3	558	7951	311	25.72	20.27	2.91	0.24	0.07
I Sharma	2007-2018	81	144	2600	502	8411	234	18.06	19.31	1.63	0.05	0.01
RA Jadeja	2012-2017	35	67	1683.4	446	3917	165	25.13	26.49	2.46	0.13	0.01
Mohammed Shami	2013-2018	30	58	939	164	3180	110	16.19	17.47	1.90	0.05	0.00
A Mishra	2008-2016	22	40	850.3	123	2715	76	21.26	14.47	1.90	0.03	0.00

Mat: Match Innings; Mdns: Maiden overst;Wkts: Wickets

In order to compare the bowling performance of top 5 bowlers in international Test matches, further analysis were made and the results showed that Indian bowlers bowled minimum of 16.19 overs and maximum of 25.72 overs in an innings. The percentage of total overs bowled to maiden over ranges from 14.47 bowled by Mishra and highest being 26.49 bowled by Jadeja. Wickets taken by Indian bowlers in Test matches ranges from 1.63 by Sharma and 2.91 by Ashwin. The lowest percentage of 5 wicket haul is scored by Mishara with 3% and highest being 24% by Ashwin. Aswin also got 10 wickets haul in 7% innings he bowled. In order to compare the bowling performance of top 5 bowlers in international Test matches, further analysis were made

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Conclusion

It was concluded that top level bowlers of Indian cricket players performances contributed for victories at international level test matches.

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