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# STAGE SET FOR AN INDIAN PARTY

## Kapur, Gangjee In Joint Lead

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**T**wo Indians — Shiv Kapur and Rahul Gangjee — and both debutants on the Challenge Tour, in joint lead after Round II raises hope of an Indian party at the Gujarat Kensville Challenge 2012. Kapur shot a four-under 68 and Gangjee a three-under 69 to be seven-under 137 going into the last two rounds on the weekend.

"I started off pretty good. I birdied 10, 11, 13, 14 and then bogeyed 16 and 18. Then I birdied just one on the way back, the sixth. I didn't leave too many putts to be honest. I struggled a bit today, the greens got much firmer than yesterday and somehow that didn't really help me, especially when I missed the greens, it was difficult to control the distances of my chips, it would bounce and take off. They've cut the grass down a lot so it's a little more difficult to see the green, making it more interesting. Otherwise, it wasn't bad, I played within myself," said Kolkata-based Gangjee who plays on Asian Tour and the Nationwide Tour in the US.

Delhi boy Kapur, 30, plays on Asian and European Tours, and like Gangjee is hoping to make his debut on the European Challenge tour a memorable one, said: "The conditions were a little easier, because it wasn't as windy as yesterday, so the pins were a little more accessible. I got off to a great start with a birdie on the 10th, which was my first hole, then managed to pick up three more shots without too many heroics. I hit lots of greens but didn't hole any really long putts, just burned quite a lot of edges. I changed my putting grip from yesterday, and that seemed to help me



Shiv Kapur lines a putt on the 9th hole

with my pace. If you feel like you've hit a good putt, even if it doesn't go in you can't feel too disappointed."

"The only blemish of the day was a silly bogey at the sixth hole, where some indecision on the second shot cost me dear: I left myself with a tough bunker shot, and didn't manage to get up and down. It would've been nice to have had another bogey-free round, but it wasn't to be, and I'm still in a great position going into the weekend," added Kapur.

The Indian duo was closely followed by an European trio comprising two Englishmen, Gary Lockerbie (69) and Seve Benson (68) and a Swede, Jens Dantorp (68), all of whom are at six-under 138 in tied third place. Three others, German Max Keiffer (71), Australian Daniel Gaunt (68) and American Dodge Kemmer (72) were tied sixth at three-under 141.

### Top names who missed cut

Himmat Rai (77-74), John Parry (73-76), Daniel Vancsik (76-75), Chiragh Kumar (71-79), Gaurav Ghei (78-73) and Ali Sher (73-77)

### 13 other Indians who made cut

Ranjit Singh (71-73), Digvijay Singh (73-73), Ashok Kumar (75-70), Abhinav Lohan (72-73) and Mukesh (72-73), Vinod Kumar (75-71), Kapil Kumar (73-73), Gaganjeet Bhullar (71-75), Shamim Khan (72-75), Mandeo Pathania (75-72) and Manav Jaini (70-77), Ajeetsh Sandhu (72-76) and Vijay Kumar (76-72)

The final two rounds will be played over the weekend. There will be free entries for all golf lovers of Gujarat. For free passes and entry contact 8980099955