Sri Lanka's challenge at World Cup

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



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



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/

Riaht-arm medium The former skipper



also turns his arm over when called on to break a partnership.

ODIs 332, Runs 9,1197, 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 whokeeps 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**

> DILHARA FERNANDO: Age 31. Right-hand batsman/Right-arm fast-medium Right-hand-batsman/off-spinner

> > Will provide good support to Malinga and Kulasekara with the new ball, provided he stay aways from injuries and curbs his habit of overstepping at regular

intervals.

ODIs 141, Runs 239, Highest 20, Average 9.95, Strike-Rate 61.75, Catches 27 Wickets 180, Best bowling 6-27, Average 29.78, Economy-Rate 5.20

TILLAKARATNE DILSHAN: UPUL THARANGA: Age 26. Left-hand batsman



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

Age 34. Righ-hand batsman/

Off-spinner

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.

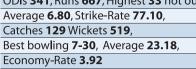
ODIs 35, Runs 702, Highest 77 not out, Average 35.10, Strike-Rate 83.07, Centuries 0, Fifties 6, Catches 12 Wickets 27, Best bowling 6-20, Average 31.59, Economy-Rate 4.63

MUTTIAH MURALITHARAN: Age 38.



record-holder and the only member of the current team World Cup winning squad in 1996. The off-spinner has retired from Tests and looks forward to bowing out of

the game with another Cup triumph. ODIs 341, Runs 667, Highest 33 not out,



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

The Tsunami survivor is another exciting opening batsman in the Dilshan mould but is more selective in his stroke play. The lefthander 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



final overs, and a fast bowler who can bowl with the new ball and also generate reverse

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,

> AJANTHA MENDIS: Age 25. Right-hand batsman/spinner

The mystery spinner who turns the ball both ways with a unique action in which he flicks the ball out of his hands like a carrom player. But batsmen appear to pick him better now, making him less effective than

ODIs 46, Runs 99, Highest 15 not out, Average 7.61, Strike-Rate 68.75, Catches 6 Wickets 82, Best bowling 6-13, Average 19.59, Economy-Rate 4.40

before.

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

Right-hand batsman/Right-arm



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 Surai 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.

Sri Lanka Cricket

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

GRAPHIC BY MAHIL WIJESINGHE







Average 20.72, Economy-Rate 5.25



swing with the older

cherry.

in 2009.

big shots, ideal in the

NUWAN KULASEKARA: Age 28. fast-medium The former softball player is now Sri Lanka's



