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## Bumrah shines as India stages comeback on a dramatic first day



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RKI Web Desk

India clawed back into contention against Australia in the first Test in Perth, despite a batting collapse that saw them dismissed for just 150. At stumps, Australia was reeling at 67-7, thanks to a sensational 4-17 spell from stand-in skipper Jasprit Bumrah.

Opting to bat, India struggled against Australia's potent pace attack, led by Josh Hazlewood, who claimed 4-29. Debutant Nitish Kumar Reddy (41) and Rishabh Pant (37) offered resistance, but India's fragile batting lineup crumbled under pressure. Virat Kohli's struggles in Australia continued as he managed only five runs.

In reply, Australia's top order faltered, with Bumrah trapping Nathan McSweeney lbw for 10. Usman Khawaja (8) and Steve Smith fell in quick succession, while Harshit Rana celebrated his maiden Test wicket, clean-bowling Travis Head. Mohammed Siraj added to the chaos, removing Mitchell Marsh (5) and the resilient Marnus Labuschagne (2), who labored for 52 balls.

Alex Carey (19\*) and Mitchell Starc (6\*) held on as stumps approached, with Starc noting, "Both teams bowled well, and the wicket offered swing, pace, and movement. Tomorrow, we'll aim to get close to their total."

India's bowling brilliance overshadowed a challenging start, giving them a slim advantage. The second day promises more twists as Australia battles to recover from their dire position.