

India edge out Kazakhstan for 7th place in Asian Women's U-20 Championship

STATE TIMES NEWS

NUR-SULTAN: India finished the competition at the 21st Asian Women's U20 Volleyball Championship, taking 7th place after taking the tie-break, 3-2 (16-25, 25-11, 29-27, 16-25, 16-14) against hosts Kazakhstan on Monday morning at NU Sports Centre.

Gopika Gunasekaran led all scorers in the field with 34 points from 32 attacks and 2 service aces. Mostly, she provided the points upon the decisive moments of the match.

Kazakhstan started the match strong, as they showed good rhythm in their attacks. They also put their tall frontline to use, connecting on block-defence against their opponents' assigned hitters.

The Kazakh serves also performed well as they scored off several aces. Middle Yuliya Yakimova and opposite Dilyar Amangeldi greatly helped in scoring for the host team.

India were unable to match the level of the host team, and needed a big restart in the second set. Gopika and



Indian team playing against Kazakhstan in 21st Asian Women's U-20 Volleyball Championship.

Lavanya Chandu took turns to score from the flanks. They have found their usual pacing and worked doubly hard on their floor coverage.

Time then came for India to serve strategically. This gave their opponents much challenge in reverting to

their great, successful start.

The match came to a thrilling exchange as teams nearly matched each other in skill and quality.

India continued to harness the power of Gopika from the wing and the backline, while Kazakhstan relied

on their strong middle game.

Later, India seemed to have lost their composure and fell to crucial errors. Meanwhile, the hosts vastly improved in their passing. They ran their plays more fluidly and grew confident in forcing the decider.

Kazakhstan continued to play more solidly in the tie-break, serving well, and running the middle with Yakimova.

India managed to stay within good distance, even with their crucial, unnecessary errors. Gopika surged with a heap of heroics to finally take the victory.

India captain Pal Prerona expressed her delight in finishing the competition on a winning note, and now looks ahead to the future of the team.

"This is my first championship, and also my first captainship. I learned a lot about myself and about the team, but mostly, we need to work harder. We need to train more so we can play better in future matches," said Prerona.

Kathua Judo meet concludes



Judo players posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Organised by the Kathua District Judo Association under the aegis of Judo Association of J&K, the District Kathua Judo Championship held at district coaching Centre Kathua yesterday.

As per the reports reaching here, general secretary of the Association, Suraj Sharma was the Chief Guest while Rahul Dev, Municipal Councillor Kathua, was Guest of Honour.

"The day-long event was sponsored by the J&K Sports Council. In total around 80 participants contested for the top honours in different age and weight categories," informed Suraj Sharma.

The bouts officiated by the technical panel including Shakti Gupta (Sports Council Coach) and Manish Chatwal (Judo Instructor). Near about 80 Judo players from all over the District was participated in the said championship.

Medal Winners

GOLD: Harsh, Sudanshi, Vipul Yashvardhan, Zeeshan, Sushil, Deepash, Kashish Sharma, Palak, Devanshu, Anmol, Sameena, Sunakshi, Panku Kumar, Radhasham, Bhupinder, Tarun, Rohit Sharma, Astir Andotra, Manan, Anab, Jaishwer, Artik Mushtaq, Harshit, Sahil Akthar, Bansh, Danish, Tanvir.

SILVER: Chandan, Pranav, Sunny, Tarun, Krishna, Ayush, Mohit, Mridhul, Daksh, Shivang, Harshit, Gagan, Lakshay, Umkeshwar, Kanav

BRONZE: Balish Kumar, Bagh Hussain, Abey Salgotra, Atulit, Lalit Khajuria, Ajay Chalotra, Tushar, Vasu.

Udhampur City FC joins Param to organise 'Aadya'

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The fast growing Udhampur City FC has collaborated with one of the top clubs of Jammu, Param FC to organise first ever all girls football tournament of Jammu-Aadya.

"Aadya is another name of Goddess Durga, who is also a symbol of Power i.e. Shakti. The title shows the power of a woman to achieve anything that she wants," said coach of Udhampur FC, Sumit Sharma.

"Another meaning of 'Aadya' is The beginning, and it surely is a new beginning in women's football in J&K as the best platform to young talented players," he maintained.

The event shall take place take place at Isle of Ball in Jammu on July 17.

Jammu Wrestler Babba wins 40th Sai Lanjan Kesari Dangal 2022

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: Wrestler Babba of Kot Bhalwan Jammu, Akhara Domana lifted 40th Sai Lanjan Kesari Dangal title 2022 by defeating Wrestler Manjit of Delhi in the first malli bout at Government Girls High School Sai Lanjan (Reasi).

Dangal was organized by Sai Lanjan Dangal Committee in association with J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association under the overall supervision of veteran wrestler and Wrestling promoter Joginder Singh, Ravinder Singh and Vidhman Singh.

President J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association and Former Joint Secretary J&K Sports Council (JKSC), Shiv Kumar Sharma was the chief guest on the occasion who gave away cash prizes to the winners and runner-up Wrestler in presence of retired ZEO Pritam Sharma, DSP Darshan Singh (Senior prosecutor officer) and Sarpanch Sanjeet Singh who were the guests of honour. Sarpanch Daleep Kumar, Government contractor Kuldeep Singh, Ex. Serviceman Rumal Singh, and Gulshan Singh were also present on the occasion.

The winner of the 1st malli bout Babba was awarded with cash prize of Rs. 7,000 along with traditional "Gurj

(Gadda) along with Patta" while runner-up Wrestler was given Rs. 5,000/- The second bout was fought between Rajesh Sharma of J&K Police V/s Salman of Chopra Shop, Udhampur this bout was ended in a draw that lasted for 19 minutes and Cash prize of Rs. 8,000/- was jointly given to both the wrestlers. Third bout was won by Gopal Sharma of Jindrah who defeated Vijay of Bai Bajalta.

The bouts were officiated by Vidhman Singh, Pritam Singh, Kamal Singh, Angrej Singh and Tulinder Kumar. Proceedings of the Dangal were conducted by Joginder Singh, Ramesh Bhagat and Vidhman Singh. Welcome address was presented by Sat Paul Singh (Panch) while vote of thanks presented by Dhaman Vir Singh (Panch).

Chief Guest Shiv Kumar Sharma also honoured a prominent social activist Kartar Singh retired from NHPC (Age 91 years old senior most person of Village Sai

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