

## Shardul Thakur's Five-for sinks Delhi

### RANJI TROPHY

**Mumbai pace spearhead Shardul Thakur took a five-wicket haul to dismiss Delhi for 166 on the second day of the Ranji Trophy quarterfinals at the Driems Ground, yesterday. Mumbai's bowlers, ably led by Thakur (5/54), struck regularly to limit Delhi's lead to merely 10 runs in response to Mumbai's first-innings score of 156.**

Aditya Tare's side came back strongly in the second innings to end the day on 87 for one and manage a crucial lead of 77 in what seems to be a low-scoring game.

Tare was caught behind off Pradeep Sangwan in the 15th over of the innings, but opener Akhil Herwadkar (52 batting) and Shreyas Iyer (12 batting) were battling on with a 46-run unbeaten stand.

Thakur's new-ball partner Balwinder Sandhu (2/43) drew first blood after getting Unmukt Chand caught behind for 15 and soon medium- pacer Wilkin Mota (2/47) trapped captain Gautam Gambhir (5) in front to put Delhi in trouble.

**Shivam Sharma and (30) Virender Sehwag (49) then stitched a 78-run third-wicket partnership only to be broken by Thakur's excellence on the field. On a day that belonged to him, Thakur ran Sehwag out to deny the veteran batsman his 54th first-class halfcentury.**

The run-out gave him immense confidence. Thakur, who bagged his sixth firstclass five-wicket haul, started his demolition act by getting Mithun Manhas caught behind for a duck. From there on he became unstoppable and cleaned the Delhi tail in no time.

**Mumbai 156 and 87/1 (Aditya Tare 23, A Herwadkar 52 batting; P Sangwan 1/16) vs Delhi 166 (V Sehwag 49; S Thakur 5/54)**