

Indian women crush Pakistan by 107 runs, begin World Cup campaign on high note

■ AGENCY MOUNT MAUNGANUI: The Indian team thrashed arch-rivals Pakistan by 107 runs to begin their campaign in the ICC Women's World Cup on a rousing note here on Sunday, the much-anticipated face-off ending in a no contest.

Opting to bat after the coin landed in India's favour, inform opener Smriti Mandhana, Sneh Rana and Pooja Vastrakar struck useful half-centuries to help their team recover from an early wobble and post 244 for seven at the Bay Oval.

Chasing a tricky target of 245, the Pakistan team fell way short of the mark and was all out for 137 in 43 overs, losing its 11th straight game against neighbours India in the 50-over format.

Left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad did the star turn with the ball, returning with excellent figures of 4/31 after her full quota of 10 overs. Seasoned pacer Jhulan Goswami bowled very well to finish the



game with impressive figures of 2/29, while there were also two wickets for Rana (2/27), capping off her fine all-round show.

To start with however, the Indians found themselves under pressure after opener Shafali Verma was dismissed for a duck in the third over.

A 92-run stand between Mandhana (52 off 75 balls) and Deepti Sharma (40 off 57) helped steady the ship.

However, Pakistan came

back strongly by claiming a flurry of wickets, including the scalps of skipper Mithali Raj (9) and her deputy Harmanpreet Kaur (5).

It wasn't a good outing for Raj with the willow but, by turning out in the India jersey on Sunday, the veteran 39-year-old became only the third cricketer after Sachin Tendulkar and Javed Miandad to appear in six World Cups and the first woman to achieve the feat.

Raj, though, would take her as her team achieved the cheap dismissal in her stride result it sought.

SCOREBOARD		
India Women Innings		
Smriti Mandhana c & b Anam Amin		52
Shafali Verma b Diana Baig		00
Deepti Sharma b Nashra Sandhu		40
Mithali Raj (c) e Diana Baig b Nashra Sandhu		09
Harmanpreet Kaur lbw b Nida Dar		05
Richa Ghosh † b Nida Dar		01
Sneh Rana not out		53
Pooja Vastrakar b Fatima Sana		67
Jhulan Goswami not out		06
Extras		11
Total		244/7
Pakistan Women Innings		
Sidra Ameen c † Ghosh b Goswami		30
Javeria Khan c Goswami b Gayakwad		11
Bismah Maroof (c) e † Ghosh b Sharma		15
Omaira Sohail c Sharma b Rana		05
Nida Dar c † Ghosh b Goswami		04
Aliya Riaz st † Ghosh b Gayakwad		11
Fatima Sana lbw b Gayakwad		17
Sidra Nawaz † lbw b Gayakwad		12
Diana Baig c Kaur b Meghna Singh		24
Nashra Sandhu c † Ghosh b Rana		00
Anam Amin not out		05
Extras		08
Total		137

Ranji Trophy: Railways leave J&K clueless as Ian-led team ends campaign on bad note

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Formidable Railways left Jammu and Kashmir clueless in all departments of the game and scripted a 9-wicket victory as Ian Dev-led Jammu and Kashmir team ended its Ranji Trophy campaign on a bad note at IIT Chemplast, Chennai on Sunday.

With this loss J&K ended their Ranji Trophy campaign with not much difference in team's fortunes as similar show of J&K senior team was witnessed in other two formats of the game, which needs a serious introspection.

In a four-team group fixture, Karnataka topped Elite Group-C with 16 points to qualify for the quarterfinals, while Railways bagged 10 points to seal second spot to be followed by J&K and Pondicherry.

Earlier, resuming from an overnight score of 145/6, J&K ended another 58 runs to end their innings at 203 runs, thus setting a target of 38

runs for Railways. Skipper Ian Dev Singh Chauhau was the first man to be sent back to the pavilion, after adding just one run to his overnight score, contributing 23 runs. Tailenders Aquib Nabi (21) and Umar Nazir unbeaten (30) gave some respectability to the score. Umar hit 5 boundaries and one six in his 23-ball knock.

Right-arm leg-break Karn Sharma added another 5 wickets to his 6-wicket haul in the first innings, thus capturing 11 wickets in the match. Sivam Chaudhary also took 3 wickets, while Yuvraj and R Sharma claimed one wicket each.

In reply, Railways chased the paltry total in 12.1 overs, losing one wicket in the process, thus won the match by 9 wickets.

Shivam Chaudhary (18) and Pratham Singh (05) were the unbeaten batsmen, while Vivek Singh made 16 runs before being dismissed by Parvez Rasool at his individual score of 16 runs.

Shaheed Bhagat Amarnath Memorial T20: Shiva's fifty help BCC defeat Media-XI

Jugal announces Rs 25 lakh for development of Rehal Cricket Stadium

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bishnah Cricket Club (BCC) registered a comprehensive win over Media XI Cricket Club Jammu (Media XI) in a friendly T20 cricket match at Rehal Cricket stadium, Bishnah. The match was organised by Shaheed Bhagat Amarnath Charitable Trust under the chairmanship of Surinder Bhagat - BJP Prabhari Chandigarh.

Member of Parliament Jammu -Poonch Jugal Kishore Sharma was the chief guest on this occasion. Ashwani Sharma former MLA Bishnah, Mahant Rajesh Bittu, Satish Bharti, Mahant Narayan Dass, Surekha Devi DDC Arnia, Kuldeep BDC Arnia were among the other dignitaries.

At the inauguration ceremony Jugal Kishore Sharma interacted with the players of both teams and boosted their morale. He said that fair play is one of the basic requirements for a sport to be competitive. The Jammu- Poonch MP also sanctioned Rs 25 lakh for the maintenance and renovation of the Rehal Cricket



Winner team posing with dignitaries after receiving trophy.

ground.

Later, BCC won the toss and elected to bat first. BCC suffered early blow as opener Vansh was brilliantly stumped by Amit Kumar on the very first ball of the innings by Media XI skipper Vivek Suri. Sachin and Shiva played with sheer flamboyance to recover from the early loss and consolidated the innings. Vivek Suri got rid of the dangerous looking Sachin who was caught brilliantly by Varun.

With Shiva scoring a fifty, BCC ended their innings at 171/6 in 20 overs. For Media XI, Vivek Suri took 3 wickets, Gandeep 2 and

Faheem also took one wicket.

In reply, Media XI batters looked clueless and kept losing wickets at regular intervals and the whole team was all out in 20 overs, courtesy some inspiring bowling performance by BCC bowlers. Udeep 23, Amit 26 and Sachin 14 were the main contributors for Media XI.

For BCC, Ravi and Munna shared 3 wickets each while Harry took 2 wickets.

Later, Shiva from BCC was declared as Player of the Match for his match-winning half century.

Pathankot-XI wins 3rd Annual Cricket Tournament

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Pathankot XI defeated Chandwan XI by 42 runs in the final and lifted the trophy of 3rd annual T20 Cricket Tournament played at at Rai Sports Stadium of Ghagwal in district Samba.

Earlier, Chandwan XI won the toss and decided to field first.

Coming to bat, Pathankot XI gave a target of 162 runs in 20 overs. Shakti was the top scorer with 51 runs while Rippu contributed 27 runs.

In reply, Chandwan XI failed to chase the target and was bundled out at 120 runs in 18 overs.

For the match winning knock, Shakti was declared as Man of the Match.

All-rounder Ranjit Punia of the Chandwan XI was declared the Man of the Series. He scored 116 runs and grabbed nine wickets in



Senior BJP leader, Rashpal Verma presenting trophy to winner team.

the tournament.

Senior BJP leader and OBC Ex- Vice Chairman Rashpal Verma, DDC Ghagwal Suresh Kumar (Falli), SHO Ghagwal, Inspector Vijay Kumar Verma were the Chief Guests in the final match.

They distributed trophies and other prizes to the winning and runner-up teams.

The Tournament was organized by Chlhani Cricket

Club. Ashwani Verna (Janu) and Lovely Singh (Labbi) were the Umpires in the final match.

Romesh Verma, Ex-Panch Krishan Verma, Bishamber Singh Lalotra, Surjeet Singh, Pradeep Singh, Roshan Sharma, Ompal Sharma, Suresh Sambyal, Suresh Sharma, Sushil Sharma, Hitesh Verma, Vikas Verma and Ankush Verma were also present.

Jammu Sport Climbing C'ship on March 12

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 20th Jammu District Sport Climbing Championship, organised by Mountaineering Association of J&K (MAJK) in collaboration with Sprawling Buds ICSE School, Bantalab, here on March 12.



"About 200 climbers from various institutions of Jammu district are likely to vie for honors in the competition which may extend to the next day in case the competitions are not completed on the first day," organising secretary of the event, Sumit Khajuria.

The competitions, to be conducted on the pre-fabricated 40 ft high Tenzing Norgay Sport Climbing Wall in Sprawling Buds ICSE School premises, shall be held in eight categories of Men, Women (born in 2005 and earlier), Boys, Girls (born in 2006, 2007 and 2008); Sub Junior Boys / Girls (born in 2009 and 2010) and Mini Boys/Girls (born in 2011 and after).

Whereas Men, Women, Boys, Girls, Sub Junior Boys/Girls shall compete both in 'lead climbing' and 'speed climbing' the Mini Boys and Girls shall par-

ticipate in 'lead climbing' only.

For further information interested climbers should contact the general secretary of M A J K , S h a w e t i c a K h a j u r i a (7006099855) on or before March 11.

On the spot registration shall also be done at the host school between 7.30 am to 8 am on March 11.

Whereas Shawetia Khajuria, an international judge in sport climbing shall be the president of the Jury of the competition, Sumit Khajuria, vice president of MAK is the organising secretary, who shall be assisted by Shashi Kant Sharma and Manik Slathia, both qualified Belayers, Sakshi Magotra, Deepika Dutta, both qualified judges at the UT level and Shilpa Charak, Mrityunjay Sharma, both international sport climbers and Sunil Chakharia, Vishali Sharma, trained mountaineers. Technical and logistic support, however, shall be provided by Indian Mountaineering Foundation (IMF) North Zone Committee, New Delhi. The championship has been sponsored by J&K Sports Council.

Director Sports inaugurates UT-Level Rifle Shooting competition Great to see DYSS using its Shooting Range: Gazanfar



Director Sports Gazanfar Ali testing his shooting skills while inaugurating UT-Level Shooting competition in Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: It smacks a great feeling to see the Department of Youth Services and Sports making full use of its own Shooting Range, which is proving to be an asset for augmenting skill of the budding shooters at the school level. The Department of Youth Services and Sports, apart from establishing its own sports facility at Khelgaon Nagrota, has also established its own Shooting Range at Gandhi Nagar in Jammu.

This was stated by the Director Youth Services and Sports J&K, Gazanfar Ali while inaugurating UT Level Shooting competition at this shooting facility in Jammu

in continuation with the District Level Shooting competitions inaugurated earlier by the Principal Secretary to Government, Youth Services and Sports

Department, Alok Kumar in first week of February this year at Shooting Range, Gandhi Nagar, here.

Gazanfar Ali said that earlier the Department was not having its own sports facilities in Jammu, adding that with the establishment of such facilities, Jammu has become hub of games and sports.

The competitions in which hundreds of young shooters drawn from Kashmir and Jammu division, are taking part, is being organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, under the patronage of Alok Kumar and overall supervision of Gazanfar Ali.

The Director Sports further said that the Government of Jammu and Kashmir is committed to promote sports in every nook and corner of the

Union Territory, besides raising sports infrastructural facilities in all the districts.

He also presented a detailed account of the UT level competitions which are being organised in different games by the Department of Youth Services and Sports.

Director Sports served strict instructions to the organisers with regard to holding of the event in a proficient manner.

Earlier, some young shooters while sharing their experiences of participating in the event, expressed joy over the organisation of competitions in different games and sports by the Department.

Prominent among others present on the occasion were District Youth Services and Sports Officer Jammu, Sukhdev Raj Sharma and Vishal Singh Slathia.

■ AGENCY

MOHALI: Ravindra Jadeja stood tall with his all-round brilliance as he complemented his unbeaten 175 with nine wickets in India's innings and 222-run win against a Sri Lankan team that looked anything but Test class in a match that ended inside three days.

After being bowled out for 174 in the first innings, Sri Lanka, who lost 16 wickets on the day, were dismissed for 178 in their second essay. In the first innings, they were one short of Jadeja's individual score and in the second they were three more, which speaks about their plight.

India lead the two-match series 1-0, and will like to gain full 24 points from the rubber by winning the Pink Ball Test in Bengaluru, starting March 12.

The match as a contest was over on the first day when India scored 357 and then piled on Sri Lanka's misery with Jadeja toying with a depleted bowling



Winner Bhera Mendhar team receiving trophy.

Bela Chandak defeated Ari 16) while Bhera Mendhar Plaser 3-0 (25-16, 25-18, 25-

Jadeja, Ashwin wrap it up for India inside 3 days, win by innings & 222 runs



attack.

It is after 60 years that an Indian has scored 150 runs and taken five wickets in an innings. Vinoo Mankad, in 1952 against England at Lord's, and Polly Umrigarh in 1962 versus West Indies at Delhi, are the other owners of this rare feat.

If that wasn't enough, India got as many as 16 wickets on the third day to wrap up the match with a cumulative bowling effort of 125 overs across two innings.

Jadeja (175 not out, 5/41 and

4/46) made the match his own while Ravichandran Ashwin (4/47 in 21 overs) also had a satisfying run, replacing Kapil Dev (434 in 131 games) as India's second highest wicket-taker with 436 victims. He is now only behind Anil Kumble's 619 scalps.

One of the contemporary greats, Ashwin achieved the feat in his 85th Test match compared to Kapil's 131 games.

While the generations and the conditions between the times of

Kapil and Ashwin can't be compared and more so because they possessed different skill-sets but, based on pure numbers, the Tamil Nadu man's achievement is phenomenal.

Such was the regularity of getting wickets that there was hardly any cause for celebrations and excitement as it

seemed a foregone conclusion.

There was no stomach for a fight by this Sri Lankan team and some of the players, like old guard Angelo Mathews and the controversial Niroshan Dickwella (first innings dismissal), seemed primarily disinterested during their stay at the crease.

SCOREBOARD		
India 1st Innings		
Sri Lanka 1st Innings		574/8d
Sri Lanka 2nd Innings (Following On)		174/10
Lahiru Thirimanne c Sharma b Ashwin		00
Dimuth Karunaratne (c) e † Pant b Mohammed Shami		27
Pathum Nissanka c † Pant b Ashwin		06
Angelo Mathews lbw b Jadeja		28
Dhananjaya de Silva c Iyer b Jadeja		30
Charith Asalanka c Kohli b Ashwin		20
Niroshan Dickwella † not out		51
Suranga Lakmal c Yadav b Jadeja		00
Lasith Embuldeniya c † Pant b Jadeja		02
Vishwa Fernando lbw b Mohammed Shami		00
Lahiru Kumara c Mohammed Shami b Ashwin		04
Extras		10
Total		178/10