Silverware for Indian team in Asian Snooker C'ship

Before the Indian trio of Brijesh Damani, Alok Kumar and Manan Chandra had set foot in the Oatari capital for the inaugural Team Snooker Championship, they had made a promise to themselves that nothing short of silverware would suffice

On a balmy evening in Doha yesterday, they fulfilled the promise when they triumphed 3-0 over Iran in the summit clash to win the USD 4,500 prize money tourney.

"It's just an amazing feeling to win the tournament where all the Asian countries participated. A total of 14 entries were there from Asia. It was a tough competition especially because of its shorter format. There was a lot of pressure on us throughout the tournament but we held our nerves," Alok Kumar told from Doha after the

"Our first match in the tournament was very close against Saudi Arabia where we were 0-2 down against them. We won that match and since then, there was no lookteam effort and we are happy to have won it." he said.

The Indian cueists were in redhot form right from the start and group stages, India were the only team to remain undefeated Pakistan, China and Thailand finished on top of their respective groups but suffered a defeat each.

India had little obstruction in clinching gold as they had outplayed Oatar 3-1 in the quarterfinals, beat Afghanistan 3-1 in the semifinals before registering a clean sweep against Iran scoring 61-49 (Single against Amir Sarkhosh); 58-16 (Single against Ehsan Heydarinezha); and 63-55 (double against Amir and Ehsan),

Talking about the final, Alok said it was not as easy for the Indians as the scoreline suggests.

"Manan had a close first game where he just managed to brush



Sector Commander Rashtriya Rifles Mahore presenting tro-

Mahore Premier League concludes

Excelsior Sports Correspondent Mahore handed over the trophy

the idea of promoting sports and gave away individual prizes. spirit of sportsmanship amongst the youth of the remote areas, an Intra Tehsil T-20 Cricket Tournament 'Mahore Premier role in shaping the personality of League' was organised at Sungri by Rashtriya Rifles Battalion Bagga, under aegis of Rashtriya Rifles Sector at Mahore, here.

Twelve teams from various villages of Mahore, Gool and Samote participated in the tour-

The Sector Commander of

MAHORE, May 31: With to the winning team and also While addressing a huge

gathering of spectators he said that sports play an important the youth. He emphasized that the purpose of such tournaments is not only to encourage the local youth for national and international events but also to harmonize the relation between

the Army and the local populace. The local populace lauded the initiative undertaken by the Rashtriya Rifles Sector at Army to promote cricket

Don't understand why players indulge in corruption: Afridi

KARACHI, May 31:

The IPL spot-fixing scandal channel. has left Pakistan all-rounder Shahid Afridi "sad" and he cannot understand why some players are lured into corrupt prac- led to the arrest of three playtices despite earning good ers.

these players have to resort to are sent to jails. Because there illegal means to earn money when there is already good everywhere they are so many money to be earned by playing professional T20 cricket cricket honestly and with 100 per cent commitment and dedi- to players," he noted.(PTI)

cation," Afridi told a news

The former captain said he spot-fixing controversy which

"It is sad to see fellow play-"I just don't understand why ers come to this stage that they is so much cricket these days leagues which pay good money



Students of BSF School Paloura who excelled in Squay and Judo Tournament, organized by the Department of Youth Services and Sports at Indoor Complex, MA Stadium, recently. Those who bagged gold in Squay Under-14 boys included Nishant, Sahil Rao, and Om Baloria, while in Under-14 girls Ankita claimed gold. The silver medals went to Reshav, Manu and Saksham. In Judo Under-17, the gold medals were bagged by Bhupesh Singh, Sagar Singh, Rambabu and Divya Kumari, while the silver went to Vikram.



Students of Sushiela Narendrajit Singh Vidya Mandir High School, Susheel Nagar, Talab Tillo, Jammu who won gold medals in the Inter-School Yoga Championship, organized by the Department of Youth Services and Sports at Indoor Complex in MA Stadium, recently. The gold medal winners included Muskan Saini, Tina Saini, Anushka Koul, Sumit Dubey, Simran Bhat, Pallavi Sharma and Muskan Rajput.

ing back. Manan played really aside the challenge of his oppowell and Brijesh complimented nent. Though Brijesh won the sechim with his precise play. It was a ond game comfortably 58-16 but he gave away some easy chances to his rival to score points. We then won the doubles 63-55. We won on the pink ball. It was an interesttopped their group with three wins ing final," said Alok, the senior from as many games. After the most member of the side said.

Champions Trophy unveiled by Suniel Shetty

MUMBAI, May 31: The ICC Champions Trophy, to be handed over to the winners of the June 6-23 tournament in England, was today unveiled at gaming centre Smaaash.

Actor Suniel Shetty and cricket commentator Harsha Bhogle unveiled the silverware.

India and South Africa kick off the contest on June 6 at the Sophia Gardens at Cardiff, Wales in a Group B match.

Also in the same group are the West Indies and Pakistan. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Sri Lanka form

The top two teams from each group would progress to the semifinals scheduled on June 19 and 20 at the Kennington Oval and Sophia Gardens respectively with the winners advancing to the June 23 final to be played at Edgbaston. (PTI)

Sania crashes out in first round of mixed doubles

PARIS, May 31:

India's Sania Mirza and her Swedish partner Robert Lindstedt today crashed out in the first round of the mixed doubles event, suffering a shocking straight-set defeat at the hands of Cara Black and Aisam-ul-Haq Oureshi here.

The top seeded Indo-Swede combination were no match for their unseeded opponents, losing 2-6 3-6 in little less than an hour.

Black and Oureshi will now face the winner of the match between Sorana Cirstea of Romania and David Marrero and Su-Wei Hsieh of Taipei and Denmark's Frederik Nielsen.

Sania, however, will partner American Bethanie Mattek-Sands in the women's doubles event where they have been seeded sev-

The Indo-American pair will face French duo of Alize Cornet and Virginie Razzano in the first

Jammu boys Shubam, Rohit to leave for India U-19 Camp tomorrow

Excelsior Sports Correspondent Indian team for the Australian

Zealand

JAMMU, May 31: Two young cricketers from Jammu and Kashmir, both hailing from Jammu including stylish rightopening batsman Shubam Khajuria and rhythmic right-arm speedster Rohit Sharma will leave for National Cricket Academy (NCA) Bangalore on June 2, 2013, to attend the India Under-19 boys coaching/conditioning camp beginning at the venue from the

Both the youngsters are among the 28 probables selected for India Under-19 boys cricket camp last month for their fabulous showing in the BCCI's Cooch Behar Under-19 Cricket Tournament during the season.

The 15-member Under-19

Tournament. Both the cricketers are well prepared for the camp as the duo has prepared themselves almost to a perfection during a monthlong net/training session at

tour to commence from June 30,

2013 in Darwin will be selected

from these probables soon. It

will be triangular series between

India. Australia and New

It may be recalled that

Shubam had scored 3 centuries

and 4 half-centuries in the

Cooch Behar Trophy last sea-

son, while Rohit had a big haul

of 30 odd wickets during the

GGM Science College Hostel Ground, Jammu in accordance with the guidelines served by the National Cricket Academy well

Royal CC registers huge win in Gufran T20

Excelsior Sports Correspondent tively.

In reply, BCC Assessi could DODA, May 31: Royal not chase the target and scored Cricket Club (RCC) today regisjust 91 runs in 20 overs, thus lost tered a huge win by 117 runs over the match by a big margin of 117 BCC Assessi in the ongoing All runs. Imran was the top scorer India 9th Gufran Memorial T20 from BCC Assessi, who made 32 Cricket Championship, organruns followed by Mudassir who ized by Young Star Cricket Club contributed 16 runs for his team. Doda at Sports Stadium, here. For RCC, Sushil, Javed and Earlier, batting first after win-

Nadeem shared one wicket each. ning the toss, RCC scored a Nadeem of Royal Cricket Club mammoth total of 208 runs for was declared as man of the match the loss of five wickets in the for his splendid show. stipulated 20 overs. Nadeem was The match was officiated by the top scorer with 71 runs, while Subhash Mathur and Dharmesh Excelsior Sports Correspondent one six. Netar Kumar scored Javed contributed well made 60 Bhardwai, while Rinku Badoria runs to the total. For BCC and Shahid Pampori acted as Cricket Club (JCC) drubs and Tushar Gurung con-Assessi. Mudassir and Younis bagged 2 and 1 wicket respec-

Anju adjudged best speaker

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMNAGAR, May 31: Anju Devi student of 10th Class was adjudged best speaker in the symposium organized on the occasion on the topic "World No Tobacco Day" at Government High School, Kulwanta 19 km away from tehsil headquarters Ramnagar here today.

The symposium was organized by the Department of Drug and Food Control Organization Udhampur in collaboration with Information Department Udhampur under the overall supervision of Assistant Controller Drug, Munish Gupta.

Headmaster of the host school, Jagan Nath was the chief guest on the occasion.

In all 10 students participated in the symposium in which Akshita Thakur of 8th class

1st prize was won by Amit

Singh of Government High

School Nud, while the second

both of KP Higher Secondary

occasion, who distributed

Dubey (CEO), Jasmeet Singh

offer an incentive of Rs 10 lakh

in prize money to the winners in

both the boys and girls singles

held in Delhi, Mumbai,

Besides, the finalists in both

"It is nice to see that bad-

huge interest among the young

but also give them the opportu-

nity to get their talent recog-

nised, said London Olympic

bronze medallist Saina. (PTI)

the singles categories will also

Gopichand Academy

Bangalore,

A C R Samba, AK Khajuria

Prominent among others

School Samba.

Chief Guest AK Khajuria presenting trophy to winner of

Debate Competition held

Excelsior Sports Correspondent Niketan School, Chambyal

Society and Department of prize was bagged by Shivani

Education organised the and third prize went to Palak,

6 Schools drawn from prizes among the winners.

IBL to launch 'Shuttle Express'

to promote badminton

postponement, but the USD 1- events and the event will be

Hyderabad,

Hyderabad.

Lucknow and Pune.

Secondary School, Shishu and Babu Lal Tondon.

SAMBA, May 31: New Public School Nud and Young Blood Organisation, Government High School

debate competition in Samba on Friday.

under the supervision of Balode.

Neelam Singh Sambyal its

District president in associa-

tion with District Red Cross

Debate Competition at

Government Higher secondary

Samba District participated in

the event. The participating

Schools included KP Higher

NEW DELHI, May 31:

take flight thanks to several

million Indian Badminton

League is set to launch a pro-

gramme for school children

with an aim to promote the

Under the Badminton

(IBLSP), star shuttlers like

Saina Nehwal, Jwala Gutta,

Parupalli Kashyap and P V

Sindhu, among others, will

visit school campuses across

India to encourage around five

lakh students from more than

120 schools in six different

The 'Shuttle Express' will

sport at the grassroot level.

The event itself is yet to

The topic of the debate was

School Nud, here today.

'Save Girl Save Nation'.



topic and highlighted the haz- unbeaten 42 runs off 31 balls ards of smoking and advised the with the help of 5 boundaries students to remain away from and one six, while Deepak this killing menace besides he Dogra contributed 39 runs off also urged the students to make 34 balls with four boundaries wide awareness in society. The and Jaswinder Singh chipped Headmaster of the host institu- in with 23 runs, studded with 3 tion requested the departments boundaries and one six. For to organize such more programme for the general aware-

Pritam Singh Pathania, Daulat Raj and Raj Kumar acted Club bundled out for 116 runs as judges while Mohinder in 18.1 overs. Kunal was the Kumar conducted the proceed- top scorer with 21 runs in 13 ings of the programme.

Inter-State Athletic C'ships from June 4 from 31 states would be compet-

State Athletics Championship will be held here from June 4 to 7 with the event to be funded by Tamil Nadu government.

Announcing this at a press conference here today, Tamil Nadu State Athletics Association President W I Davaram top athletes barring Vikas Gowda, would be competing in the championship which will also select Indian athletes for the Asian Championship in Pune next month and World Championships in Moscow in

He said over 1000 athletes

The 63rd National Inter- ing for top honours.

Athletics Federation of India top athletes vying for honours the scandal, which has tar- with some solid performances. Tintu Luka, Seema Antil, Om cricket Prakash, Gayatri Govindaraj and Rajeev Arokia among others.

mum number of athletes in the

Dawaram and Valson low a five-bowler strategy. thanked Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa for granting a sponsorship of Rs 35 lakhs and extending the facilities at cost to the government. (PTI)

I just want respect as an ex-volleyball player: Arunima

RANCHI, May 31:

Former national level volleyball player, Arunima Sinha who recently became the first woman amputee to conquer Mt. Everest, today choose to ignore the Volleyball Federation of India's was the chief guest on the indifference towards her, saying she just wanted "respect".

'Ask the Federation... Just want respect as an ex-volleyball present on occasion were Ravi player," Arunima said. The Volleyball Federation of

India had reportedly denied compensation to Arunima after she

was thrown off a moving train two years ago near Bareilly. It also refused to acknowledge her existence despite her achieving the world record feat.

On whether she would consider making a comeback to the Indian volleyball team, Arunima said, "I have not played since the accident occurred (in April 2011)... Wait and watch."

The young mountaineer credited Bachendri Pal, Chief, Tata Steel Adventure Foundation and the first woman to scale the peak for

English county cricketers under ICC scanner

LONDON, May 31:

More than 20 English county cricketers and two umpires are being questioned by anti-corruption detectives as part of the ICC's match-fixing investigation.

The ICC is speaking to players who were involved in the be given an opportunity to train Bangladesh Premier League League School Programme at the world-class Pullela (BPL), which featured cricketers from around the world.

Ravi Bopara, Owais Shah, Kabir Ali, Phil Mustard and minton as a sport is being pro- Dimitri Mascarenhas are among moted amongst kids. 'Shuttle the players who have either been Express' will not only generate or will be interviewed by the England and Wales Cricket Board's anti-corruption unit, which is working in conjunction with the ICC, according to a 'Daily Telegraph' report.

Two English umpires, Jeremy Lloyds and Richard Illingworth, who officiated in the BPL, have also reportedly been interviewed by the ECB's anti-corruption unit.

It is understood that none of the English players or umpires are accused of involvement in match fixing but they have been interviewed as part of an intelligencegathering process.

Meanwhile, television reports in India claimed that the ICC's Anti-Corruption and Security Unit (ACSU) may have warned the BCCI regarding suspicious activiwithin the Indian Premier League (IPL), currently under investigation following the arrest of three cricketers - S Sreesanth, Ajit Chandila and Chavan.(PTI)

JKBA selection trials from June 3 **Excelsior Sports Correspondent**

Selection trials for J&K Corporate

Premier League on June 4

Excelsior Sports Correspondent Resorts Private Limited (Ahad

Kashmir

province for the forthcoming

Corporate Premier League

(J&K CPL), the one-day selec-

tion trials will be held on June

4, 2013 at MA Stadium, here.

issued here by former Ranji

trophy player, Abdul Qyoom,

the organizing secretary of the

mega event, the trials will

begin at 10 am sharp and will

conclude at 6 pm on June 4,

under the 3-member selection

former cricketers of repute and

the players will have to report

45 from each province will be

chosen for the bid. We have

Valley for picking 45 players,"

will be sponsoring the teams

include Kanwal Group of

Companies, with the team

Simula Group of Companies

runs today in "Salute &

Tournament which is being

organized by Parade Sports

Jammu Cricket Club scored

140 runs for the loss of 6

wickets in allotted 20 overs.

Gorkha Club, Pankaj took 2

wickets while Anil, Sagar and

Kunal shared one wicket each.

balls with 2 boundaries and

In reply, Gorkha Cricket

batting first,

Earlier,

The 10 Corporates who

name as Kanwal Tigers, each,

Bulls), Tramboo

Cheetahs), Ahad Hotel and manager Rs 2500.

Cement Industries (TCI trainer Rs 3000 and for team

JCC trounces Gorkha Club

in Salute & Tribute T20

Gorkha Cricket Club by 26 tributed 17 and 16 runs respec-

Tribute to the Players" Cricket Jatinder took 2 wickets each

"A pool of 90 players, with

of the League.

informed Qyoom.

According to a handout

JAMMU, May 31: To pick Nawabs), Kehwa Express

cricketers from Jammu Services Private Limited

Companies

Companies

(Mirza Gladiators).

(Kehwa Mughals), Saifco

Group of Companies (Saifco

Lions), Samtac Group of

Companies (Cemtac Stars),

Leopards) and Mirza Sons

tion of 2 current Ranii trophy

and 3 Inter-University/SGFI/

for current International, IPL,

for

tively. Rohit, Paras and

for Jammu Cricket Club, while

Vishavjeet and Aaditya shared

one wicket each. Vishavjeet

Singh of Jammu Cricket Club

was declared man of match for

Sadiq Hussain Malik and

In tomorrow's fixture

Simula Cricket Club will lock

horns with Mayank Goswami

Vijay Dogra were the umpires,

while Ajay Sharma was the

scorer. Dr Karan Nayyar was

the official physiotherapist.

his brilliant knock.

The base contract schedule

local players, is mandatory.

Each team will be com-

(Tramboo

(Heritage

SRINAGAR, May 31: The Jammu and Kashmir Baseball Association (JKBA) is going to organize 3-days 'open selection trials', in boys and girls category from Monday, June 3, 2013

The trials are being held in preparation for the forthcoming Panthers), Heritage Group of '9th North Zone Senior Baseball Championship', to be held in J&K for the first time. According to general secretary of JKBA, Fida Hussain Fidvi, posed of 20 members, while in the trials will commence from the playing eleven, the selec-June 3 and conclude on June 5 and will be followed by 21 days committee, which includes players, 4 former national coaching camp for both boys (JKCA) players, 1 current and girls from June 6 to June 30, 2013. "Selection-trails-Under-25 (JKCA) player, 1 to Rajesh Dhar, joint secretary current Under-19/16 player cum-coaching camp will be held under the supervision of Jammu and Kashmir State Sports Council at S P Higher Secondary School, Srinagar' informed Fidvi.

already arranged trials in the Ranji trophy, Vijay Hazare, The Association has advised Mushtaq Ali or North zone the boys to contact the conplayer will be Rs 5000 each, cerned coach Gulzar Ahmad at for former National players Rs 2000 each, for current Underthe S P Higher Secondary School while as the girls have 25 players Rs 3000 each, for been asked to approach the con-Under-19/ 16 players Rs 2000 cerned coach J S Mehta at Women's College, here. University/SGFI player Rs

1500 each, for coach cum Certificates, medals distributed among winners

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, May 31: The Department of Youth Services and Sports, District Office Jammu distributed certificates JAMMU, May 31: Jammu 19 runs, while Nikhil Gurung and medals among the winners of the recently held Inter-School Tournament in the disciplines of yoga, gymnastics, taekwondo, judo, fencing and squay, here today.

Tirath Ram, District Youth Services and Sports Officer, Jammu was the chief guest on the occasion, while Kuldeep Kumar Gupta, joint secretary Kabaddi Federation of India and Satish Gupta, manager Indoor Complex MA Stadium were present on the occasion.

Over 100 players, who claimed gold, silver and bronze medals during the said tournament were felicitated on the occasion by the chief guest and other dignitaries

India need to forget spot-fixing saga, focus on adaptation

daunting twin tasks of leaving behind the IPL spot-fixing scam and adapting to the tough conditions here as they begin warm-up game against Sri ODI series. Conditions would Lanka tomorrow.

will include Krishna Poonia, nished the reputation of Indian Umesh Yadav, who has

Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and need to sort out their line and nity to force his way back in Tamil Nadu have fielded maxi- length. India skipper the side as the pitches in Mahendra Singh Dhoni has England will assist him. already said that they will fol-

the conditions and there are a dous show. (PTI)

lot of expectations from the Indian cricketers face the young Bhuvaneshwar Kumar who can swing the ball both

Bhuvaneshwar has impressed in the limited opportunitheir preparations for the ICC ties he has got, especially Champions Trophy with a against Pakistan in a home be ideal for his style of bowl-Some on-field action will ing and he would look to Secretary C K Valson said that help divert the attention from cement his place in the side

> returned to the fold after The conditions favour recovering from an injury, India's fast bowlers but they could not get a better opportu-Ishant Sharma also looks

> in good touch after being India's success would hinge instrumental in his IPL side on how well the pacers exploit Sunrisers Hyderabad's stupen-



S K Chaudhary, Sports Officer of Andaman & Nicobar, Ex SDM of Orrisa, Guinness book record holder showcases his stunts, like pulling truck with his hair, lifting 20 Kgs weight with his teeth at BSF Campus, Humhama in Srinagar on Friday. -Excelsior/Amin War



Eleven players from Jammu and Kashmir who have been selected in Indian jump rope team after successful participation in South Asian Jump Rope Championship held at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi, recently. These players include Irshad Ahmed, Arun Sharma, Sandeep Sharma, Akash Sharma, Jam Roudh Singh, Mavinder Singh, Opinder Singh, Jagpreet Singh, Parsandeep Singh, Harsimran Kour and Parabjot Kour.