Auqib Nabi's five-for put J&K in top against Kerala

STATE TIMES NEWS

PUNE: Seamer Auqib Nabi complemented his useful contribution with the bat with an excellent five-wicket haul to put Jammu and Kashmir in the driver's seat against Kerala on the second day of their Ranji Trophy quarterfinal here on Sunday. Responding to J&K's first innings total of 280 all out, Kerala were struggling at 200 for nine at stumps, trailing by a good 80 runs with just one wicket in hand. J&K, who resumed the day on overnight 228 for eight, did well to add another 52 runs to their total thanks to Nabi's useful 30-ball 32 and Umar Nazir Mir's 14 not out. Four of Nabi's victims were recognised batters in the Kerala top and middle order, making his effort very special. The 28-year-old Nabi ended the day with fine figures of 5/36 from 19 overs, his eighth five-wicket haul in first-class cricket. The seasoned Jalaj Saxena top-scored for Kerala with a 67-run knock



off 78 balls, while Salman Nizar was unbeaten on 49 when the stumps were drawn for the day. While Saxena struck six fours and three sixes during his stay in the middle, Nizar found the fence eight times in his 75-ball knock.

Down in the batting the order, pacer MD Nidheesh chipped in with 30 off 36 balls before being dismissed by Sahil Lotra. Nidheesh, who opened the bowling for Kerala, was also the most successful bowler for his side and returned with impressive figures of 6/75 in 27 overs. Aditya Sarwate, who is also an outstation player like Saxena. picked up 2/34 as J&K were bowled out in 95.1 overs.

As far as the J&K bowling is concerned, there were two wickets apiece for Yudhvir Singh (2/61) and Sahil Lotra

What hurt Kerala most was that the side, barring the 94run stand between Saxena and Nizar, did not have much luck with partnerships.

SCOREBOARD

JAMMU & KASHMIR 1ST INNINGS Shubham Khajuria c Sachin Baby b Nidheesh Yawer Hassan b Nidheesh Vivrant Sharma c†Mohd Azharuddeen b Nidheesh Paras (c) b Basil Thampi Kanhaiya Wadhawan † c Kunnummal b Nidheesh Sahil Lotra b Sarwate Lone Nasir c Sachin Baby b Nidheesh Abid Mushtaq b Basil Yudhvir Singh c†Mohammed Azharuddeen b Nidheesh 26 Auqib Nabi b Sarwate Umar Nazir Mir not out KERALA 1ST INNINGS Akshay Chandran e sub (VY Sharma) b Sahil Lotra Rohan Kunnummal c Vivrant Sharma b Auqib Nabi 01 Shoun Roger c†Wadhawan b Auqib Nabi Sachin Baby (c) b Augib Nabi Jalaj Saxena c Umar Nazir b Auqib Nabi Salman Nizar not out Mohammed Azharuddeen † lbw b Yudhvir Singh Aditya Sarwate c Khajuria b Yudhvir Singh MD Nidheesh c & b Sahil Lotra Nedumankuzhy Basil b Auqib Nabi

Cycling Club asks Minister for facilities in Kathua



Cycling Club in district Kathua members meeting with Minister for Sports, Satish Sharma.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Bicycle for Change, a cycling club in district Kathua today called on the Minister for Sports, Satish Sharma during latter's visit to the town and submitted a memorandum, asking for the facilities.

The Minister, who holds the Sports portfolio, assured the visiting group of senior cyclists of early decision on the facilities for cycling in district Kathua. The list of demands by the Club included dedicated cycling tracks, improved road safety measures during training hours.

Poonch Club wins overall District Poonch Wushu Championship trophy

With eye on the youngsters, the Club put forth demand for an independent cycling academy so as produce the talented and competitive stuff in Jammu and Kashmir. "The Club asked the visit-

ing Cabinet Minister for construction of new cycling tracks from the radio station to Sawan Chalk Gurdwara, Moonlight Theatre, Main Bazar, Court Road, Women's Degree College, up to Tangri and improvement of existing roads," informed president of the Club, Sunil Sharma.

"The Minister gave us a patient hearing to the members and assured that cycling track on modern lines would be developed in the district on priority basis," informed Sunil.

He (Sunil Sharma) told the Minister that Cycling has immense potential to promote tourism, improve public health, and reduce vehicular moment on the roads.

Among others, who discussed scope of cycling in the district included Cdr Amit Khajuria, Maninder Singh Rahul Sharma, Narinder, Deep Sharma, and Vishal.

J&K Police Martyrs' Memorial T-20 Tournament begins



Addl. SP Kishtwar Pawan Sharma and other officers at inaugural ceremony.

STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: On the directions of Police Headquarters J&K. the Martyrs' Memorial T-20 Cricket Tournament -2025 was inaugurated on Sunday under the Civic Action Programme to honour the supreme sacrifices of J&K Police martyrs.

The inauguration ceremony was conducted by Addl. Kishtwar Pawan Sharma, accompanied by SDPO Marwah Vijay Kumar and SHO Kishtwar Insp. Firdous Ahmed.

The event commenced with the National Anthem played by the Police Band as a tribJ&K Police.

The first match was played between IRP-22 Bn and CISF, marking the beginning of an intense and spirited competition.

Notably, nearly 90 teams from different locations of Kishtwar district, including a girls' team, are participating in this year's tournament. breaking previous records and reflecting the growing enthusiasm for the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Addl. SP Kishtwar paid rich tributes to the martyrs, acknowledging their supreme sacrifice for the nation. He emphasized that such initiaute to the brave martyrs of tives not only honour the

heroes but also inspire youth to engage in constructive and disciplined activities.

In his message, SSP Kishtwar remembered the valiant heroes of J&K Police who laid down their precious lives for national security.

He highlighted the significance of the tournament in providing a platform for young players to showcase their talent and build a future in sports.

District Police Kishtwar remains committed to fosteryouth engagement through such positive initiatives, ensuring that the sacrifices of our martyrs are never

STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: District Poonch Championship, organized by the District Poonch Wushu Association under the aegis of the Wushu Association of J&K and supported by the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council, concluded today at the Poonch Martial Art Academy with great pomp and show. The championship featured competitions for different age categories: under 5, 7, 9, and 14 years (Sub-Junior), 14 to 17 years (Junior), and above 18 years (Senior) for both boys and girls.

Around 130 players from various institutions and Wushu Clubs participated in this mega event.

The chief guest of the closing ceremony was Raizada Sorabh Bali, Director of Posterity Consulting Pvt. Ltd. Saval Ahmed Sheikh, a renowned hockey coach of the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council District unit and observer of the event, was the guest of honor.

Other dignitaries present on the occasion included

Jubilant Poonch Wushu Club players receiving overall Trophy of District Poonch Wushu Championship. Priyanka Singh, President of the District Poonch Wushu Association; Sdrn Taranpreet Kour, Secretary of PDTA; Jatinder Sharma, Headmaster of GMS

Khorinar; Rajinder Singh, Taekwondo Coach from the Department of Youth Services and Sports; Ajaz Siddiqui, social worker; and Taranpreet Singh, social

Earlier, the august gathering was welcomed by Parveen Kour, Senior Vice President of the District Poonch Wushu Association and veteran National Wushu

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Guest Raizada Sorabh Bali extended his best wishes to all the winners and participants and congratulated the District Poonch Wushu Association for providing an excellent platform for the youth of Poonch by organizing such events.

Priyanka Singh, President of the District Poonch Wushu Association, also congratulated all the winners. Rajinder Singh, Taekwondo Coach from the Department of Youth Services and Sports, conveyed his best wishes to all the players and expressed gratitude to Nuzhat Gull, Secretary of JKSC. and Kuldeep Handoo, Chief Wushu Coach of India and Dronacharya Awardee, for offering an extraordinary platform for the players of Poonch by allowing the district to host this prestigious event.

Later, all the guests distributed medals and certificates among the winners and runners-up. Mohd Irfan was adjudged as the best male player in the under-14 sub-junior boys' category, while Gurnoor Kaur was recognized as the best player in the under-5 girls' catego-

The gold medalists of this championship will represent District Poonch in the upcoming 18th UT Jammu and Kashmir Wushu Championship, scheduled to be held at Bhagwati Nagar Indoor Complex of the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council from February 15 to 18,2025

The event was technically supervised by Parveen Kour, National Wushu player and technical supervisor of this event, along with Sarvjeet Singh, SAI-certified Wushu Coach, Akarshit Sudan, Hussain, Qasim

9th District Jammu Handball Championship concludes

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The three days 9th Handball Championship in Senior men and women and Junior Boys and Girls categories held at the Playfield Shastri Nagar Jammu concluded here on Sunday. The championship was organized by Player Association Handball Jammu in collaboration with J&K Handball Association and sponsored by J&K Sports Council. Vikram Randhawa, MLA Bahu Constituency, was the Chief Guest on the occasion, who interacted with the teams and exhorted them to play the game earnestly with true sportsmanship. He also distributed prizes among the winners and runners-up teams. He said J&K is rich in sports talent and sportspersons from here have proven their mettle at different national and international championships and Neetu

STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH:

The tough

side of Indian

A r m y clinched the

coveted men's

title trophy

while district

J a m m u



MLA Bahu, Vikram Randhawa posing with other dignitaries and participating players.

which Sampark Handball

Club emerged winners by 8-

was Guest of Honour. Among others present on the occasion were Ashwani Kumar Raina, President, J&K Handball Association, Rajesh Kapoor Vice President. Rajesh Chandan General Secretary, Sanjeev Jamwal Treasurer, Shiv Arora, and other Members of JKHA.

The organizing secretary of the tournament was Rajesh Kapoor.

Army men, Jammu women

clinch Kabaddi titles

women champion in the three-day 22nd UT Senior Kabaddi

Championship which held at Government Higher Secondary

school Mendhar in border and remote district of Poonch. The

championship was organised by Amateur Kabaddi Association

of J&K under the aegis of J&K Sports Council. In the finals and

valedictory function, Brigade Commander 323 Mountain Ring

Brigade was the chief guest, who alongwith guest of honour,

Iftikhar Ahmed Choudhary, Superintendent of Police presented

the title trophies and other individual prizes. Earlier, the event

was inaugurated by SDM Mendhar, Imran Rashid Kataria

amidst introduction with the participating teams and their offi-

cials by the general secretary of the association, Kuldeep Kumar

Gupta. Other prominent present were Colonel Sushil Chauhan,

Kuldeep Kumar Gupta, Surinder Mohan, Tariq Ahmed Khan,

In total 22 teams in men and nine in women section contested

Mohd Tariq and Abdul Rauf (Naib Tehsildar Mankote).

for the top honours in this event.

The final match in the jun-

ior girls section was played 6 goals. In the junior boys between Sampark Handball section, the final match was Club and Jammu Club in

played between Vitasta Club and Sandeep Pal Club in which Sandeep Pal Club Club and Vitasta Club in which Jammu Club emerged winners by 12-11 goals. In the Senior man section, the final match was played between Sandeep Pal Club and Jammu Club in which Sandeep Pal Club emerged victorious by 16- 14 goals. The matches were officiat-

emerged victorious by 16-14

goals. The final match in

the Senior Women Section

was played between Jammu

ed by Anuj Langer, Utkarsh Raina, Sahil Padha, Parteek Bajaj, Harmandeep Kour and Saina Loach.

Dr Chanchal from GDC R S Pura receives SRF Reviewer's Award

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dr. Chanchal Angral, Associate Professor of Zoology at Government Degree College, R.S.P. has been conferred with the SRF Reviewer's Award.

This honourbestowed upon Dr. Chanchal Angral at the National Seminar held on February 2, 2025, organized to commemorate the 15th Anniversary of Social Research Foundation,



The award recognizes Dr. Angral's outstanding contributions as an Editor and Reviewer of books and jour-

nals, as well as their role in promoting innovative research.

This achievement is a testament to Dr. Angral's dedication to academic excel lence and their commitment to fostering cuttingedge research in their field.

The college management and staff congratulated Dr. Chanchal Angral on this remarkable achievement, which brings pride to the institution and inspires others to strive for excellence.

Ton-up Rohit roars back to form before Champions Trophy as India crush England to clinch series

STATE TIMES NEWS

CUTTACK: Under pressure with questions over form and mounting retirement speculations, skipper Rohit Sharma silenced it all with a vintage 32nd century, firing India to a dominant four-wicket series-clinching victory over England in the second ODI, here on Sunday.

Opting to bat on a belter, England were bowled out for 304 in 49.5 overs with left-arm spinner Ravindra Jadeja (3/35) continuing his stranglehold over the visitors.

The 37-year-old Indian skipper made the chase a lopsided affair, returning to his World Cup 2023 best with impeccable timing and effortless strokeplay en route to his 90-ball 119 -- his century No 32 in ODIs that came just in time ahead of the Champions Trophy in less than two

His 90-ball masterclass, studded with seven sixes and 12 fours, set the tone as India cruised to the target in 44.3 overs to take an unbeatable 2-0 lead going into the final ODI in Ahmedabad on Wednesday.

Shubman Gill also made a fluent 60 off 52 balls (9x4, 1x6) but it felt overshadowed in comparison to Rohit in their solid opening partnership of 136 runs -- their sixth century-plus stand together:

Back after missing out the Nagpur ODI because of a swollen knee, star batter Virat Kohli (5) fell cheaply edg-



has now got Kohli four times in ODIs. Rohit then had a fruitful 70-run stand with Shreyas Iyer (44) before he was dismissed off a full toss with

ning catch. Iyer soon departed following a runout, while KL Rahul (10) and

Rashid taking a fine backward run-

Hardik Pandya (10) also fell cheaply. But there was hardly any run-rate pressure and Axar Patel (41 not out) held his ground as he along with Ravindra Jadeja (11 not out) completed the formalities with 33 balls to

Rohit's knock also saw him surpass (10.987) Rahul Dravid's 10.889 runs to enter the top-10 ODI run-scorers' list. He now requires 13 runs to complete 11,000 ODI runs.

His pull shots had precision, his cuts carried flair, and there were no mishits. He even unleashed a cool reverse sweep off Rashid, pure dominance written in his innings.

He signalled his intent early, charging down to Gus Atkinson for a four before flicking a six over mid-wicket with ease that had the Rohit-esque

Against Saqib Mahmood, he opened the bat face to loft a stunning six over cover as he seemed to have got his mojo back.

A 35-minute floodlight failure when Rohit was on 29 couldn't disrupt his rhythm. Resuming with the same intensity.

he glanced Mahmood for a fine boundary and then took charge of Mark Wood's 140-plus deliveries with disdain. Luck also played its part -- on 36, he

survived an LBW call against Wood on the umpire's call, with the ball clipping the top of leg stump.

The very next delivery, he responded in style, launching an over-pitched delivery over mid-on for a six as he raced to a 30-ball fifty.

SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND	
Phil Salt † c Jadeja b Varun	26
Ben Duckett c Pandya b Jadeja	65
Joe Root c Kohli b Jadeja	69
Harry Brook c Shubman Gill b Harshit Rana	31
Jos Buttler (c) c Shubman Gill b Pandya	34
Liam Livingstone run out (Iyer/†Rahul)	41
Jamie Overton c Shubman Gill b Jadeja	06
Gus Atkinson c Kohli b Mohammed Shami	03
Adil Rashid run out (Jadeja/Harshit Rana/†Rahul)	14
Mark Wood run out (†Rahul)	00
Saqib Mahmood not out	00
Extras	15
Total	304/10
INDIA	
Rohit Sharma (c) c Rashid b Livingstone	119
Shubman Gill b Overton	60
Virat Kohli c†Salt b Rashid	05
Shreyas Iyer run out (Buttler/Rashid)	44
Axar Patel not out	41
KL Rahul † c †Salt b Overton	10
Hardik Pandya c Overton b Atkinson	10
Ravindra Jadeja not out	11
Extras	08
Total	308/6

Against Rashid, he was equally assured, cutting and sweeping the leg-

spinner for boundaries. He brought up his three figures in 76 balls, spanking Rashid over long-

off -- his first in 14 innings. This was also his second fastest hundred. His fastest was a 63-ball hundred against Afghanistan in the 2023

Earlier, left-arm spinner Ravindra Jadeja continued his stranglehold over English batters with brilliant figures of 3/35 as India bowled out the visitors for a sub-par 304 after opting