

It is an encouraging performance by our Greco-Roman wrestlers to finish the opening day with five medals. The wrestlers showed great determination and discipline on the mat, and this performance reflects the steady progress Indian Greco-Roman wrestling has been making at the continental level

- Sanjay Singh, President of WFI

## U23 ASIAN WRESTLING C'SHIP Suraj, Sagar win silver as India bag 5 Greco-Roman medals

NEW DELHI: Suraj Singh and Sagar Singh led the charge with silver medals as India made an impressive start to its campaign in the U23 Asian Wrestling Championships by securing five medals in the Greco-Roman category on the opening day of the competition at the Tien Son Sport Center in Da Nang, Vietnam, on Saturday.

While Suraj Singh and Sagar Singh claimed silver medals in their respective weight categories, Kumar Sachin, Rohit, and Hardeep added to the tally with bronze medals in their respective weight categories.

Suraj Singh impressed in the 60kg category with a solid run to the final before going down 0-4 against Kazakhstan's Aibek Aitbekov in the gold medal bout to finish with silver.

In the 67kg category,



Sagar Singh also produced a commendable performance throughout the tournament. However, he suffered a 0-9 defeat by technical superiority against Uzbekistan's Aytjan Khamkhanov in the final and settled for the silver medal.

Kumar Sachin added a bronze medal in the 77kg category despite going down 3-10 against Kazakhstan's Alikhan Dursunov, while Rohit narrowly missed out after suffering a hard-fought 3-5 defeat against Uzbekistan's Bekhriz Barnoev in the 97kg division. Hardeep also fell short in the 130kg bout, going down 0-4 against Kazakhstan's Jokhar Uzarov.

## 4 Indians enter Asian Jr Individual squash finals

PANZHUIHUA (CHINA)

ARYAVEER Dewan (boys' U-19), Shiven Agarwal (boys' U-17), Anika Dubey (girls' U-17), and Amarya Bajaj (boys' U-13) advanced to the finals in their respective categories at the 33rd Asian Junior Individual Squash Championships in Panzhihua, China, on Saturday. Aryaveer, seeded 3/4, defeated Malaysian top seed Nickhileswar Moganandharam in four games in the semifinals and will meet either Md Alnasafan (KSA) or Jonghyeok Lee (Kor) for the crown. Aryaveer had beaten the Malaysian for the U-17 title last year.

Meanwhile, Shiven, seeded 5/8, beat fellow Indian Squash Academy trainee Lokesh Subramani in a close four-game semifinal and will take on Pakistan's 9/16 seed Nauman Khan for the U-17 title. Anika, seeded 3/4 and



bronze medallist in this age group last year, will battle with Malaysian top seed Harleem Tan for the U-17 crown after her semifinal opponent retired midway through their match.

Amarya, seeded 3/4 and bronze medallist in the boys' U-13 category last year, beat Malaysian second seed Muhammad Sharhan Mohd Saiful in four close games in the semifinals. He will take on top seed Leung Ngo San of Hong Kong in the U-13 final.

Results involving Indians (semifinals):

U-19 Boys: 3/4-Aryaveer Dewan bt 1-Nickhileswar Moganandharam (Mas) 11-

6, 11-4, 3-11, 11-6.

U-17 — Boys: 5/8-Shiven Agarwal bt 5/8-Lokesh Subramani 4-11, 11-9, 11-8, 11-9. Girls: 3/4-Anika Dubey bt 2-Jinoreeka Ning Manivannan (Mas) 9-11, 3-2 ret.

U-13 — Boys: 1-Leung Ngo San (HK) bt 3/4-Abhyuday Arora 11-8, 8-11, 11-8, 8-11, 11-4; 3/4-Amarya Bajaj bt 2-Muhammad Sharhan Mohd Saiful (Mas) 11-9, 11-8, 6-11, 11-8. Girls: 1-Kareena Sashikumar (Sgp) bt 3/4-Shanaya Parasrampuria 11-5, 11-6, 13-11; 3/4-Rio Yoshino (Jpn) bt 2-Divyanshi Jain 11-8, 7-11, 11-6, 4-11, 12-10.

## Super Chess Classic: Pragg draws with Vachier-Lagrave

BUCHAREST (ROMANIA): Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa missed a few winning attempts and was held to a draw by Maxime Vachier-Lagrave of France even as the race for the title tightened at the end of the penultimate round of the Super Chess Classic here.

On what turned out to be another excitement-filled day, the clash between overnight leaders Fabiano Caruana of United States and Vincent Keymer of Germany ended in a draw while world championship challenger Javokhir Sindarov of Uzbekistan scored his second victory on the trot over Dutchman Jorden Van Foreest Friday night.

It was not a day the two Dutch GMs would like to remember as Anish Giri went down to lowest ranked Deac Bogdan-Daniel of Romania.

## 76th Jr National Basketball C'ship TN off to flying start; Kerala, K'taka continue winning run

PUDUCHERRY

REIGNING champions Tamil Nadu launched their campaigns on a triumphant note, securing dominant victories in both the men's and women's categories on the opening night of the 76th Junior National Basketball Championship at the Rajiv Gandhi Indoor Stadium in Puducherry.

In a late-night fixture on Friday, the Tamil Nadu men's team outlasted Delhi 54-37, powered by a stellar 16-point performance from Yadesh Kumar, well-supported by 10-point contributions each from Sumanesh V, Manish R M, and Vishal V. Delhi's resistance was led by Mohamed SainGauri and Gagin Atri, who scored 10 points apiece.

In the women's division, Tamil Nadu registered an equally emphatic 74-36 victory over Punjab. M Kaviya spearheaded the attack with 16 points, while Sumitha Devi (12), Shanjana P K (10), and Dheivithya S (10) ensured a balanced team effort to overshadow Punjab's Tishmeet Kaur, who fought hard for her 17 points.

The prestigious eight-day mega sporting event is being organised by the Pondicherry Basketball Association under the aegis of the Basketball Federation of India (BFI).

The second day of the championship witnessed high-voltage drama as powerhouse teams consolidated their positions. In Group A of the men's section, Kerala survived a nerve-wracking encounter to scrape past Uttar Pradesh 57-55 in a see-saw battle that saw multiple lead changes.

Milen Jose Mathew led the charge for Kerala with 16 points, aided by Abhishek R Pradeep (14) and Adwaid A S

(11), narrowly neutralizing a fierce 16-point performance by UP's Raj Sibgh. The quarter-wise scoreline of 17-12, 10-13, 17-12, and 13-18 reflected the razor-thin margins of the contest.

Meanwhile, in Men's Group B, Karnataka cruised to their second consecutive victory with a commanding 87-46 demolition of Rajasthan, courtesy of a scoring blitz from Samath Manur (26 points), Vijayendra Vedanthi (20 points), and Harshan Yatish (11 points). Rajasthan's offense was limited to scattered efforts by Muhammad Raza Khan (12) and Manish Kumar Maal (10).

The women's fixtures on day two delivered equally thrilling action, highlighted by a down-to-the-wire Group A clash where Haryana edged past Punjab 68-63. Kanika and Jahnavi Sheoran notched 15 points each, while Myrah Sabbar chipped in with 10 to help Haryana withstand a potent Punjab attack led by Vanshika Kaur (19), Priya (17), Tishmeet Kaur (11), and Pawanpreet Kaur (10).

In Group B matches, Uttar Pradesh displayed strong offensive depth to defeat Gujarat 85-69, riding on Neha's brilliant 22-point game, with Anshika Sharma (15) and Pragna Singh (11) playing crucial supporting roles against Gujarat's Dinal Viththani (13) and Nithya Agral (10). In the same group, Kerala maintained their perfect start by convincingly beat Maharashtra 81-59. Kerala's multi-pronged attack featured Aritha K (17), Vaigha T (16), and Liya Maria (15), which ultimately overwhelmed Maharashtra despite a spectacular, game-high 29-point lone crusade by Aarya Phatangare.

## RR play for playoff spot, MI for pride

MUMBAI: Before the start of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026, neither the Mumbai Indians nor the Rajasthan Royals would have imagined that their last match of the preliminary round at the Wankhede Stadium on Sunday would turn out to be so crucial not only for them but for the entire league.

Both teams have everything to play for -- RR for the playoff spot, MI for their pride, and to avoid finishing at the bottom of the pile.

The outcome of the match will decide the fourth spot in the playoffs -- if Rajasthan Royals, who are on 14 points, win the match, they will move to 16 and beyond the reach of Punjab Kings, who are on 13 and at



maximum move to 15 points at most by winning their last league match against Lucknow Super Giants.

Winning the match will also help five-time champions Mumbai Indians avoid the wooden spoon as they are currently tied with Lucknow Super Giants on eight points and have a better Net Run Rate.

So, the last day of league action in the IPL 2026 will start with a make-or-break afternoon for Rajasthan Royals, who will be getting into it with their fortunes in their hands, with the two teams engaging in the final

day game of the season.

The winner of the inaugural edition of IPL has had an up-and-down season so far and are coming into Sunday's encounter after ending a three-match losing streak with a win over bottom-placed LSG. They had started their campaign with four wins, but then lost their way, posting indifferent results due to inconsistent performances.

In contrast, the Mumbai Indians, meanwhile, have endured a season to forget. They made history by winning their season opener for the first time in 14 years, but things went downhill soon after as they lost matches in clusters.

**IN ACTION TODAY**  
MI vs RR at 3.30 pm in Mumbai  
KKR vs DC at 7.30 pm in Kolkata

## TG20 unveils franchise owners for Telangana Cricket League

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

IN a major boost to cricket in Telangana, the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) on Saturday announced the founding franchise owners for the inaugural edition of TG20, the State's first franchise-based T20 cricket league. The announcement was made during the "TG20 Origins - Shape the Future" event held at ITC Kakatiya in Hyderabad.

The league will feature eight teams representing different regions of Telangana. M/S Ushodaya Enterprises Pvt Ltd secured the Hyderabad franchise with the highest bid of ₹7.5 crore, while Boorugu Infra/Pranava won the Ranga Reddy franchise for



₹7.2 crore. Other franchises include Warangal, Medak, Nalgonda, Karimnagar, Mahabubnagar and Khammam. TG20 aims to provide a structured platform for emerging cricketers from Telangana and strengthen grassroots cricket in the State. The league will feature local talent alongside established domestic players and experienced coaching staff. The organisers said discussions are underway

with JioStar for live telecast on Star Sports Telugu and streaming on JioHotstar. Marriott Hotels will host teams and officials during the tournament. HCA Secretary M. Jeevan Reddy described TG20 as a "defining moment" for Telangana cricket, while TG20 Governing Council Chairman V. Agam Rao said the league would combine sporting excellence, entertainment and commercial growth.

## 132 NCC cadets stranded in Manipur airlifted to Assam

IMPHAL

IN view of the prevailing situation in Manipur, 132 NCC cadets were evacuated to Guwahati and Jorhat in Assam by the Indian Air Force (IAF) on Saturday, officials said.

A senior official said that in the true spirit of jointmanship and commitment towards the safety and welfare of youths, 132 NCC cadets who attended the NCC North Eastern Region (NER) Flying Camp in Imphal from May 11 to May 20, 2026, are undergoing emergency evacuation to Guwahati and Jorhat by the IAF amid the prevailing security situation and restrictions on road movement in Manipur.

"The evacuation has been planned by the NCC NER Directorate in consultation with the Headquarters Director General NCC and in coordination with the Headquarters Eastern Air Command," the official said.

He said that the swift and timely action ensured that the cadets safely reached their destinations in time for their examinations, bringing immense relief and happiness to their parents and family members. "The NCC cadets have also conveyed their heartfelt gratitude for the care, support and timely assistance extended to them. Special thanks have been extended to the Defence Minister, the Ministry of Defence and the Indian Air Force for their unwavering support," the official added.

# Chinese-made weapons seized in Mumbai

MUMBAI

IN a major crackdown, the Anti-Extortion Cell of the Mumbai Crime Branch has arrested three alleged criminals who had reportedly arrived in the city to sell illegal foreign-made weapons, officials said on Saturday.

They added that the accused, all from outside Maharashtra, were apprehended during a late-night operation carried out on the basis of specific Intelligence inputs.

According to police officials, credible information was received indicating that certain individuals carrying weapons were on their way to Mumbai.

## THREE ARMS SUPPLIERS ARRESTED



Acting swiftly on the tip-off, the Crime Branch laid a trap near a public toilet located on P D Mello Road close to St. George Hospital.

Around 10:45 P.M. on Friday, the three accused were caught red-handed

during the operation.

Police recovered three firearms, magazines and 45 live cartridges from the possession of the accused. Officials said the ammunition and weapons bore the inscription

'Made in China'. However, investigators are now trying to determine the actual source and route through which the weapons entered the country, making the origin of the Chinese-marked arms a key aspect of the ongoing probe.

The arrested accused have been identified as 24-year-old Jashanpreet Mangal Singh and 24-year-old Sukhwinder Singh, both residents of Patiala in Punjab, and Arbaz, a resident of Jhalawar in Rajasthan, officials mentioned.

They said all three have serious criminal backgrounds and multiple cases registered against them.

Investigators further

revealed that two of the accused had allegedly been absconding since 2022 in connection with a murder case and had been on the radar of law enforcement agencies for a long time. Arbaz alone is stated to have as many as 19 criminal cases registered against him.

According to preliminary investigations, the accused were allegedly planning to supply and sell the weapons to local criminals operating in Mumbai and nearby areas.

Following the arrests, a case under relevant sections of the Arms Act has been registered against them at Mumbai's M R A Marg Police Station.

Further investigation into the case is currently underway.

## Miscreants vandalise Kolkata school, probe on

KOLKATA: A group of miscreants allegedly went on a rampage inside a girls' school in south Kolkata in the early hours of Saturday, prompting a police probe.

The incident took place around 4.30 a.m. at Kamala Chatterjee Girls' High School under the jurisdiction of Gariahat Police Station. Acting on a complaint, the police have initiated an investigation.

The school authorities said that one of their buildings is not their own; rather, it is a rented premise where classes for the primary and secondary sections are held.



They claimed that the act of vandalism was specifically carried out within this particular building.

The school is equipped with surveillance cameras, which captured a group of youths scaling the main gate in the early hours of Saturday morning to gain entry into the school premises. Subsequently, they proceeded to vandalise the building. School

Headmistress Debjani Das said, "When I arrived at the school in the morning today, I saw that everything had been damaged. Everything was recorded on the CCTV camera. A complaint has been filed with the police as well as the district school inspector."

According to sources in the District School Education Department, the next step will be taken after speaking to the headmistress next Monday. The vandalism inside a school in Kolkata has raised questions about the safety and security in educational institutions.

## Encounter breaks out in Rajouri during search ops

JAMMU: An encounter started on Saturday between terrorists and the security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district.

Officials said on Saturday that an encounter had started between terrorists and security forces in Dorimal forests of Rajouri in Jammu and Kashmir.

"At least 2-3 Pakistani terrorists are believed to be trapped, operation is underway", officials said. Following specific Intelligence inputs about the presence of terrorists in Dorimal forest area of Rajouri, security forces

started a cordon and search operation.

"As the security forces closed in on the hiding terrorists, they opened fire, after which an encounter started which is now going on."

"Reinforcements have been rushed in to plug all exit points of the hiding terrorists", an official said.

The two border districts of Rajouri and Poonch have witnessed a significant surge in counter-terror operations and encounters since the area has served as the primary infiltration and revival corridor for terrorists in the past.



## COIMBATORE GIRL'S MURDER SHOCKS TN

## CM Vijay promises justice; two accused arrested

COIMBATORE

A wave of grief and outrage swept across Tamil Nadu after the brutal abduction and murder of a 10-year-old girl in Coimbatore, triggering renewed concerns over the safety of women and children.

As the incident sent shockwaves across the state, Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay expressed deep anguish over the tragedy and assured strict action against those responsible.

In a statement issued on Saturday, the Chief Minister described the incident as an "inhuman and unforgivable criminal act" that has caused immense pain and shock. He said such barbaric acts can never be tolerated in a civilised society and extended his deepest condolences to the grieving family of the child.

"I offer my heartfelt condolences to the family that is suffering the unbearable loss of their beloved daughter. The government stands with them in this difficult time," CM Vijay said.

The case took a major turn after police arrested two persons identified as Karthik (33), a native of Nagapattinam who had been residing at Pallapalayam near Coimbatore, and his associate Mohanraj in connection with the crime.

Police sources said the accused were known to the victim's family and are suspected to have abducted the child before allegedly murdering her.

Investigators revealed that Karthik sustained injuries while attempting to escape from police custody. According to officials, he suffered fractures to his leg and hand during the escape attempt.

The injured accused was later secured and brought under police custody for further investigation.

Meanwhile, Mohanraj was produced before Judicial Magistrate Arun Kumar at the Sular Judicial Magistrate Court on Saturday. The court ordered that he be remanded to judicial custody until May 27. Chief Minister Vijay stated that he had directed police authorities to carry out a thorough and time-bound investigation and take all necessary steps to ensure the immediate filing of the chargesheet. "The Tamil Nadu government will act firmly to ensure severe punishment under the law for those who commit heinous crimes against women and children. All immediate and necessary actions will be taken," CM Vijay said. Police officials said the investigation is continuing and more details are expected to emerge in the coming days.