

South Kashmir Volleyball Championship

Maroofa Club Kulgam to meet Blue Club in girls final today



Chief Guest, Kuldip Magotra, CEO VAJK interacting with players and teams posing with officials while volleyball match in progress.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Maroofa Volleyball Club Kulgam to meet Blue Volleyball Club Anantnag in the girls final of the ongoing South Kashmir volleyball championship being organised by Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir in collaboration with of J&K Sports Council at Sports Stadium, Shopian tomorrow. Earlier in semifinal match-

es in girls section played on Sunday, Maroofa Club beat CNEI Shopian by 2-1 (15-25, 25-11, 15-12) and Blue Club Anantnag defeated Hajhad Club Pulwama by 2-0 (25-14, 25-14). In first semifinal in men section, Azghar Army Kulgam beat Spartan Volleyball Club Anantnag 3-0 (25-12, 25-19, 25-23) and entered the final while

second semifinal match will be played tomorrow morning.

Chief Executive Officer of Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir, Kuldip Magotra was the Chief Guest in today's matches who interacted with the players.

Other present were R.C Sharma Treasurer Volleyball Association of Jammu and

Kashmir, Mohd Tariq Joint Secretary Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir, Abdul Aahad Shah Secretary Anantnag Association, Nelofer Habib Secretary Kulgam, Mudasir Ahmed Secretary Pulwama, Gulam Rasool Incharge Sports Stadium Shopian and Malik Shabir Organising Secretary.

Other Results: MEN:

Azghar Army Kulgam beat Super Spikers Shopian by 2-0 (25-20, 25-18); Cambridge Club Shopian beat Star Club Kulgam by 2-0 (25-21, 25-17), Spartan Club Anantnag beat Mahi Club Pulwama by 2-0 (25-20, 25-15); Manghama Tiger Pulwama beat Ball Blaster Anantnag by 2-1 (25-21, 23-25, 15-11).

WOMAN: Maroofa Club

Kulgam beat CNEI Club Shopian 2-1 (15-25, 25-11, 25-12); Blue Club Anantnag beat Hajhad Club Pulwama by 2-0 (25-14, 25-14).

Today's matches were officiated by Mulkh Raj, Anil Kumar, Sidarat Hussain, Waseem Akram, Abdul Hamid, Shafqat Hussain, Intazar Ali, Shabir Ahmed and Ajaz Ahmed.

Ruturaj, Samihan excel in Chess

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Siblings Ruturaj Dhotre and Samihan Dhotre emerged joint winner in senior open as well as under-17 boys' age group in the ongoing Jammu Division selection events, here on Sunday.

Earlier, second day of the competition declared open by Colonel Rushikesh and Colonel Ravi Kumar. They also encouraged the participants to take up the game of Chess seriously so as to achieve the desired results.

In senior category, other players, who have qualified for J&K level competition from Jammu Division included Pranav Abrol, Mahesh Kumar, SP Sharma, Superb Jain, Mayank Kulkarni, Ankush Bhardwaj, Arvind Sharma and Kartik Rajvansh.

Similarly, in under-15 boys' category, Ruturaj Dhotre secured gold while Ayush Gupta and Mayank Kulkarni remained second and third respectively.

Bindu Pathania was chief Arbiter while Ritish and Divyam Gupta acted as deputy Arbiters.

All the matches conducted by Swiss software under FIDE laws of Chess.



Divisional level selection Chess competition in progress at Jammu on Sunday.

NEET-2021 exam successfully conducted in Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Notwithstanding the challenges of COVID, NEET (UG)-2021 Examination was successfully organized by the National Testing Agency (NTA) in Jammu on Sunday.

Considered as the most high stake national examination for admission to various medical courses, this year 9,483 candidates appeared from all over Jammu, Samba, Udhampur and Reasi districts in 31 designated Test Centres, which saw than 95 per cent attendance of the candidates.

To meet the COVID challenges, NTA had made extensive COVID related preparations for the candidates such as giving them staggered time slots, location links of their exam centres explicit instructions for social distancing, etc.

Besides this series of Orientations and Briefing sessions were also organized by NTA and the designated City Coordinators of NEET exam for all functionaries involved in this exam in each city.

From Jammu region, S.S Sodhi, PVC/Director DPS Schools, J&K thanked Lt.

Governor, Chief Secretary, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, DGP, IGP, SSP, Police bodies, DC/DM, Education Deptt. Commissioner JMC for extending their necessary support for the conduct of this exam.

He congratulated managements of all Private CBSE Schools and authorities of Jammu University for conducting the most prestigious high-stake examination in proper manner and also congratulated the City Coordinator for Jammu Region - Ruehi Chabra for coordinating for this exam successfully.

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: To celebrate the 75th year of Independence, under the aegis of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' CISF organized all Woman 'Fit India Run 2.0' from 11 Murti, Mother Teresa Crescent Road to National Police Memorial, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.

It was the proud moment for CISF that, eight members of Indian Women Hockey Team led by Rani Rampal, Captain of the Indian Women Hockey Team along with seven other team members actively participated along with 200 Veerangnas of CISF in this run.



IG, CISF NCR, Nand Gopal Gupta flagging off Fit India Run 2.0.

The run was flagged off from 11 Murti, Mother Teresa Crescent Road at 0730 hrs, by Nand Gopal Gupta, IG, CISF NCR and the run concluded at National Police Memorial, Chanakyapuri.

The members of Indian Women Hockey team participated in the run include Rani Rampal (Captain), Savita Punia, Neha Goyal, Gurjit Kaur, Navjot Kaur, Uditia, Nisha and Navneet Kaur,

After conclusion of the run, a flagged in programme was organized at Auditorium of the Teen Murti Bhawan, wherein all the eight members of the Indian Women Hockey Team were felicitat-

ed by Nand Gopal Gupta, IG/NCRs and other Sr. officers of CISF

An interaction session with Indian Women Hockey players was also organized to boost up the morale of CISF veerangnas.

Nand Gopal Gupta expressed sincere thanks to all the players of the Indian Women Hockey Team for participating in the event.

Jitender Rana, DIG/DMRC, S Ambashtha, DIG/GBS, Hardeep Singh, DIG/NCR and other senior officers and personnel of Delhi & NCR based CISF Units were present on the occasion.

Ladakh Spikers Club bags Kargil Volleyball trophy

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ladakh Spikers Club on Sunday lifted the first District Kargil Volleyball Championship which held at Khree Sultan Choo Sports Stadium Kargil under the banner of Ladakh Volleyball Association.

In the final, Ladakh Spikers Club defeated United Shakar Chiktan Club. The under-19 boys title went to Friends Baltistan Hardass, who trounced Ladakh Spikers Junior.

A total, 32 teams participated in this tournament in both open and under-19 categories.

In the final and valedictory function, Chief Executive



CEC of the LAHDC Kargil, Feroz Ahmad Khan presenting title trophy at Kargil in Ladakh.

Councillor LAHDC Kargil, Feroz Ahmad Khan was the Chief Guest, who along with Guest of Honour, DYSSO Kargil Mohammad Hussain

Rehnuma gave away the title trophies.

Speaking to the gathering, the CEC of LAHDC Kargil said that the Council focus-

ing on the development of adequate sports Infrastructure in the district and some of the ongoing projects included Poyen Play Ground, Goma Kargil Play Ground, international Ice Hockey Stadium, Hockey Astrotrurf and Synthetic Athletics Track Stadium at Kurbathang.

Mohd Baqir, Organizing Secretary of the District Volleyball Association thanked president Ladakh Volleyball Association, Haji Mirza Hussain, Vijay Kumar Mangotra of J&K Volleyball Association, Spartan Company and other sponsors and Volleyball Federation of India for the support and encouragement.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The 23rd District Budgam Taekwondo Championship started under the aegis of J&K Taekwondo Association at Railway Railway Hall Budgam, here on Sunday.

The event was declared open by Vice President (K) of the Association, Nisar Hussain Wani while Syed Ashaq Hussain, Joint Secretary (K) was Guest of Honour. A total of 150 players are taking part in this two-day competition

Sports Officer (Central) of J&K Sports Council (JKSC), Gazala Akhter gave away the medals to those winners of different weight groups. This championship is being organised by District Budgam



Winners of District Taekwondo Championship at Budgam in Kashmir.

Taekwondo Association.

The Results:

GIRLS: Sub-Junior: Below 20 kg: Madiha Zainub, Ist; Syed Imral Jaan, 2nd and Tilawal Riyaz, third. Below 24 kg: Aayat Parooq, Ist; Maleeha Naaz, 2nd and

Aalima NAZIR, 3rd. Below 29 kg: Kaffiya Nisar, Ist; Alsa Jan, 2nd and Deeba Zehra, 3rd. Below 41 kg: Falaq Manzoor, Ist; Zeeshana Jan, 2nd and Azmat Bilal, 3rd.

BOYS: Sub-Junior: Below 25 kg: Usman Latif, Ist;

Faisal Bashir, 2nd and Tahleel Ahmed, 3rd. Below 32 kg: Hazik Hamad, Ist; Muneeb Shafi, 2nd and Raja Azmat, 3rd. Below 41 kg: Nasir Ul Islam, Ist; Mohd Sibtain, 2nd and Furqaan Yousuf, 3rd.

I get motivation inspiration from you all, PM to para athletes

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Moving swiftly from one table to another, Prime Minister Narendra Modi recognised, exhorted, lauded and patted the para athletes for their incredible performance in the Tokyo Paralympics, telling them that he felt motivated and inspired watching them compete.

Recognising their stellar campaign in Tokyo, which yielded an unprecedented 19 medals, including five gold, Modi said India's celebrated para athletes have a "lot more to offer" to the country and urged them to play a role outside the sports arena to bring about a change.

"I get motivation, inspiration from you all," he said during the interaction on Thursday, the video of which was made public on Sunday.

The PM was presented with an autographed stole and their personal gear by the athletes.

"Aapne haari hui maansikta ko haraa diya, bohut badi baat hai (You have defeated a defeatist mindset with your achievements, it's a big thing)," he added.

"Even small things by you can motivate the country a lot, how can you motivate the country further. You can visit schools, localities. Apart from the world of sports, you can do something else for the country and help bring about a change."



Prime Minister, Narendra Modi with the Indian Contingent of Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games at his residence in New Delhi on Sunday.

He pledged his support to the players and said the whole country shares their dreams of sporting excellence. "You have a lot to offer to the country ... the future is bright and I am always there to support you, your dream is our dream and to realise that, I will do all it takes," he added.

On Thursday, the prime minister hosted the Indian contingent for Tokyo 2020 Games at his residence in a breakfast meet.

Well-versed with their backstories and their Paralympic campaign, Modi asked gold-winning shuttler Krishna Nagar his thoughts behind dedicating his medal to COVID-19 warriors.

"I found it very touching but what were you thinking when you did that?" asked Modi.

"I saw health workers doing their duty without thinking about themselves, that's what

inspired me to make that gesture," responded Nagar.

Athletes got candid during the interaction with silver-winning paddler Bhavinaben Patel revealing that she overcame a viral infection and bout of fever during the Games.

"I didn't have a good first match because of that. It was a difficult day but I thought of your words during the send-off and I was not among those who met you that day. So I decided that I would everything to meet you. I also thought that this might be my only chance," she said.

"Never think negatively, you are a giant-killer," Modi said. During the interaction, Modi congratulated them for their record-breaking performance at the Games.

The Paralympics was held from August 24 to September 5 in Tokyo where India had sent its biggest contingent. A

total of 54 Indian athletes competed across nine sports events.

Apart from five gold, the country also claimed eight silver, and six bronze medals.

The PM said the achievements of the para athletes will help develop a sporting culture in the country.

"I think there needs to be a workshop on coaching disabled athletes, a book can also be written," Modi said lauding the indomitable spirit and willpower of the athletes.

Present during the session was 19-year-old shooting Avani Lekhara, who won a gold and bronze, India's greatest ever paralympian Devendra Jhajharia, and shooters Singhraj Adhana and Manish Narwal among others alongside sports minister Anurag Thakur and his predecessor Kiren Rijiju.

"Like you had told us during the send-off, give your

best and don't take any pressure, I only did that during the Games. Medals happened by sticking to that," said Lekhara, the first Indian woman to win a gold and two medals at the Games.

Like he did with the Olympic-returned stars, the PM also advised the para athletes to not let success get to their head and defeat trouble their mind.

"Your indomitable spirit and willpower are praiseworthy in light of the insurmountable odds that the para-athletes have overcome in their lives," said Modi during his interaction.

The para-athletes thanked the prime minister for inviting them and said that they feel honoured to share a table with him, terming it a big achievement for them.

Speaking during the session, Jhajharia, who won his first gold medal at the 2004 Athens Games, said his mother had to sell her jewellery to fund his trip to the Greek capital, highlighting the change that has happened since then.

Since its debut in 1968, India had won 12 medals until the 2016 Rio edition. Out of 162 nations, India finished 24th in the overall medal tally in Tokyo.

What has come as a pleasant surprise for the athletes is that the PM also knew some of their backstories of struggles.

ECB has written to ICC on outcome of cancelled fifth Test against India spokesperson

AGENCY

LONDON: The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has officially written to the ICC to decide the fate of the cancelled fifth Test against India at Old Trafford, indicating that the two boards are far from reaching a settlement.

The series-deciding fifth and final Test in Manchester was called off after a COVID-19 outbreak in the Indian camp forced its senior players to express their apprehensions to both the BCCI and ECB on going ahead with the match.

"Yes we have written to the ICC," an ECB spokesperson told PTI when asked if they want the global body to decide on the fifth Test.

Heading into game, India led the rubber 2-1. The standalone Test will not be part of this series.

The ECB wants the ICC's Dispute Resolution Committee to address the issue and

expect that a forfeiture would be granted so that they can claim insurance as they are going to lose 40 million pound if the match is declared abandoned due to COVID.

COVID is an acceptable non compliance and the Indian camp has stated that it was unable to field a team for the match.

However, the ECB's contention could be that the Indian players returned two negative RT-PCR results and were still reluctant to play.

Seniors such as skipper Virat Kohli didn't budge from their stance that there was risk involved during the incubation period, which overlapped with Test dates as most players were treated by physio Yogesh Parmar, who is in isolation after contracting the virus.

If the ICC rules the Test as abandoned, then India will win the series 2-1 but if England get a forfeiture as per the DRC ruling, it will be a 2-2 verdict and the host nation can also claim insurance.

India selectors must prioritise fitting in Ashwin by tweaking middle order Ian Chappell

AGENCY

NEW DELHI: The legendary Ian Chappell feels the Indian selectors must prioritise finding a way to "tweak" the team's middle order to accommodate the proven R Ashwin in the playing XI.

The former Australian captain's contention is that the veteran off-spinner all-rounder has proved himself as a "fine bowler in all conditions" and deserves a place in the team.

"India's best combination includes R Ashwin. He is a fine bowler under all conditions, as he proved in Australia, so India need to find a way to fit him

into the XI," Chappell wrote in his column for ESPNcricinfo.

"Tweaking the Indian middle order to accommodate the skills of Ashwin should be a priority for the selectors," he added.

Chappell said the Indian team has got "substantial depth", something that makes them the formidable outfit that they are at the moment, adding that the thought that they can still improve is scary.

"There's no doubt that India are a very good all-round team. They have conclusively proved it by winning consecutive series in Australia and now having

had success in England, albeit COVID-affected, while they are virtually unbeatable at home.

"It's a scary thought for the other Test sides that Virat Kohli's highly successful team can be improved."

The Indian team management preferred the left-spinner all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja over Ashwin in the Test matches in England.

The presence of Jadeja, Ashwin, Hardik Pandya and Rishabh Pant together will make for a very strong lower middle order, the Australian great said.