

# SRIKAR BHARAT

Wicket-Keeper



Name	Srikar Bharat
DOB	03-10-1993
Nationality	Indian
Player Status	Placed
Playing Role	Wicket-Keeper
Batting Style	RH Opening Bat
Bowling Style	N/A
Entry Route	International Sportsperson Visa

KS Bharat is an accomplished wicketkeeper-batter with seven Test caps for India, featuring in five matches against Australia (2023) and two against England (2024). A naturally gifted gloveman, Bharat's journey behind the stumps was unconventional—he didn't keep wicket in a competitive match until his final year of Under-19 cricket. From there, he had to battle with Wriddhiman Saha, a technically flawless keeper, and Rishabh Pant, an explosive batter, for a spot in India's Test side.

Bharat received his maiden India call-up in November 2019 but had to wait until February 2023 for his Test debut, stepping in after Pant's unfortunate car accident. Prior to that, he briefly kept wicket as a substitute in the 2021 Kanpur Test against New Zealand, taking two catches and executing a stumping when Saha suffered a stiff neck.

His first five Tests came against Australia—four in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy at home and the fifth in the World Test Championship final at The Oval. While he showed flashes of brilliance behind the stumps, inconsistency crept into his performances. With the bat, he made promising starts but struggled to convert them into substantial scores, leading to his omission midway through the England series in 2024.

Bharat made history in domestic cricket as the first wicketkeeper-batter to score a triple-century in the Ranji Trophy. Opening for Andhra, he hammered 308 off 311 balls against Goa in the 2014-15 season—also marking the first triple-century by an Andhra batter in first-class cricket. His domestic record remains strong, averaging close to 40 in the Ranji Trophy since COVID.

His IPL journey has seen him don the jerseys of multiple franchises. Initially signed by Delhi Daredevils in 2015, he didn't get a game and was released after the season. He returned to the IPL in 2021 with Royal Challengers Bangalore and, over the next three years, was part of Delhi Capitals (2022), Gujarat Titans (2023), and Kolkata Knight Riders (2024), though opportunities were limited.

A proven performer in first-class cricket, with almost 10,000 domestic runs and 50 plus caps as skipper for his State, Bharat is now eager to experience County Cricket in 2025. His wealth of experience, sharp wicketkeeping skills, and ability to contribute valuable runs from the top order make him a highly recommended signing.

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