

India 4 Japan 3

70' IND win this match deservedly to secure their berth in the bronze medal match and confine JPN to the match for 5th place.

70' Last minute opportunity for JPN as Akira ITO dives in to deflect a pass across the face of the goal but the whistle has gone already.

68' IND are down to ten men again as umpire PILGRIM shows a yellow card to William XALXO for a vicious stick tackle.

**** Goal: Ryuji FURUSATO (FG) ****

65' But with a start, JPN wake up again. A long hit from TSUBOUCHI diagonally across the circle finds FURUSATO near the far post. FURUSATO tips it in, then immediately runs to get the ball to get back to playing quickly to hold on to the chance to salvage points from this encounter.

63' The match has become somewhat subdued now, JPN seemingly having accepted that they will not be able to get past their opponents today. Defeat in this match means they will have to take on either England or Belgium in tomorrow's match for 5th place.

60' YAMABORI returns for JPN after his suspension.

56' Shot on goal for JPN, good save from Baljit SINGH.

54' Yellow card for Takahiko YAMABORI for a stick tackle. This is a bad blow to what little remains of JPN's hopes to turn this match around as it means their prime PC man is off the field.

**** Goal: Dilip TIRKEY (PC) ****

48' A soft and simple but well placed hit from Dilip TIRKEY. He puts the ball into the bottom right corner of the goal, somehow getting past NAGAOKA and the post man, to restore IND's two goal lead.

47' Prabjhot SINGH wins a PC for IND.

**** Goal: Takahiko YAMABORI (PC) ****

46' YAMABORI flicks to his preferred side, the right side of the goal, and the ball goes into the net at shoulder height.

45' Counter attack by JPN. FURUSATO runs down the left and is tackled by William XALXO in the circle. PC for JPN.

44' Gurbaj SINGH steps to striker's position but instead of shooting he spins to lay the ball off to the left for Dilip TIRKEY. TIRKEY hits the ball towards the goal but NAGAOKA saves.

43' Green card for Yuji CHAKI.

43' PC for IND.

41' Rajpal SINGH's suspension ends, IND are back to full strength.

40' Free hit for IND near the circle. Bimal LAKRA's hit is halfhearted and goes to the JPN defense.

39' IND cannot stop the ball and it goes through and travels far down the field before IND can reclaim it.

38' The two teams reclaim the field, JPN coming out blazing in their attempt to turn around the match. Their efforts meet a well disposed IND defense however, and seizing the first opportunity for a counter attack, IND win a PC.

35' IND head into half time at a comfortable 3-1 lead. They have had the better chances, and while JPN fight hard, they currently cannot overcome their opponents.

35' Yellow card for Rajpal SINGH after a foul on Yoshihiro ANAI.

**** Goal: Prabjhot SINGH (FG) ****

34' Prabjhot SINGH scores IND's third goal practically out of the blue. A great long pass gives him the ball on the edge of the circle on the left side and he launches a hard hit to the far side of the goal for the 3-1 lead.

32' Green card for Yutaka BITO after a harsh tackle.

31' The pace of the game is now a little more laid back, IND are attacking but not overly aggressively, and JPN absorb the pressure well.

29' YOSHIDA fakes a flick and steps over the ball for YAMABORI to flick from further out left but Baljit SINGH saves the shot.

28' PC for JPN.

24' Furious counter attack down the field, PC to IND. However, after consulting his colleague Gregory UYTENHOVE, umpire PILGRIM revokes his decision. Free hit for JPN.

23' The ball is not stopped properly. FURUSATO tries to get in a shot but cannot, IND have the ball.

23' PC for JPN.

**** Goal: Prabjhot SINGH (PC) ****

21' Sandeep SINGH goes low and the initial shot is saved by NAGAOKA but Prabjhot SINGH is there to force the ball over the line on the rebound.

21' PC for IND.

19' YAMABORI's low flick is saved by Baljit SINGH.

18' JPN have a free hit near the circle. TSUBOUCHI cleverly plays it onto a foot, PC for JPN.

16' Great save from NAGAOKA as Damandeep SINGH deflects a long hit just inside the circle to take it towards the near top corner of the goal.

15' Green card for Sardar SINGH.

14' Sandeep SINGH's flick is deflected high and wide off runner Yuji CHAKI's stick. Excellent running from CHAKI on this occasion.

14' Green card for Kazuyuki OZAWA for protesting umpire James PILGRIM's decision.

13' PC for IND.

**** Goal: Kenichi KATAYAMA (FG) ****

12' Long corner for JPN, IND are not ready, and KATAYAMA who has been left with way too much room dives in to tip the ball across into the goal.

10' JPN get into the circle and the ball ends up in goal. The whistle has gone however, and IND have the ball. JPN claim a PC but to no avail.

**** Goal: Sandeep SINGH (PC) ****

7' An absolutely cracking flick from Sandeep SINGH to the top right corner of the goal leaves the JPN defense without any chance to react. IND are in the lead.

6' IND get into the JPN circle for the first time and immediately are dangerous. Mitsuru ITO's attempt to clear goes awry, the ball heading straight for the foot of one of his own men. PC for IND.

5' Time is stopped for Gurbaj SINGH who has been hit by a ball from ANAI from close range. SINGH has to leave the field.

4' JPN come out aggressively in this match and play powerful hockey here.

1' Welcome to the second match of the day where India take on Japan. Mathematically, Japan have the opportunity to push IND out of the match for third place if they beat them with more than 3 goals difference but given that JPN have only scored 5 goals in the tournament so far, this seems a rather difficult task.

0' The umpires in this match are James PILGRIM (ENG) and Gregory UYTENHOVE (BEL).