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YASHASVI JAISWAL, KL RAHUL SET TO OPEN IN THIRD TEST
VIRAT KOHLI GIVES PEP TALK**

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With KL Rahul and Yashasvi Jaiswal expected to open the third Test on Saturday (December 14), there were enough indications during India's first practice session at the Gabba in Brisbane on Thursday that captain Rohit Sharma will continue to bat at No. 6. Rohit made the audacious decision to

give up his opening spot and slide to No. 6 in order to make room for Rahul at the top of the order following his outstanding performance in the first show after coming in Australia prior to the second Test in Adelaide.

Rahul and Rohit did not receive any runs in their new places, hence the move was ineffective. Rahul was dismissed for 37 after looking excellent in the first innings, then he was removed for 7 after being hit by a bouncer from Pat Cummins in the second innings. However, Rohit did not appear at all at ease at number six. Rohit battled against the moving pink ball as he batted in the middle order for the first time in six years. Australia captain Pat Cummins ended his brief but excruciating stay in the innings for six when Scott Boland trapped him leg before wicket for three in the first innings.

At the Gabba, though, it seems likely that India will continue to use the same batting lineup. The first players to score during Thursday's practice session were Rahul and Jaiswal. But unlike the last occasion, Rohit went into the nets earlier. Before Rahul went for another round of batting practice, he took his seat and batted for a while.

Virat Kohli gave a motivational speech to kick off India's camp. The former captain of India was spotted giving the team a passionate speech. He had a lengthy and intense batting session later on, which was typical of his actions on the tour. In an effort to better understand how he was responding to particular types of deliveries, he spoke with assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate. Similar deliveries have been made by him in Adelaide and Perth.

In full guru mode, Jasprit Bumrah gave Nitish Kumar Reddy advice on how to move the weight in the proper way and speed up his delivery. Everyone

has been pleased by the all-rounder's ability to bat at a lower level, but for India to achieve the ideal balance, his bowling needs to improve.

Mohammed Siraj, who gained notoriety for his furious argument with Travis Head in Adelaide, worked closely with bowling coach Morne Morkel and India's video analyst Hari to refine his release points in an effort to increase swing.