

India pip plucky Afghanistan after two super overs for 3-0 sweep

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BENGALURU: Skipper Rohit Sharma donned the glittering cap of saviour thrice in the night, first with a situation-defying hundred in regulation time and then with two mini assaults to help India fight past a feisty Afghanistan in a dramatic double Super Over finish in the third and final T20 here on Wednesday. The result meant that India won their final series before the T20 World Cup with a satisfying 3-0 margin.

Before Super Overs kicked in, Rohit (121 not out, 69b, 11x4, 8x6) and his perfect sidekick Rinku Singh (69 n.o., 39b, 2x4, 6x6) shared 190 runs for a stellar unbeaten fifth-wicket stand as India came back from a flaky 22 for four to post a massive 212 for four after opting to bat first.

The Afghans started gamely through openers



Rahmanullah Gurbaz (50, 32b) and Ibrahim Zadran (50, 41 balls) as they added 93 runs in 11 overs, building a solid foundation for the chase.

Their departure saw spinners Washington Sundar (3/18) and Kuldeep Yadav (1/31) tightening things a bit but the experienced Gulbadin Naib (55 not out off 23 balls) played some twinkling shots to keep his side in the hunt.

Naib knocked off 18 runs of the required 19 off the final over bowled by pacer Mukesh Kumar, dragging the match into a Super Over.

The visitors made 16 for 1 in the first Super Over bowled by Mukesh and India equalled the score with Rohit making 13, and it stretched the game to the second Super Over.

In this phase, India made 11 and Rohit made all those runs before getting run out.

Afghanistan lost both Mohammad Nabi and Gurbaz to leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi as they failed to score any runs in the second Super Over; sig-

nalling the end of a winding match.

Rohit remained the star of the night among all that com-

motion, also silencing those who doubted his suitability to be in India's T20 scheme of things.

SCOREBOARD		
INDIA		
Yashasvi Jaiswal	c Mohammad Nabi b Fareed Ahmad	04
Rohit Sharma (c)	not out	121
Virat Kohli	c Ibrahim Zadran b Fareed Ahmad	00
Shivam Dube	c †Rahmanullah Gurbaz b Azmatullah	01
Sanju Samson	† c Mohammad Nabi b Fareed Ahmad	00
Rinku Singh	not out	69
Extras		17
Total		212/4
AFGHANISTAN		
Rahmanullah Gurbaz	† c W Sundar b Kuldeep Yadav	50
Ibrahim Zadran (c)	st †Samson b W Sundar	50
Gulbadin Naib	not out	55
Azmatullah Omarzai	c Ravi Bishnoi b W Sundar	00
Mohammad Nabi	c Avesh Khan b W Sundar	34
Karim Janat	run out (†Samson)	02
Najibullah Zadran	c Kohli b Avesh Khan	05
Sharafuddin Ashraf	not out	05
Extras		11
Total		212/6

King Eleven lifts Chhatral Premier League trophy

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
MENDHAR: King Eleven Chhatral Cricket club beat Jatt Warrior in the final and lifted the Chhatral Premier League trophy.

Earlier, King Eleven, batting first after winning the toss, set a target of 164 runs and in reply Jatt Warrior was bundled out at 138 runs.

The league was organized by Safer Faizi, Nazarit Mir, Jimmy Qureshi and Ziafat Ali of Mendhar to promote sports activity in the border town Mendhar of district Poonch.

Naib Tehsildar Chhatral, Shokit Ahmed was Chief Just of the match, who gave away the prizes to the players and congratulated the winning team.

He also appreciated the organizers for hosting the cricket league in the border town for providing opportunities to the youth of the



Winner team posing for a photograph after receiving trophy.

area.

While interacting with the players of both the team, Shokit Ahmed asked them to focus on sports and games along with their studies and maintain distance from any kind of addiction and ask to pay contribution to build the nation.

Other prominent people present and interacted with

the players include Amil Choudhary Vice Principal Govt Girls Higher Secondary School Mendhar, Alyas Chowdhury, Shakeel Chowdhury, Munzar Mir, Sayed Khan, Aziz Khan, Qayoom Khan, Safer Qureshi, Nazarit Mir, Fazal Kareem, Yasir Khan, Yasir Khan Junjua and Irfan Ahmed.

Chitra, Sarla in North Zone squad; Satika appointed as trainer

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: For their outstanding show in the recently held league phase of the Senior Women's One-Day Trophy, JKCA's talented right-handed top-order batter, Chitra Singh Janwal and left-arm fast bowler, Sarla Devi have sealed berth in the North Zone squad to participate in the Senior Women's Inter-Zonal One-Day Trophy to be held at Baroda from January 30 to February 9, 2024.

Satika Sharma, Strengthening and Conditioning Coach of JKCA and Physical Education Teacher GGHs City Chowk Jammu has been appointed



Trainer of the North Zone squad.

The squad was picked by the North Zone Selection Committee in a meeting held today at Sultanpur Cricket Ground, Gurugram, Haryana. The meeting was convened by Zonal Convener, Anuj Sharma (HCA) and was attended by Prerna Batra (HCA), Surender Mehta (HPCA), Kanwar

Virdi (UTCA), Anjuman Bassi (PCA), Anita Sharma (DDCA) and Surabhi Dadheechi (JKCA).

It is pertinent to mention here that Chitra Singh got the selectors nod for scoring 327 runs in 6 matches with two centuries and two fifties, while Sarla Devi was picked in the squad for taking 12 wickets in the six outings including a 5-wicket haul.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Wrestler Sandeep of Khanna of Punjab lifted the 20th Annual Sool-Pamote Dungal title defeating Chota Gani of Hoshiarpur in Punjab in the main bout that took place at Village Pamote Nalla in district Reasi.

Sandeep was adjudged as best wrestler of the Dungal, which was organised by Sool-Pamote Dungal Committee.

The title bout winner Sandeep presented with a cash prize of Rs 71,000 while runners-up Chota Gani was presented Rs 50,000.

Former Minister, Jugal Kishore was the chief



Former Minister, Jugal Kishore posing with wrestlers of main bout and other dignitaries.

guest, who distributed cash prizes among the winner and runners-up wrestlers. He also encouraged the youth speaking to the gathering. The SDM Katra,

Deepak Dubey and Rajinder Kumar Mengi were the guests of honour.

Former BDC Panthal, Chander Mohan Singh, ex Sarpanch Karnail Singh, Jarnail Singh, Rajinder Kumar Thappa, Ramesh Chander and Sohan Singh Thakur were also present. In total, 42 bouts played

in the day-long dungal. The second main bout won by Rashid of Domana Akhara Jammu who defeated Sunil of Haryana. While Rashid got Rs 41,000, runners-up, Sunil presented Rs. 30,000.

The third main bout bagged by Nadeem (Rs 31,000) of J&K Police of

Vanshaj, Kanhaiya guide J&K to huge win over Pondicherry



J&K team posing for a photograph after winning the match against Pondicherry in the U-23 Men's CK Nayudu Trophy.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A 12-wicket match haul by spinning sensation Vanshaj Sharma and classic ton by talented middle-order batter Kanhaiya Wadhawan helped Jammu and Kashmir to inflict innings defeat on Pondicherry in the U-23 Men's CK Nayudu Trophy at Jammu University Grounds, here.

Earlier, spinning web around the rival batters, promising left-arm spinner

Vanshaj Sharma captured 5 wickets to help Jammu and Kashmir bundle out Pondicherry for a paltry total of 146 runs in their first innings.

J&K, in reply, rode on a superb century by Kanhaiya and scored 308 runs to gain a vital first innings lead. Kanhaiya Wadhawan showed stellar grit and tenacity to notch up magnificent century, scoring 130 runs off 230 balls, studded with 17 bound-

aries, while Yawer Hassan (36), Basit Bashir (34), skipper Shivansh Sharma (31) and Qazi Junaid Masood (27) were the other major contributors.

Rishi Raut and Naman Satish Sharma took 3 wickets each for Pondicherry, while Pooviarasan M and Tejveer Singh claimed 2 wickets each.

Trailing by 162 runs, Pondicherry again collapsed at 158 runs in the second

essay to lose the match by an innings and 4 runs. Opening batter R Jashwanth Shreeram top scored with 54 runs, while Kamaleeshwaran contributed 40 runs to the total.

Vanshaj Sharma was the wrecker-in-chief for J&K, who captured 7 wickets by conceding 54 runs in 20.5 overs, while medium pacer Archit Mahajan bagged 3 wickets by giving away 31 runs in his 12 overs.

"#ColCKNayuduTrophy. J&K beat Puducherry by an innings & 4 runs earning valuable 7 pts. 130 brilliant runs by prolific batsman Kanhaiya Wadhawan and a 12 wicket haul by left-arm spinner Vanshaj Sharma were the highlights of the match. Well played J&K. Keep it up. Team now moves to Bengaluru to face Karnataka," maintained Brig Anil Gupta, Member-Administration JKCA.

The Jammu and Kashmir team is being accompanied by Sarabjeet Singh as Head Coach, Rakesh Koul as Manager, Kawaljeet Singh as Batting Coach, Sameer Ali as Bowling Coach, Ajay Bhatti as Co Manager, Guru Pratap Singh as Trainer, Dr Haseeb Rehman as Physio, Sahil Magotra as Video Analyst and Arun Kumar as Massuer.

ADG NCC Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh reviews training at NCC Training Academy Nagrota



Maj Gen Rajesh Kumar Sachdeva, ADG NCC Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh addressing the cadets.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NAGROTA: The spirit of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) soared high in Nagrota on Wednesday as Maj Gen Rajesh Kumar Sachdeva, Additional Director General (ADG)

NCC Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh addressed the cadets of the 5 J&K Battalion NCC, Poonch undergoing Combined Annual Training Camp.

In a visit aimed at motivating and guiding the young minds, the ADG shared valuable insights on the benefits and privileges of being part of the NCC, while also stressing the importance of character development and good habits.

ricular activities.

He stated that becoming a good sportsman not only contributes to physical fitness but also cultivates essential qualities like discipline, teamwork, and sportsmanship - all invaluable for both personal and professional success.

Quoting, "In order to become good human, you should participate in games and become a good sportsperson," the ADG emphasized the connection between physical activity and ethical character development.

He stressed the importance of cultivating good habits that would lay the foundation for a fulfilling life not just within the NCC but beyond.

The ADG's visit was met with enthusiasm and appreciation from the cadets and ANOs (Associate NCC Officer's).

His words of encouragement and guidance served as a source of inspiration for the young soldiers in the making, motivating them to embrace the NCC spirit and strive for excellence in all aspects of life.

This visit by the ADG reinforced the organization's commitment to nurturing well-rounded and responsible citizens through its training programs. By fostering a strong sense of discipline, leadership, and values, the NCC continues to play a vital role in shaping the future of India's youth.

Mission Director NHM participates in mega public outreach programme at Mandi Poonch

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: Mission Director, National Health Mission (NHM), Nazim Zia Khan on Wednesday participated in a mega public outreach programme of ongoing "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra" at Tehsil Mandi here.

The outreach programme was held with an aim of magnifying the saturation of government schemes besides enhancing awareness among the locals of the area regarding government initiatives and beneficiary oriented schemes.

Addressing the large gathering on the occasion, the Mission Director highlighted on the Prime Minister's vision behind the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY). He remarked that ensuring widespread awareness among rural masses, reaching the unreached population and facilitating the utilization of government welfare schemes are core objectives of this unique yatra. He urged the officers to set targets and aim for achieving them within a fixed timeline.

The Mission Director appreciated the people of Poonch as well as district administration for success-



fully conducting the VBSY program across all Gam Panchayats and Municipal Councils and Committees of the district.

During the event, various issues and concerns were raised by locals and PRI representatives like construction of Govt Degree College building, roads for remote areas, issues related to implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, hospital related issues and others. The Mission Director assured them that their issues and concerns will be resolved on priority.

On the sidelines of the programme, the Mission Director along with Deputy Commissioner, Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary inspected stalls set up by various government departments showcasing schemes related to agriculture, horticulture, health, animal husbandry, social welfare, handicraft, handloom, and other wings.

He also interacted with the officers, and reviewed progress achieved so far under different government schemes on ground.

The Mission Director also monitored the activities of VBSY van, playing a crucial role in raising awareness among the common masses about various central government schemes.

During the event, vibrant cultural activities and national anthem performance by school students was also witnessed by the audience. Besides, the participants took Viksit Bharat pledge for their commitment towards the cause of inclusive development and nation building.

Among others, the programme was attended by ADDC Poonch, CEO Tourism, CPO, CMO, other senior officers of district administration. Poonch besides large number of locals.

Director Sericulture J&K inaugurates Resham Krishi Mela at P-4, Basic Seed Farm Manasbal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Director Sericulture J&K, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat today inaugurated a one-day Resham Krishi Mela at P-4, Basic Seed Farm, Manasbal.

In the event more than 500 Silkworm Rearing/ youths from all districts of Kashmir participated with great enthusiasm and fervour.

On the occasion, the Director Sericulture J&K felicitated 20 progressive Silkworm rearers and 5 Sericulture Entrepreneurs with memento, certificates, and tool kits as a token of appreciation.

The event was jointly organized by the Sericulture Dev. Department J&K and Central Sericulture Research & Training Institute, CSB, Pampore, showcasing the achievements of the sericulture community who have relentlessly dedicated themselves for the welfare of the sericulture sector, farmers and silkworm rearers.

The Director Sericulture J&K also released various booklets/ pamphlets on the occasion exhibiting technical activities and information related to the sericulture practices as a whole.

The stalls highlighting various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), U.T level schemes, and an array of silk/mulberry products were set up by the Sericulture Dev. Department J&K, CSB, Pampore, and various Entrepreneurs of U.T of J&K.

Addressing a huge gathering of Silkworm Rearing and Sericulture Entrepreneurs, Director Sericulture assured the full support of the Department for providing technical guidance of sericulture activities,

including Silkworm Rearing, Reeling, and Weaving.

He informed that the Department has also enhanced its Cocoon Bank Revolving Fund from Rs. 70 lakh to Rs. 3.50 Crore for local Reeling Unit holders for increasing consumption of Cocoons at local level and at the same time the department has introduced Production based Incentives to Rearing/Reelers on Cocoon and Silk production under Capex to encourage them towards higher production/productivity.

Besides the Director Sericulture informed that presently the local buyers only consume about 30% cocoons while as the buyers from other states consume 70% cocoons in the Cocoon Auction Markets organized by the Department across J&K and expressed his desire that in coming years the trend should be other way around.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. N.K. Bhatia, Director Central Sericulture Research & Training Institute, CSB, Pampore also shared his valuable inputs viz-a-viz different schemes and the benefits which the people of J&K avail by associating themselves with Sericulture Dev. Department and the CSRTI Pampore.

Director Central Sericulture Research & Training Institute, CSB, Pampore, Dr. N.K. Bhatia, Director, ICAR-CITH, Srinagr, Dr. M.K. Verma (ARS), Prof. & Dean TSRI-SKUAST-K, Mirgund, Dr. M.F. Baqal, Head ICAR-IGPRI, Srinagar, Dr. Suheel, and officers from Sericulture Dev. Department and Central Silk Board were present and expressed their views on the occasion.

DC Srinagar greets people on Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: On the occasion of Prakash Parv being celebrated today, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat has extended his warm greetings to the people.

In his message, the DC greeted the Sikh Community

on the 357th birth anniversary of tenth Sikh Guru, Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

The DC expressed hope that Guru Gobind Singh Ji Jayanti would contribute towards strengthening brotherhood, unity, harmony and would be a harbinger of peace, progress and prosperity.