

India outplay Pakistan in U19 Asia Cup

■ AGENCY
DUBAI: A disciplined bowling performance, led by all-rounder Kanishk Chouhan and seamer Deepesh Devendran, powered India to a comprehensive 90-run victory over Pakistan in their Group A match of the Under-19 Asia Cup, here Sunday.

After being put in to bat, India posted a competitive 240 all out in 46.1 overs, riding on a fluent 85 from Aaron George and useful contributions from captain Ayush Mhatre (38) and Chouhan (46).

Pakistan were then bundled out for 150 in 41.2 overs, never quite recovering from the early setbacks in a chase of 241.

India got off to a brisk start with skipper Mhatre striking four boundaries and three sixes during his 25-ball knock before Mohammad Sayyam removed both openers inside the first 10 overs.

George then held the innings together, finding the gaps consistently and adding stability through the middle phase. Chouhan's late flourish, which included three sixes, helped India cross the 230-run mark despite losing wickets regularly.

For Pakistan, Sayyam (3/67) and Abdul Subhan (3/42) were the standout bowlers, while Niqab Shafiq chipped in with two wickets.

Pakistan's chase faltered early as they slipped to 30 for four, with Devendran striking thrice in a sharp opening spell.

Captain Farhan Yousaf (23) and Huzaifa Ahsan attempted to steady the innings, but Chouhan's incisive off-spin broke the resistance. Ahsan top-scored for Pakistan with 70 off 83 balls, but lacked support at the other end. Chouhan finished with 3 for 33, while Devendran returned figures of 3 for 16 as India maintained a firm grip on the contest throughout to register a dominant win in the marquee Group A clash.

The players of the two teams did not shake hands with each other at the toss and after the match, continuing the 'no-handshake' protocol observed by the Indian



men's team during the recently concluded Asia Cup 2025, where they refused to receive the winner's trophy from PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi.

SCOREBOARD		
INDIA UNDER-19S		
Ayush Mhatre (c) c †Hamza Zahoor b Mohd Sayyam	38	
Vaibhav Suryavanshi c & b Mohammad Sayyam	5	
Aaron George c Farhan Yousaf b Abdul Subhan	85	
Vihaan Malhotra c & b Niqab Shafiq	12	
Vedant Trivedi c Ahmed Hussain b Niqab Shafiq	7	
Abhigyan Kundu † c †Hamza Zahoor b Abdul Subhan	22	
Kanishk Chouhan c Sameer Minhas b Ahmed Hussain	46	
Khilan Patel b Mohammad Sayyam	06	
Henil Patel c †Hamza Zahoor b Ali Raza	12	
Deepesh Devendran c Sameer Minhas b Abdul Subhan	01	
Kishan Singh not out	00	
Extras	06	
Total	240/10	
PAKISTAN UNDER-19S		
Usman Khan c Mhatre b Chouhan	16	
Sameer Minhas c sub (N Pushpak) b Deepesh	09	
Ali Hassan Baloch c †Kundu b Deepesh	00	
Ahmed Hussain c †Kundu b Deepesh	04	
Farhan Yousaf (c) c sub (N Pushpak) b Suryavanshi	23	
Huzaifa Ahsan c Suryavanshi b Chouhan	70	
Hamza Zahoor † c Malhotra b Khilan Patel	04	
Abdul Subhan st †Kundu b Chouhan	06	
Mohammad Sayyam c Mhatre b Singh	02	
Niqab Shafiq not out	02	
Ali Raza c Khilan Patel b Singh	06	
Extras	08	
Total	150/10	

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3rd J&K UT Muaythai Championship-2025 held at JU

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Muaythai Association of Jammu and Kashmir successfully organized the 3rd J&K UT Muaythai Championship-2025 on December 13, 2025, at the Boxing Ring, University of Jammu. The championship was conducted in collaboration with the University of Jammu and the J&K Olympic Association, aiming to promote Muaythai and provide a competitive platform for young athletes across the Union Territory.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of around 150 students from various districts of Jammu and Kashmir, including strong representation from the Kashmir Province. Athletes from Kathua, Rajouri, Bandipora, Srinagar, Pulwama, and Jammu showcased their skills, discipline, and sportsmanship, making the championship highly competitive and vibrant.

Yasha Mudgal, Commissioner Secretary,



Muaythai Association of J&K members presenting memento to Yasha Mudgal, Comm Secr YSS, J&K.

Department of Youth Services and Sports, Government of J&K, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director of Sports, University of Jammu, attended as the Special Guest.

Other dignitaries present included Rajeev Khajuria, Joint Commissioner, JMC, and Yudhvir Singh, Treasurer, J&K Olympic Association, who appreciated the efforts of the association in promoting combat sports.

On the occasion, key appointments were announced by the association. Mohd. Rather Faisal was appointed as Kashmir Province In-charge, while Yasmeen Kouser was named Rajouri District In-charge, strengthening the organizational structure of the association.

Prominent members present included Sahil Aggarwal, Chief Patron; Amit Singh, President; Kuljeet Singh Jamwal, General Secretary; along with Vikas Dhar, Mohit Singh, Neeraj Singh, Atul Narayan Singh, Lovish Dogra, Samarth Jain, Yuvraj Malhotra, Surjeet Dogra, and Rohit Bhagat, who ensured the smooth conduct of the championship.

JKPS Panjtirthis shines in Talent ki Khoj Mega Competition

‘Small steps every day lead to big victories’



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Talent ki Khoj Mega Competition was organised by Om Ji Event and Shri Balaji Productions at Ludhiana, providing a vibrant platform for young competitors to showcase their skills. Three students from JK Public School (JKPS) Panjtirthi participated enthusiastically in the event. Navya Sharma of Class 5 secured the second prize in the solo dance category with her graceful and confident performance. In the duet dance category, Gourvi Dogra and Anaya Sharma of Class 1 also won second prize, impressing the judges with their coordination and energy. The Principal of JKPS Panjtirthi Suman Banbah congratulated the Jakiins and expressed, "Your performance was a perfect blend of rhythm, confidence, and creativity. Congratulations on this amazing win!"

Jammu district retains titles in Kho-Kho

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: District Jammu today retained the men and women championship trophies in the 25th J&K UT Kho-Kho Championship which was organised by the J&K Kho-Kho Association (JKKKA) at Green Play Fields, here today.

In both the finals, Jammu outplayed fighting Budgam District in the closely contested amidst support from the divisional teams.

In the finals and valedictory function, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) J&K Police, Shiv Kumar Sharma was chief guest, who presented the title trophies in the presence of DSO J&K Sports Council, Iqbal Singh.

He was all praise for the



Winner team receiving trophy from the chief guest.

young athletes from Kashmir for the competitive spirit and love for the sports. "I wholeheartedly appreciate the efforts of the J&K Kho Kho Association for successfully conducting this championship by involving athletes from almost all the districts of the UT," said Sharma.

He mentioned that sports plays a vital for the holistic development of youth and asked players to continue pursuing sports with dedication and passion, as it builds not only physical fitness but

also character and leadership. Prominent among those present were Dr. Baljinder Kour, president, JKKKA; Manmeet Singh, Chairman, Ranjit College of Education; Harpreet Singh Anand, Chairman, JSS; B.S. Tirthi,

founder, JKKKA; Harvinder Kour, ZPEO Jammu; Laxman Das Sharma, MD Tawi Diagnostic and Imaging Centre; Ishan Gupta, senior Advocate; Dr Ashwani Manhas and Himanshu (99Builders).

Among the organising team were Amrinder Pal Singh (Secretary, JKKKA); Pankaj Malhotra (Treasurer JKKKA) and Tarneet Raina (organising secretary).

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2nd T20-Champion Spirit Cup 2025 Jammu boy guides India to beat Nepal by 10-wkt

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RANCHI: India produced a commanding all-round performance to defeat Nepal by 10 wickets in the second T20 match of the Champion Spirit Cup 2025, presented by Round Table India, at the Amitabh Choudhary Cricket Stadium, Angara. The emphatic victory underlined India's dominance and highlighted the growing excellence of Divyang cricket on the international stage.

Batting first, the Physically Challenged Cricket Team of Nepal posted a total of 139 for 7 in their allotted 20 overs. Ramjaan Ali top-scored with a fighting 43 off 27 balls, while Sukhlal contributed 22 runs from 23 deliveries. Prince K.U. Chauby added a useful 17 off 17 balls. Despite these efforts, Nepal struggled to build momentum due to disciplined Indian bowling.

India's bowlers maintained tight control throughout the innings. Sajeed Tamboli was the standout performer, claiming 3 wickets for 24 runs in his four overs. He was well supported by Mantesh Chaluwadi, who picked up 2 wickets for 27 runs, and Aaqib Malik, who chipped in with 1 wicket for just 13 runs.

In reply, Team India delivered a flawless batting display, chasing down the target in just 16.1 overs without losing a wicket. Openers Rahul Sharma and captain Suvro Joarder stitched together an unbeaten partnership that sealed the match in convincing fashion. Rahul Sharma, hailing from Akhnoor, Jammu & Kashmir, played a composed and confident knock of 63 not out off 53 balls, while Suvro Joarder supported him brilliantly with an unbeaten 55 off 45 balls.

For his match-winning performance, Rahul Sharma was deservedly named Man of the Match. Sham Singh Langleh, Chairman of the J&K Divyang Cricket Team, congratulated Team India and extended his blessings to Rahul Sharma, wishing him continued success in the upcoming matches.



India beat SA by 7 wickets in third T20I to take 2-1 lead in 5-match series



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DHARAMSALA: A clinical show by the pacers helped India beat South Africa by seven wickets in the third T20 International to take 2-1 lead in the five-match series here on Sunday.

After the pacers produced a mesmerizing spell of swing bowling to bundle out South Africa for a below-par 117, the Indian batters chased down the target with 25 balls to spare.

Openers Abhishek Sharma and Shubman Gill contributed 35 and 28

respectively, while one down Tilak Varma made 26 not out as India reached 120 for 3 in 15.5 overs.

Earlier, Arshdeep Singh (2/13), Harshit Rana (2/34) and Hardik Pandya (1/23) shone with the ball after India chose to bowl.

Skipper Aiden Markram offered the lone spark for South Africa with a spirited 46-ball 61.

SCOREBOARD		
SOUTH AFRICA		
Quinton de Kock † lbw b Harshit Rana	01	
Reeza Hendricks lbw b Arshdeep Singh	00	
Aiden Markram (c) c †Sharma b Arshdeep Singh	61	
Dewald Brevis b Harshit Rana	02	
Tristan Stubbs c †Sharma b Pandya	09	
Corbin Bosch b Dube	04	
Donovan Ferreira b Varun	20	
Marco Jansen b Varun	02	
Anrich Nortje st †Sharma b Kuldeep Yadav	12	
Lungi Ngidi not out	01	
Otneil Baartman c Yadav b Kuldeep Yadav	02	
Extras	03	
Total	117/10	
INDIA		
Abhishek Sharma c Markram b Bosch	35	
Shubman Gill b Jansen	28	
Tilak Varma not out	26	
Suryakumar Yadav (c) c Baartman b Ngidi	12	
Shivam Dube not out	10	
Extras	09	
Total	120/3	

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■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The JK UT Padel Open – Season 1, 2025, organised by the Padel Sports Association of Jammu & Kashmir and affiliated with the Padel Association of India, commenced with great enthusiasm at Champions Arena, Chowadhi, Jammu.

The organising committee, led by President Shivang Mahajan, Vice President Sahil Bakshi, and General Secretary Puneet Sharma, informed that the championship is being conducted in three categories Men's Doubles, Mixed Doubles, and Women's Doubles. A total of 78 players are participating, including 48 players in Men's Doubles, 20 in Mixed Doubles, and 10 in Women's Doubles, with representation from various districts of both the Jammu and Kashmir provinces.

The final matches and prize distribution will take place on December 15, 2025. The tournament is sponsored by One Science Nutrition and Head Padel, whose support has played a vital role in promoting padel sports in the Union Territory.

The Padel Sports Association of J&K informed that it currently operates the



only padel facility in the Union Territory, and has been actively promoting the sport through coaching programmes, workshops, and challenger events.

The association presently has a growing community of around 80 active players. Padel, which originated in Mexico and enjoys immense popularity across Europe and South America, is rapidly gaining momentum in India. Cities like Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Chandigarh have already embraced the sport, and Jammu is now emerging as a

new hub for padel.

The opening days of the tournament witnessed high-intensity and closely contested matches, showcasing impressive skill and sportsmanship across all categories.

In the Men's events, several thrilling encounters were played, including narrow victories in tightly fought matches, while some top-seeded pairs registered commanding wins. Notable performances came from players such as Ricky, Aman, Shivang Mahajan, Mandar, Vikram, Deepak, Aayush, Rohail, Anurag, Pankaj, and Ajay Raghav, who advanced with convincing margins.

The Women's category saw dominant performances by Shuchita, Saniya and Suhani, Wafa, who remained unbeaten in multiple matches, while Kyra, Nihar and Henna, Saltanat also put up strong competitive displays. Overall, the early rounds reflected the growing standard of padel in Jammu & Kashmir, with players displaying agility, coordination, and tactical awareness. The tournament continues over the weekend, with expectations of even more exciting matches leading up to the grand finals on December 15, 2025.