



This is my first Asian Games and I won mixed and team medals. I could not have asked for more. I did not have much time between the women's team gold and the mixed final. I was in a rush and we just got time to sit there and prepare ourselves

-Chikitha Taniparthi, Telangana archer

Sports

Asian Games 2026

Golden hat-trick in compound archery

Indian mixed, women's and men's teams claim top finish; cherry on top was the mixed combination of Chikitha Taniparthi and Sahil Jadhav, also securing an Olympic quota place for the country

NAGOYA: India's compound archers displayed admirable poise under pressure to complete a golden sweep in the Asian Games team competitions, successfully defending their crowns in men's, women's and mixed events here on Wednesday with performances that ranged from domineering to gritty.

Cherry on top was the mixed combination of Chikitha Taniparthi and Sahil Jadhav also securing an Olympic quota place for the country following their top finish.

India thus became the first country to qualify for the 2028 Olympics in the compound mixed team event, which will mark the disci-



The Indian women's compound team celebrate with their gold medals



pline's debut in the Los Angeles Games.

The women's trio of Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Chikitha and Prithika Pradeep kicked off the gold rush that culminated with the men's combination of Kushal Dalal, Sahil Jadhav and Ganesh Mani Ratnam Thirumuru rally-

ing to outwit the Chinese trio of Jiahao Liao, Jinyi Liu and Jingyu Shi in the finals 238-237. For Chikitha and Sahil, the day brought two gold medals as they had earlier showed nerves of steel to prevail over Korea's Jungyoon Park and Choi Eun Gyu in a thrilling mixed team final, winning 158-157 after a shoot-off.

The Indian duo had entered the gold-medal match after beating Thailand 156-155 in the semifinals.

This was after the Indian women's compound team produced a sensational performance to outclass the Chinese trio of Wunier, Yue Wang and Fangyao Wei 238-234 and retain its gold with a world record-equaling score. Jyothi, Chikitha and Prithika dominated the women's summit clash to secure the top spot on the podium. Of these, Jyothi was a part of the gold-winning women's team in Hangzhou as well.

The Indians equalled the world record held by South Korea in achieving the feat. Korea had secured the record total during the Incheon Asian Games in 2014.

Sunil wins second bronze

NAGOYA: Sunil Kumar became the first Indian Greco Roman wrestler to win two Asian Games medal after clinching a bronze in the men's 87kg event but Nisha Dahiya endured a medal-less campaign on the opening day of the wrestling competition here Wednesday. Sunil assured his podium place with a technical superiority win (9-0) over Philippines' Roberts Callum Johnston, who



was no match to the strength and technical skill of the Indian. Locking his rival's right arm, Sunil effected two take downs to quickly open up a 4-0 lead. A defensive

Johnston was put on ground in 'Par Terre' position from where Sunil made more scoring moves to finish the bout in the first period itself. Sunil had won a bronze in Hangzhou 2023 Games, ending a 13-year wait for India for medal in the Greco Roman style.



Indian women in hockey final

NAGOYA: The in-form Indian women's hockey team placed itself on the verge of ending a 44-year wait for an Asian Games gold, beating South Korea 2-0 to enter the final of the continental showpiece here on Wednesday. Ishika Chaudhary (44th minute) and skipper Salima Tete (48th) were the goal scorers for India. India are now just a victory away from securing its only second Asian Games women's hockey gold medal. The previous triumph came way back in the 1982 New Delhi games. India will take on defending champions China in the final on Friday. China beat Japan 4-2 in a shoot-out after both sides failed to break the deadlock in the entire 60 minutes of the first semifinal. South Korea will face Japan in the bronze medal match.



Squash: India assured of medals

NAGOYA: The Indian men's and women's teams eased into the Asian Games semifinals with convincing wins over Kuwait and Singapore respectively, assuring themselves of a medal here on Wednesday. The Indian men, top seed and defending champions, collected a 2-0 win over Kuwait in the quarterfinals. Among the two singles, Veer Chotrani had to dig deep against Bader Almogghrebi before prevailing 12-10, 8-11, 11-0, 11-5 in a 34-minute contest. Abhay Singh, India's highest ranked players and silver medallist in the singles competition, sealed the tie 11-3, 11-4, 11-8 win over Ammar Altamimi. In the women's singles, the Anahat Singh-led team tamed Singapore 2-0 in its quarterfinal.



Campbell, Hope, Jangoo tons power WI to record 405/7

TAPAN MOHANTA GUWAHATI

CENTURIES from John Campbell, Shai Hope and Amir Jangoo powered the West Indies to their first 400-plus total in the 50-over format, a mammoth 405 for seven against India in the second ODI here on Wednesday.

After being sent into bat, Campbell set the tone with a 65-ball hundred as the West Indies' batters ruthlessly exposed India's inexperienced pace attack. A self-confessed admirer of Chris Gayle, Campbell channelled the inner Universe Boss perfectly, playing the Indian attack with brute power and freedom in his 101 off 68 balls (9x4, 5x6).

Hope and Jangoo then kept the West Indies in complete control through the middle and late overs, maintaining a scoring rate around eight an over. Hope was the anchor and accelerator in one, building his innings carefully before stepping on the gas to make full use of the reprieve he got when he was dropped on 27 by Virat Kohli, with the ball bursting through his hands at short midwicket.

The skipper brought up a superb 104 off 94 balls, with eight fours and three sixes, keeping the tempo high rather than allowing India to claw their way back. Jangoo complemented Hope perfectly, mixing calculated stroke-play with aggression and reached his second ODI century off just 69 balls, finishing on 114 with 13 fours and three sixes as the Windies brought up three centuries in an ODI for the first time. The total surpassed their previous best of 389 against England in 2019.

In the absence of Jasprit Bumrah, who is on the Asian Games duty, and Mohammed Siraj, who is still sitting out, India continue to expose youngsters ahead of the 2027 World Cup in South Africa.

Neeru-Kynan pair wins trap mixed team gold

NAGOYA: The Indian pair of Neeru Dhandu and Kynan Chenai clinched the Asian Games trap mixed team gold on Wednesday, smashing the continental record in the process and ensuring that the last leg of country's shooting campaign here makes up for the early disappointments to an extent.

LOVLINA TO FIGHT FOR GOLD

NISHIO: Lovlina Borgohain scripted history by becoming the first Indian woman boxer to reach back-to-back Asian Games finals, while debutants Priya Ghanghas and Kapil Pokhariya settled for bronze medals here on Wednesday. Last edition's silver-medallist Lovlina edged reigning 70kg world champion Natalya Bogdanova of Kazakhstan 3-2 in a closely fought 75kg semifinal to assure herself of at least a silver.

WELCOME ALL

GUESTS OF HONOR



Sri. GODAM NAGESH Garu, MP Adilabad



Sri. ALLETI MAHESWAR REDDY Garu, MLA, Nirmal, Floor Leader, BJP Legislature Party



Sri. KUCHADI SRIHARI RAO Garu, Nirmal Constituency Congress Incharge



Sri. APPALA KAVYA GANESH CHAKRAVARTHI Garu, Municipal Chairman



Sri. APPALA GANESH CHAKRAVARTHI Garu, Municipal Vice Chairman



DISTINGUISHED GUESTS



Sri. ALLOLA INDRAKARAN REDDY Garu, Ex Minister



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