

Pietersen: "I Want to Play for another Five Years"

England cricketer Kevin Pietersen has stressed that he is still fully dedicated to his England career ahead of the Test Series against Sri Lanka.

The 30-year-old suffered a dip in form after the batsman resigned from the captaincy in 2009. His World Cup was cut short due to a hernia injury, but despite the setbacks he remains adamant that his love for the game remains as strong as ever.

"I cannot stress how important cricket is to me," Pietersen admitted ahead of the opening morning session on Thursday.

"I love cricket and playing for England. I'm fully fit and ready for a bumper summer.

"I want to get 10,000 Test runs. Someone just told me I'm only five hundreds away from having the most for an Englishman. I want to play for another five years."

England kick-off a three-match home series this week, which will be followed by games against India later in the summer.