

Bhalla congratulates Umran Malik for selection in India A squad

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior Congress leaders including Former Ministers Raman Bhalla and Yogesh Sawhney on Saturday congratulated cricketer Umran Malik and his family for his selection in India A Squad for the upcoming South Africa Tour.

They paid a visit to Umran Malik's residence in Jammu to congratulate the young pacer and convey their regards to his family.

During the visit, the leaders talked to Umran Malik and gave him their best wishes for a successful career.

The Congress leaders recalled all of his achievements that he has collected at such a young age and said he is steadily climbing the ladder of his professional career because of his hard work.

In April 2021, he was selected as one of three net bowlers for 2021 Indian Premier League and made his debut in this reputed



Senior Congress leaders Raman Bhalla and Yogesh Sawhney congratulating cricketer Umran Malik during visit to his residence in Jammu.

tournament. He emerged as a rising cricket star after his applaudable performance in the IPL where he clocked speeds in excess of 150kph. As a result of his fast-bowling, he was named as a net bowler for India's team for the 2021 ICC Men's T20 World Cup. Now, he has been named in India A squad for the tour of South Africa starting November 23.

"This is a great set of achievements for him starting out and there is lot more to come," said Sawhney.

Bhalla lauded Malik's

achievement for making the cut into India's A Squad and wished him success for his rising cricketing career. He added that such talented sportspersons are the pride of the country.

Sawhney called it a proud moment for Jammu Kashmir and said "My heartiest congratulations to him and the whole family. This is a great achievement and a very fruitful result of the young man's sheer hardwork and talent. The blessings of the people are with him."

Speaking on sports and

sports talent, Bhalla and Sawhney further commented on the poor condition of sports infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir. They said that J&K has an immense pool of talent and it should be tapped into. Many more talented people like Umran will find their names to the top if a healthy sports environment is nurtured here. There is talent but no stadiums to practice, no proper equipments, no proper infrastructure. The government has taken no efforts in this sector.

Bhalla urged the BJP government to invest in sports infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir and so that such talent of the youth is promoted and encouraged.

The Congress leaders asked the family to ask for any help if needed and assured them of their support. They said that it is inspiring and commendable that the young man delivered in performance and emerged as a deserving player. It is a matter of great pride for Jammu that Malik will play for the Indian Team, the stated. They also wished Malik success in the South Africa tour. Umran Malik's family members thanked them for their congratulations and wishes and appreciated the visit.

Along with Raman Bhalla, Yogesh Sawhney, Kamal Singh, Rajesh Sharma, Jatin Vashisth, Jatin Chib, Raj Kumar, Gagan Baral, Pappu and others were present for the visit.

The team is accompanied by Ajay Sharma (National Referee), Adil Ashraf Khan as team coach respectively.

WOMEN: Ojasvi Kohli, Heena Naz, Sakshi Koul, Prasmi Gupta, Shivan Langeh, Surbi Bhali, Riya Mahajan, Adila Shafi, Ritu Devi, Konica, Samreen Kour, Amita Devi and Tamana.

MEN: Kushwinder Singh, Sawan Kumar, Azim Aslam, Pankaj Chib, Suresh Pal Executive Member also gave best wishes to the team.

The team was selected by All J&K UT Power Lifting Association on the basis of recently conducted J&K State Bench press Championship.

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Amandeep Bhasan, Jagbir Singh, Joginder, Parath Manhas, Surjit Singh, Anurag Magotra, Faizan Ahmed Minto, Vishal Kumar, Harshul Sharma, Gourav Sharma, Shoy Gupta, Narinder Pal Singh, Umesh Raina, Vishal Sudan, Abubakar, Owais Choudhary, Shalinder Singh, Younis Anshari, Mehl Verina, Akshay Kumar, Shabab Alam, Anshul Sharma, Haroon Choudhary, Om Dutt, Vikramdeep, Satyajeet, Udhayveer Singh, Vishawjeet Singh, Vickramjeet Singh, Aditya Sharma, Udhayveer, Rishav Sharaf, Sahil Ansari, Akash Dutt and Manpreet Singh.

52-member J&K UT team selected for National Bench Press C'ship



Selected team members posing for a photograph with ex-Dy CM Kavinder Gupta and other officials.

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JAMMU: A 52-member team of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory has been selected for National Bench Press Power Lifting Championship (Men & Women) Sub Junior, Junior, Senior & Master equipped & Classic to be held at Goa from November 17 to 20, 2021.

The former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta and District President BJP Vinay Gupta gave best wishes to the players for bringing laurels for J&K UT.

The officials of the Association namely Ajay Sharma General Secretary, Rahul Sawhney Senior Vice President and

the district president/Secretaries of all the districts were also present.

SSP Javid Koul was the Chief Guest on the valedictory ceremony while Manager, Gindum stadium Mushtaq Ahmad Zargar was the Guest of Honour.

The tournament was conducted under the supervision of General Secretary JK Amateur Soft Tennis Association, Dr. Ghulam Hassan. Dr. Hassan expressed gratitude to all the officers, officials and media persons for their contribution towards grand success of this mega sports event. On the occasion, the Association also handed over soft tennis equipments to the budding sportspersons of various districts who evinced keen interest in this game.

In Sub junior girls, Shreemai got the gold medal while Muntaha Ajiaz and Eigan Shabir were awarded with silver and bronze medal respectively.

All the officer bearers of the J&K Amateur Soft Tennis Association and all

category, Madhavendra Singh and Shulin Koul won the gold medal while Inad and Arsh Abbas clinched the silver medal & Zayeen Masoodi and Hakeem Dafiq and Mohammad Daniyal & Tafazul Nazir.

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Later, the chief guest distributed prizes among the winner and runner up players and encouraged them for further upgrading their sports skill in this potential game.

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