

# Ton-up Smriti, spinners hand India massive 143-run win over South Africa in 1st ODI

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BENGALURU: Smriti Mandhana's resolute hundred and a disciplined bowling effort, led by spinners Deepti Sharma and Asha Shobana, piloted India to a huge 143-run win over South Africa in the first women's ODI here on Sunday.



India now lead the three-match series 1-0, and the second game will be played here on June 19.

Mandhana's sixth ODI century (117, 127 balls, 12x4s, 1x6) formed the fulcrum of India's competitive 265 for eight on a sluggish Chinnaswamy pitch.

Then the Indian bowlers worked their magic around the South African batters to bowl out the visitors for 122 as debutante leg-spinner Asha (4/21) led the show with a frugal spell and was well-supported by offie Deepti (2/10).

Pacer Renuka Singh (1/30) gave India the perfect start, dismissing the in-form South Africa skipper Laura Wolvaardt in the first over itself.

Wolvaardt had no answer for an excellent nip-backer from Renuka that clipped the top of

her off-stump.

The Indians soon fetched the wickets of Tazmine Brits and Anneke Bosch as the tourists slumped to 33 for three.

The experienced Marizane Kapp (24, 39 balls), who hammered Renuka for successive fours and six, tried to revive the innings with Sune Luus who fought well with a 33.

But their fourth wicket alliance of 39 runs consumed 68 balls as the asking rate climbed over seven which never really came down thereafter.

Asha ended that struggle when the leg-spinner had Kapp caught at covers by Harmanpreet Kaur.

At five down for 74, South Africa were always facing the

climb up the hill.

Earlier, India's script for victory was written by Mandhana, who thrilled the home crowd with a well-paced hundred.

Mandhana stitched two significant partnerships with the feisty Deepti (37, 48 balls, 3x4s) and Pooja Vastrakar (31 not out) to take India out of trouble after the hosts found themselves at 99 for five at one stage.

Mandhana and Deepti added 81 runs (92 balls) for the sixth wicket and Pooja, who had to leave the field later with a knee niggle while fielding, assisted the Indian vice-captain to make 58 runs (54 balls) for the seventh wicket.

Mandhana has a lot of

flair in her batting.

order batters like Shafali Verma (7), Harmanpreet (10) and Jemimah Rodrigues (17) failed to adapt, leading to their soft dismissals.

SCOREBOARD	
<b>INDIA WOMEN</b>	
Shafali Verma c †Jafta b Klaas	07
Smriti Mandhana c Laus b Klaas	117
Dayalan Hemalatha c Shangase b Mlaba	12
Harmanpreet Kaur (c) c Wolvaardt b Dercksen	10
Jemimah Rodrigues c Kapp b Shangase	17
Richa Ghosh † c †Jafta b Khaka	03
Deepti Sharma b Khaka	37
Pooja Vastrakar not out	31
Radha Yadav c Mlaba b Khaka	06
Asha Sobhana not out	08
<b>Extras</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>265/8</b>
<b>SOUTH AFRICA WOMEN</b>	
Laura Wolvaardt (c) b Renuka Singh	04
Tazmine Brits c Yadav b Sharma	18
Anneke Bosch lbw b Vastrakar	05
Sune Luus lbw b Sharma	33
Marizane Kapp c Kaur b Sobhana	24
Annerie Dercksen run out (Rodrigues/†Ghosh)	01
Nondumiso Shangase lbw b Yadav	08
Sinalo Jafta † not out	27
Masabata Klaas c Yadav b Sobhana	01
Nonkululeko Mlaba b Sobhana	00
Ayabonga Khaka c †Ghosh b Sobhana	00
<b>Extras</b>	<b>01</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>122/10</b>

# Shri Ram Universal students return from Mcleodganj



A group of trekkers at Church of St. John in the Wilderness at Macleodganj.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The group of trekkers from The Shri Ram Universal School, Jakh reached back Jammu after a thrilling experience of trekking from Meleodganj.

Young trekkers had lifetime experience passing through Flag point on the Dharamkot (mini Israel) to Triund trek and enjoying visits to Bhagshu Nag, Water fall besides Dharamshala Cricket Stadium, Tapovan, Chamunda Devi, Norbulinga Monastery and Nagini Devi.

While passing through a sprawling tea garden and an exclusive visit to tea manufacturing unit these students learned the complete process of production of tea.

The highlight of the programme, of course, was a visit to Dalai Lama temple in Macleodganj also called

"Little Lhasa" and Tapovan where they were overwhelmed by the serene spiritual ambience.

The group was led by senior members of Tawi Trekkers J&K, Sourav Deep Singh, a trained mountaineer and Bhanu Partap Singh. General secretary of Tawi Trekkers, Sonam Sidharth along with Sukhsam Verma and Vikas Singh who were stationed at Chamunda made all the boarding and lodging arrangements for the trekkers.

It may be mentioned here that Tawi Trekkers J&K organised Himalayan Trekking Programme in two phases. "While the first phase concludes before the onset of Monsoons the second phase which is called Himalayan Heritage Trekking Programme starts in the post

monsoon period," informed Ram Khajuria.

The Himalayan Trekking Programme is followed by One-day treks in the Surinsar-Mansar area, Katal Batal to Aitham (Surinsar), Sagoon to Purmandal and treks from Mohore Garh, Dhergarh and Bhupnagar to Mansar besides treks to Devi Pindian (Katra). Every year over one thousand students participate in these one-day treks. "The aim of organizing these short treks for school and college students is to imbibe in their minds a spirit of adventure, love for nature and above all a supreme sense of self confidence so as to mould them into bold and responsible future leaders and builders of the country," said Khajuria, a veteran adventure promoter from J&K.

# IOB introduces Jammu's first Pickleball facility



Players playing pickleball in newly launched court at Jammu on Sunday.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: With already running successful twin sports facilities of football and box cricket, Isle of Ball (IOB) on Sunday launched two-court first of its kind Pickleball

playing facility of J&K at Jammu.

The modern playing facility dedicated to the J&K youth in a simple opening ceremony, including performing of 'Havan' for the

safety and success of those trainees.

"Isle of Ball is Jammu's first turf facility hosting football and box cricket for two years. The IOB, with the motive of promoting a sports culture in Jammu has launched a Pickleball court," informed young owner, Ajay Vaid.

Pickleball is a rapidly growing sport that combines the elements of table tennis, lawn tennis and badminton. "We are running free trials for a week, so sports enthusiasts are invited to have a fun game. A slot can be booked with us on Mobile No. 9149576145," said Ajay.

# Dheeraj Gupta holds public outreach programme

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Forest, Ecology and Environment, Dheeraj Gupta, on Sunday convened a public outreach programme at Takanwari, Bakshipora Srinagar to assess and address public concerns besides reviewing the development scenario of the area.



ACS Forest, Dheeraj Gupta during a public outreach programme.

The public darbar witnessed overwhelming participation of locals especially youth who apprised ACS of their grievances and demands seeking speedy action on the same.

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-

Din Bhat and Commissioner SMC, Dr Owais Ahmad were present on the occasion besides other officers of the district administration.

Addressing the gathering, Dheeraj Gupta emphasized the need for continued col-

laboration between the public and government functionaries to implement developmental and welfare programmes in an effective and efficient manner. He reiterated the commitment of administration towards wel-

fare of people of the UT while lauding the outcome of these public meetings in satiating people's development aspirations.

During the event, the representatives of local area raised various issues including upgradation of road, improvement of drainage system, infrastructural development of health and educational institutions, operation of street lights and other issues of community and public importance.

ACS issued on the spot directions to the concerned officers for redressal of various public issues besides fixing timelines for disposal of certain issues.

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner assured that all the issues raised during the camp shall be addressed at the earliest.

Later, the ACS inaugurated and dedicated public utility toilet blocks at Sheikhbagh and Abiguzar Lal Chowk.

On the occasion, Gupta asked the Commissioner SMC to outsource the utility blocks for better maintenance and management.

ADC Srinagar, Syed Ahmad Kataria, officers of Education, PIHE, R&B, Irrigation, KPDCCL, Revenue and other concerned officers were present on the occasion.

# NC will form next Govt in J&K: Rattan Lal

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Rattan Lal Gupta Provincial President JKNC Jammu in a statement issued to media persons decrying the boorish remark made by BJP leadership against the opposition leaders.

The NC stalwart leader said that the slanderous outbursts by the BJP leader shows party's frustration after losing steam in J&K as reports have claimed that BJP's vote share has declined from 46.2 per cent to 24.36 per cent.

He said that such kind of unsolicited statements by BJP leadership in J&K show the level of desperation as the ground reality is hinting at party's devastation in the upcoming elections in the Union Territory because the National Conference has gained in 34 Assembly seg-

ments in the recent Lok Sabha polls and BJP has already conceded in 3 Lok Sabha constituencies by not showing spine to field its candidates.

The senior NC leader said that the big lead of the National Conference in Rajouri-Anantnag Parliamentary Constituency is a big frustration for BJP.

The Provincial President said that NC will form the next government in J&K on the basis of merit and this is certain. He saluted NC cadre for its dedication and commitment shown during the recently conducted Lok Sabha elections and urged them to keep up the momentum and ensure victory of National Conference in the upcoming Assembly polls in J&K.

# Semis position cleared in Handball



Teams competing in Open Handball Night Tournament.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: It will be locals versus outside teams when they meet each other in the knockout stages of semifinals tomorrow in the ongoing Open Handball Night Tournament, organised by Arun Sharma Sports and Social Welfare Trust on University of Jammu (JU) Campus, here.

Earlier, at the end of closely contested league round

take on Diamond Club Hyderabad.

The Results (League): Gymkhana Ludhiana bt Chandigarh XI 30-27; Diamond Club Hyderabad bt J&K Sports Club 22-18; Kargil Martyrs Club bt Diamond Club Hyderabad 23-22; ASHA bt Gymkhana Ludhiana 28-26.

In today's matches, General Secretary of J&K Olympic Association, Dr Ashutosh Sharma and former India Handball captain, Ranjit Singh (SSP) were special guests, who in the presence of other distinguished gathering felicitated those best players of the day. Speaking to the gathering, Dr Ashutosh Sharma complimented the hosts, Arun Sharma Sports and Social Welfare Trust for the initiatives to promote sports, especially Handball in J&K.

# Market inspection drive conducted in Jammu

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: On the directions of Commissioner, JMC, Rahul Yadav, a joint team of Jammu Municipal Corporation and Doctors deputed by Sheep Husbandry Department viz. Dr. Ramandeep Singh & Dr. Jivan Lal along with Municipal Veterinary Officer, Dr. Divya Sharma, on Sunday conducted various surprise Meat inspection drives on the eve of Eid-ul-Adha 2024 in different areas of Jammu City to ensure the sale of wholesome, good quality meat and meat byproducts to the consumers. The surprise drives were conducted in Talab Tillo, Bohri, Muthi, Bantalab, Paloura, Janipur, Ambphalla, CPO Chowk, Narwal, Gandhi Nagar, Gangyal, Satwari, Talab Khatikan & Shahidi Chowk etc.

During the drives, various meat shops, chicken shops &



Dr. Ramandeep Singh & Dr. Jivan Lal along with MVO Dr. Divya Sharma during surprise inspection of meat shops.

fishmongers were inspected and about 25 Kg of substandard meat was seized and later on disposed off scientifically. Also a fine to the tune of Rs. 10,000/- was imposed to the meat sellers for selling unstamped, unhygienic & substandard meat.

Meat & chicken shop vendors were also instructed to keep separate bins to collect the daily waste generated on account of refused/inedible meat & chicken parts for further proper disposal through JMC vehicles.

MVO, JMC, Dr. Divya

Sharma also sensitize all the shopkeepers/ Vendors dealing with meat/chicken products to maintain hygienic environment in and around their shops and adhere with the various provisions of Food Safety Act, 2006, Municipal Corporation Act, 2000 and other directions & guidelines issued by the JMC from time to time so that good quality hygienic meat shall reach to the consumers. Also, dustbins were distributed among various meat/chicken shop owners for proper waste collection.

# JTC/SKF thanks Govt for successful Kheer Bhawani pilgrimage

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A meeting of the Jagti Tenement Committee/Soan Kashmir Front J&K was convened under the leadership of President Shadi Pandita, where various aspects of the recent Kheer Bhawani pilgrimage were discussed.

Pandita expressed sincere gratitude to several government departments for their support in ensuring a suc-

cessful Kheer Bhawani pilgrimage this year.

He particularly acknowledged the efforts of the Lieutenant Governor of J&K, the Chief Secretary, Commissioner Secretary of Relief Rehabilitation Reconstruction, Transport Commissioner, and Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu.

He extended special thanks to the Relief

Rehabilitation Commissioner for Migrants in Jammu, the RTO Jammu, Director General of Police, and various Deputy Commissioners and SSPs across different districts, including Jammu, Ramban, Anantnag, Srinagar, Baramulla, Kupwara, as well as SSPs/SSPs Security, SSP Ganderbal, and SHO Kheer Bhawani Tullamulla Kashmir.

Pandita highlighted the smooth arrangements made by these departments for the approximately 50000 pilgrims who participated in this year's Kheer Bhawani Mela.

Looking ahead, he anticipated an even larger turnout of over one lakh pilgrims in 2025, underscoring the need for better infrastructure.

He emphasized the

demand from the Jagti Committee/Soan Kashmir Front organization for the immediate construction of Yatries Bhawans around the Kheer Bhawani area to alleviate the annual challenges faced by pilgrims due to insufficient accommodation.

Beyond logistics, Pandita touched upon the significance of the Kheer Bhawani Yatra in fostering communal harmony, describing it

as a symbol of Hindu-Muslim-Sikh brotherhood since its revival in 1994 by the Soan Kashmir Front and Dolphin Good Luck Tour and Travels after the exilement of Kashmiri Pandits in 1990.

He expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, Manoj Sinha, and the administration.

The occasion marked the fulfillment of a longstanding demand of the Sikh community in J&K with the appointment of Rajiv Singh as a member of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission.

# SPF hails appointment of Dr. Rajiv Singh to PSC

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Sikh Progressive Front, led by its President Balvinder Singh, on Sunday convened a meeting to express profound gratitude towards the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, Manoj Sinha, and the administration.

The occasion marked the fulfillment of a longstanding demand of the Sikh community in J&K with the appointment of Rajiv Singh as a member of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission.

and administrative competence, expressing confidence that he will effectively fulfill the expectations of both the general public and the Sikh community.

They expressed optimism that S. Rajiv Singh will serve with dedication, guided by the principle of "Sarbat da Bhalla" (welfare of all).

The Sikh Progressive Front conveyed heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Rajiv Singh on his appointment.

They also extended sincere thanks to the Jammu and Kashmir UT administration, particularly acknowledging the personal interest and efforts of Manoj Sinha in addressing this matter that holds significant importance to the Sikh community.

This meeting not only celebrated the achievement of a longstanding demand but also emphasized the commitment of the Sikh Progressive Front towards advocating for the welfare and representation of the Sikh community in Jammu and Kashmir.

# Saroori greets people on Eid-ul-Azha

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KISHTWAR: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP), Vice President, Ghulam Mohammad Saroori today extending his warm greetings to the Muslim community on the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Azha wishing them well-being and prosperity. In his Eid message, Saroori said that the holy occasion of Eid-ul-Azha imbines in us the spirit of making sincerity and truthfulness way of life. "This holy day also teaches us to uphold the high principals of selfless service to Almighty Allah and the humanity", he added. "Allah Almighty counts the sincerity and purity of our intention behind performing our service for his sake, and this alone earns us his munificence and forgiveness", Saroori said. Saroori hoped that this Eid festival would further strengthen the bonds of communal harmony, brotherhood, amity, tranquility and the glorious pluralistic ethos for which Jammu and Kashmir has been known for centuries past. He prayed for peace, progress and prosperity in the Jammu and Kashmir.

# Modi Govt taking decisive actions to ensure safety, security of all: Adv Purnima

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Adv Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson BJP, J&K and former Deputy Mayor, Jammu, today reaffirmed the commitment of the government led by PM Narendra Modi to contain terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

In a statement issued to media persons, the senior BJP leader said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah are fully committed to contain the terrorism in the region. She said that the government is aware of the challenges posed by increased terrorist activities and is taking decisive actions to ensure the safety and security of all citizens.

"PM Modi and HM Shah have always prioritized national security and the welfare of the people. They are leaving no stone unturned in their efforts to address the current crucial situation in Jammu and Kashmir", she said, adding that the directions issued by the Prime Minister and the Home Minister to the security agencies to deploy the full spectrum of counter-terror capabilities in Jammu and Kashmir speaks all about government's intention towards eliminating terrorism from the soil of the country.

Adv Purnima said that both PM Modi and HM Shah, who have reviewed the security scenario in J&K in separate meetings, are eager to implement comprehen-

sive strategies to thwart terrorist activities and restore peace in the region.

The senior BJP leader made it clear that the Modi Government is relying on a multi-faceted approach, which includes increased intelligence operations, enhanced security measures, and proactive synergy between all law enforcement agencies to teach a lesson of life to those indulging in terror related actions and their supporters as well.

She also urged people to remain vigilant and cooperate with the authorities in maintaining peace and security. She assured the people that the decisive actions by PM Modi will soon bring about a significant reduction in terrorism and pave the way for lasting peace and development.

Members highlighted his exceptional qualifications

