

# Sri Lanka's challenge at World Cup

**KUMAR SANGAKKARA** (capt): Age 33. Left-hand batsman/wicketkeeper,



The elegant, inspirational captain will lead from the front, batting at number three to anchor the innings and making shrewd bowling changes and field placements from behind the stumps.

ODIs **282**, Runs **8,699**, Highest **138** not out, Average **36.86**, Strike-Rate **75.30**, Centuries **10**, Fifties **59**, Catches **276**, Stumpings **70**



**CHAMARA SILVA**: Age 31. Right-hand batsman/Leg—spinner



For someone who made his one-day debut in 1999, he has not played consistently well to hold a regular place in the team. His batting style resembles Aravinda de Silva, the current chairman of selectors.

ODIs **64**, Runs **1,437**, Highest **107** not out, Average **30.57**, Strike-Rate **70.16**, Centuries **1**, Fifties **11**, Catches **20**, Wickets **1**, Best bowling **1-21**, Average **21.00**, Economy-Rate **5.25**

**LASITH MALINGA**: Age 27. Right-hand batsman/Right-arm fast



The fiery pace spearhead with the round-arm slinging action that batsman find hard to pick. Claimed four wickets off successive balls against South Africa in the last World Cup.

ODIs **77**, Runs **210**, Highest **56**, Average **8.75**, Strike-Rate **66.66**, Centuries **0**, Fifties **1**, Catches **12**, Wickets **114**, Best bowling **5-34**, Average **27.02**, Economy-Rate **4.92**

**MAHELA JAYAWARDENE**: Age 33. Right-hand batsman/Right-arm medium



The former skipper is a prolific scorer and holds the key to Sri Lanka's batting at the World Cup. One of the safest fielders in the game, he can also turn his arm over when called on to break a partnership.

ODIs **332**, Runs **9,119**, Highest **128**, Average **32.68**, Strike-Rate **77.17**, Centuries **12**, Fifties **55**, Catches **170**, Wickets **7**, Best bowling **2-56**, Average **79.71**, Economy-Rate **5.75**.

**CHAMARA KAPUGEDERA**: Age 23. Right-hand batsman/Right-arm medium



Another aggressive batsman, he makes useful contributions lower down the order, especially in the slog overs. An accurate medium-pacer who keeps runs in check.

ODIs **85**, Runs **1,440**, Highest **95**, Average **22.85**, Strike-Rate **73.09**, Centuries **0**, Fifties **7**, Catches **28**, Wickets **2**, Best bowling **1-24**, Average **109**, Economy-Rate **5.06**

**TILLAKARATNE DILSHAN**: Age 34. Right-hand batsman/Off-spinner



The aggressive opener will be counted upon to provide a fluent start. Loves to go over the top when the field is inside the circle and plays shots on both sides of the wicket.

ODIs **194**, Runs **4,956**, Highest **160**, Average **35.14**, Strike-Rate **87.23**, Centuries **8**, Fifties **20**, Catches **81**, Stumping **1**, Wickets **54**, Best bowling **4-29**, Average **43.87**, Economy-Rate **4.77**

**ANGELO MATHEWS**: Age 23. Right-hand batsman/Right-arm fast-medium



An outstanding all-rounder and brilliant fielder, he could be one of the stars of the World Cup. He can bat anywhere in the order and bowls at lively pace.

ODIs **35**, Runs **702**, Highest **77** not out, Average **35.10**, Strike-Rate **83.07**, Centuries **0**, Fifties **6**, Catches **12**, Wickets **27**, Best bowling **6-20**, Average **31.59**, Economy-Rate **4.63**

**UPUL THARANGA**: Age 26. Left-hand batsman



The Tsunami survivor is another exciting opening batsman in the Dilshan mould but is more selective in his stroke play. The left-hander is at ease in all three formats of the game, but is ideally suited to build an innings in the one-day format.

ODIs **112**, Runs **3,503**, Highest **120**, Average **34.34**, Strike-Rate **72.88**, Centuries **9**, Fifties **18**, Catches **19**.

**THISARA PERERA**: Age 21. Left-hand batsman/Right-arm medium-fast



Another all-rounder with a penchant for big shots, ideal in the final overs, and a fast bowler who can bowl with the new ball and also generate reverse swing with the older cherry.

ODIs **16**, Runs **139**, Highest **36** not out, Average **17.37**, Strike Rate **117.79**, Centuries **0**, Fifties **0**, Catches **7**, Wickets **25**, Best bowling **5-28**, Average **20.72**, Economy-Rate **5.25**

**MUTTHIAH MURALITHARAN**: Age 38. Right-hand-batsman/off-spinner



The world bowling record-holder and the only member of the current team who was part of the World Cup winning squad in 1996. The off-spinner has retired from Tests and looks forward to bowling out of the game with another Cup triumph.

ODIs **341**, Runs **667**, Highest **33** not out, Average **6.80**, Strike-Rate **77.10**, Catches **129** Wickets **519**, Best bowling **7-30**, Average **23.18**, Economy-Rate **3.92**

**THILAN SAMARAWEEERA**: Age 34. Right-hand batsman/off-spinner



The solid, patient batsman is the perfect foil for the strokemakers in the side. He is not a regular member of the one-day side but his penchant for big scores on sub-continental wickets earned him selection for the World Cup.

ODIs **44**, Runs **752**, Highest **105** not out, Average **26.85**, Strike-Rate **68.67**, Centuries **2**, Fifties **0**, Catches **14**, Wickets **10**, Best bowling **3-34**, Average **53.80**, Economy-Rate **4.67**

**NUWAN KULASEKARA**: Age 28. Right-hand batsman/Right-arm fast-medium



The former softball player is now Sri Lanka's frontline swing bowler, relied upon to run through rivals' top order. Was ranked as the world's top one-day bowler in 2009.

ODIs **83**, Runs **475**, Highest **57** not out, Average **16.96**, Strike-Rate **70.57**, Centuries **0**, Fifties **1**, Catches **20**, Wickets **100**, Best bowling **4-40**, Average **29.04**, Economy-Rate **4.54**

**RANGANA HERATH**: Age 32. Left-hand batsman/left-arm spinner



A surprise inclusion for the World Cup ahead of off-spinner Suraj Randiv, he was taken in to lend variety to the attack. A very prolific Test bowler who can be expected to shine in helpful conditions.

ODIs **11** Runs **4**, Highest **2**, Average **2.00**, Strike-Rate **50.00**, Catches **4** Wickets **11**, Best bowling **3-28**, Average **27.45**, Economy-Rate **4.02**

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