

Superb India clinch first ever series in South Africa

PORT ELIZABETH, Feb 13:

Indian team led by an inspirational Virat Kohli today scripted history by winning its first ever series across formats on the South African soil as they crushed South Africa by 73 runs thereby taking an unassailable 4-1 lead in the five-match ODI series.

No Indian men's side since its first tour in South Africa back in 1992, have ever won a series across any format. They did win a one-off T20 match in 2006 -- their first ever shortest format but it was a single match event.

The team under Kohli achieved which neither among Mohammed Azharuddin, Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, Rahul Dravid or Mahendra Singh Dhoni could achieve -- win a full fledged series in the Rainbow Nation.

After a series of low scores, Rohit Sharma came good when it ultimately mattered as he scored 115 in India's respectable total of 274 for 7 on a sluggish St George's Park wicket.

South Africa did put up a fight before wrist spinners Kuldeep Yadav (4/57 in 10 overs) and Yuzvendra Chahal (2/43 in 9.2 overs) found their bearings

after a rare off-day to polish off the lower-order in a jiffy.

One can't ignore Hardik Pandya's contribution as his all-round skill sets came into good effect getting 2 for 30 with seamers and then a run-out with a direct throw off in-form Hashim Amla (71), which decisively swung the match in India's favour.

For Kohli, this is a significant milestone in his three and half years at the helm as this is also his first series win against a top nation on their soil.

While this wasn't the best South African team on the field but coming back after losing the Test series takes some heart which the 'Men in Blue' showed.

The two wrist spinners once again proved to be a revelation as none save Amla could read them properly from their wrists.

Earlier, Rohit ended his prolonged bad patch with a fine hundred as India scored a respectable 274 for 7 after being put into bat.

Despite Rohit's 115 off 126 balls and first on South African soil, India failed to consolidate during the final 10 overs as they scored only 55 runs after being comfortably placed at 219 for 4.

Mahendra Singh Dhoni's inability to push the run-rate dur-

ing death overs was once again exposed as he managed only 13 off 17 balls and the dot balls that he played only increased pressure on lower order.

It was Bhuvneshwar Kumar's 19 off 20 balls that took India past 270-run mark.

The highlight of the Indian innings was Rohit's century -- which is his 17th overall and 15th as an opener. He is now third behind Sachin Tendulkar (45 out of 49) and Sourav Ganguly (19 out of 22) with number of centuries as opener.

After being criticised for his poor show in the series till date and a pitiable average of 11.45 in 12 ODIs (in SA) with a highest score of only 23, Rohit finally played an innings of substance that had 11 boundaries and four sixes. He was shaky at times but the customary elegance was there to be seen as he stepped out to hit Kagiso Rabada over long on for a six.

Looking to overcome his poor run of form then, Rohit started off slowly against Morne Morkel (0/44 in 10 overs) and Kagiso Rabada (1/58 in 9 overs), with the former bowling out two maiden overs. In-form Shikhar Dhawan however stroked his way to 34 off 23 balls, with eight

boundaries.

India raced off the blocks as the opening duo put on 48 in just 7.2 overs. Dhawan was looking good for many more, but Rabada tied him up with some short stuff. In response, the left-hander only managed to hole out straight to deep square leg.

Rohit though had found his touch with a pulled six off Rabada in the sixth over. He was joined in the middle by Virat Kohli (36 off 54 balls, 2 fours), who played an uncharacteristic innings belying his rich form.

The skipper got off to a sluggish start and was never at ease in rotating the strike, something he is very adept at. The runs just didn't flow easily on what was turning out to be a slower track than anticipated.

Surprisingly enough, Rohit was in better touch at the other end as he hit another three sixes off Lungi Ngidi (4-51), JP Duminy (0-29) and Tabraiz Shamsi (0-48).

Rohit then took the responsibility of anchoring the innings on himself after Kohli's run-out and put on 60 runs with Shreyas Iyer (30) for the fourth wicket. In doing so, they took India past 200 in the 36th over while he reached his milestone off 107 balls. (PTI)

New Zealand beat England by 12 runs in T20 tri-series

WELLINGTON, Feb 13:

New Zealand ended their three-match losing streak with a 12-run victory over England in a tri-nations Twenty20 cricket international today, inspired by an innings of 72 from captain Kane Williamson.

Williamson posted his eighth T20 half century but his first in 10 innings since January last year to guide New Zealand to 196-5 as they batted first after winning the toss. England were held to 184-9 in reply.

Williamson shared an 82-run second wicket partnership with Martin Guptill (65) which laid the foundation for the innings and with his strike rate of 156.5 -- 72 from 65 balls -- put an end to rumblings that he might be out of place in the shortest format.

New Zealand won for the first time in three matches after consecutive Twenty20 losses to Pakistan prior to the tri-series, then to Australia in their first match in the trans-Tasman series. England have now lost their last three games after back-to-back losses to Australia who have already qualified for the tri-series final.

New Zealand play Australia in Auckland on Friday.

"Obviously it was a very important win for us in the context of this series," Williamson said.

"It was in some ways a must win just to get slightly ahead of the third-placed team at the moment which is a very strong England team."

"They made us work really hard, we had to play very good cricket which we were fortunate enough to do today."

With late support from Mark Chapman (20) and Tim Seifert (14 not out) -- both on debut -- Williamson ensured New Zealand matched its highest score at the Wellington Regional Stadium and set England a difficult chase on a piebald, drop-in pitch which had confounded both captains.

The pitch, which had a huge bald spot caused by the loss of grass growth during a record hot summer in Wellington, played much better than expected and rewarded bold strokeplay, especially from batsmen who hit under the bounce.

"It was important we assessed the wicket, we didn't know how it would play and it certainly played a lot better than it looked," Williamson said. (PTI)

Fed Cup performance very encouraging: Sania Mirza

NEW DELHI, Feb 13:

Indian tennis ace Sania Mirza feels Anika Raina's performance in the recent Fed Cup was encouraging but the team must progress to the next level.

"We have always come back empty-handed. We see great progress in young talent but never make the next jump. That is something we are totally missing," said Sania here today.

Ankita was the standout performer for India in the Fed Cup, notching up victories over higher-ranked opponents even though the team lost the opportunity to progress after successive defeats. The country, however, managed to stay in the Asia/Oceania Group 1 with a 2-0 win over Chinese Taipei in the relegation play-off.

"It is very encouraging to see Ankita have those couple of wins against the top 100 players. Even though they came out on the losing end of the tie, you still have to take the small positive out," she added.

Asked who has the potential to be the next Sania, the 31-year-old said she should not be the benchmark for upcoming talent.

"I have been asked about who is the next Sania for many many years and I have always said why next Sania? We should try to aim better than Sania. Why just me?"

Sania, whose doubles ranking has dipped to 14th due to the ongoing injury lay-off, feels persistence is the key to success and the young generation must keep working hard.

Winner of six Grand Slam titles, Sania, has been out of action since October 2017 due to an injury in her right knee but is hopeful of a French Open comeback.

"I don't really have a time frame (for recovery) right now, I cannot put a date to it. Every day is a battle for me. But French Open is in May end, hopefully I will be back by then," she said.

Asked about the return of stalwarts like Serena Williams and Maria Sharapova to the circuit, Sania said women's tennis has unbelievable depth.

"Women's tennis has never been anybody's monopoly besides Serena. Apart from her, it was always sort of anyone. It was only when Serena loses that it becomes wide open," she said. (PTI)

Challenger, Vishal log wins in Police Friendship Tournament

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 13: Challenger Cricket Club and Vishal Cricket Club registered victories over their rivals to enter in the next round of the ongoing Police Friendship Cricket Tournament for Rural Youths at Country Cricket Academy ground, Gharota, near here.

The Tournament is being organized by District Police Jammu under the supervision of Vivek Gupta SSP Jammu and the slogan of the tournament is 'Kheho Kheh Bhulo Nasha'.

Earlier, in the first match, Challenger Cricket Club defeated Sunail Cricket Club by 1 wicket. Batting first Sunail Cricket club scored 98 runs for the loss of 7 wickets in 16 overs. Sahil, Ami and Dheeraj chipped in with 18, 16 and 14 runs respectively.

From bowling side, Vinod took 3 wickets while Koushal and Rajinder claimed 2 wickets each.

In reply, Challenger Cricket Club chased the target in 15.3 overs for the loss of 9 wickets, thus won the match by 1 wicket.

Rajesh, Davinder and Vinod contributed 20, 18 and 13 runs respectively. From bowling side, Sushil took 3 wickets, while Goutam and Sushil (Jr) took 2 wickets each. Dheeraj and Rinku claimed 1 wicket each. Vinod was declared as the man of the match.

In another match, Vishal Cricket Club defeated Thathi Cricket Club by 6 wickets.

Batting first, Thathi Club made 112 runs in 15.3 overs. Arman, Vipan and Arush scored 29, 26 and 18 runs to the total respectively. From bowling side, Rakesh Koul, Rajesh Gill and Ramandeep Singh took 2 wickets each, while Abhinav and Habib claimed 1 wicket each.

In reply, Vishal Cricket Club chased the target in 13 overs for the loss of 4 wickets thus won the match by 6 wickets.

Salman top scored with 66 runs, while Rakesh contributed 24 runs to the winning cause. From bowling side, Vikas took 2 wickets while Arush and Sahil took 1 wicket each. Salman was adjudged as the man of the match.



SKCC players posing alongwith Dr Farooq Abdullah in Jammu.

Delegation of SKCC calls on Dr Farooq

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 13: A delegation of Sher-e-Kashmir Cricket Club (SKCC) under the chairmanship of its Captain Aman Cheema called on Dr Farooq Abdullah, Member Parliament and President National Conference and discussed various issues regarding the Club.

Before discussing the issues, Dr Farooq interacted with the members of the delegation and the members of SKCC as well.

Mr Cheema apprised Dr Farooq about various initiatives taken by the Club especially with regard to its campaign for

against drug abuse and intoxication.

Dr Abdullah lauded the efforts of the Club for taking initiatives with regard to social and moral development of the youth.

On the occasion, Sunil Sports (Sunbro Industry) sponsored 3 bats of his own brand to the Club.

Dr Farooq wished the club good luck for fighting social cause in state.

Those who attended the delegation were Rajeshwar Singh, Anil Langleh, Sumit Verma, Happy Singh, Rohit, Mukesh Sharma and Shahrukh Mir.

1st Maharaja Hari Singh Gold Cup Football Tournery from today

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 13: 1st Maharaja Hari Singh Memorial Gold Cup Football Tournament will begin at GGM Science College Football ground here from tomorrow.

MLA Jammu East Rajesh Gupta is the Chairman of the Tournament, while Sheikh Mehmood, President Jammu District Football Association is the Organising Secretary.

Top football Clubs of Jammu will take part in the Tournament, which is being held under the banner of Jammu and Kashmir Football Association (JKFA).

According to a handout issued here, Deputy Chief Minister Dr Nirmal Singh will be the chief guest on the opening ceremony to be held at 4 pm tomorrow, while Dr SP Vaid, Director General of Police J&K, will be the guest of honour.

Mithali's fifty helps India women thrash SA by 7 wkts

POTCHEFSTROOM, Feb 13:

Opener Mithali Raj held the innings together with an unbeaten half-century as Indian women notched up a comfortable seven-wicket victory over South Africa in the first T20 International here today.

Mithali (54) shared two crucial stands -- a 69-run partnership for the third wicket with debutant Jemimah Rodrigues (37) and then added 52 runs with Veda Krishnamurthy (37 not out) for the unbroken fourth wicket -- as India chased down a target of 165 with seven balls to spare.

India led the five-match T20 International series 1-0.

Mithali's knock, her 11th T20 International half century, came from 48 deliveries and she hit six

fours, one six and carried her bat through the innings. India finished at 168 for three in 18.5 overs.

The 17-year-old Mumbai player Rodrigues also batted impressively, hitting four boundaries and a six during her breezy 27-ball knock.

After Rodrigues was out in the 14th over, Krishnamurthy did not allow the momentum to slow down, as she hit three boundaries and three sixes in her 22-ball innings.

The other opener, Smriti Mandhana, contributed 28 while one-down Harmanpreet Kaur was run out for nought in the first ball she faced. (PTI)

Sachin sparkles as GCCC drubs Harbhajan CA by 7 wkts

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 13: Sachin Sharma scored brilliant 56 runs off 38 balls to guide Game Changer Cricket Club (GCCC) to a 7-wicket win over Harbhajan Cricket Academy.

Punjab at the Academy's ground in Jalandhar.

GCCC chased a total of 140 runs easily by losing 3 wickets, with Sachin scoring magnificent 56 runs and Avinash contributing 23 runs to the total.

Earlier, Harbhajan Cricket Academy scored 140 runs in the stipulated 20 overs. Abhinav took 3 wickets for GCCC.

Sachin was declared as the best batsman and was awarded with a trophy.

Jammu District Cyclists selected

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 13: Jammu and Kashmir Cycling Association has selected Jammu District Cycling team to participate in the forthcoming State Cycling Championship to be held in the month of March, 2018.

The team was selected during Jammu District Cycling Championship at MA Stadium, here.

The Team: Arsh Deep Singh (U-14), Arnab Gupta, Raman Manhas and Raghav Gupta (all U-16), Aakershait Pathak, Akash Bhat and Rohit Kumar (all U-19), while Aakershait, Akash and Chitsres will also participate in seniors category.

The coaching camp and the training of the team will begin from February 20, 2018 under the supervision of Ajay Kumar.

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'Women Alive' hosts fitness event

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 13: 'Women Alive', a fitness establishment at Channi Himmat hosted fitness event to commemorate the 6th anniversary of opening its doors on the same date in 2012.

'Women Alive' is a locally owned and operated health and fitness facility dedicated to improve the quality of life of women and helping them to meet and exceed their fitness goals.

'Women Alive' has established itself as an exclusive fitness facility for women with an

atmosphere that provides real results.

Owner Monika Manohar and the staff honoured the fitness achievers of the past year and were proud to have assisted their fitness journey.

Akanksha Gupta and Ravinder Kour were titleholders as Ms and Mrs Women Alive respectively.

The event was hosted at The Ritz Manor, Channi Himmat and was conceptualized and managed by Khushboo Khorana.

Meena Manohar was the chief guest on the occasion.

Gaikwad to bestow tips to Sr cricketers at MGCA

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 13: Ace cricket coach, Atul Gaikwad is all set to visit Mayank Goswami Cricket Academy (MGCA) soon and will be conducting a high level coaching clinic for the academy's senior players to bestow important tips to them.

In addition, he will also be conducting camp for intermediate players, besides exploring talent at the bud by conducting basic beginners' level camp.

Dr Atul Gaikwad is one of the most sort after coaches in the country and is constantly on assignments in countries like Singapore and Dubai.

Atul Gaikwad is a Level Academy said.

MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Commander Works Engineers, Udhampur, P.O: Garhi, Udhampur 182121 on behalf of President of India invites e-tender in two covers from eligible enlisted contractors of MES and enlisted/un-enlisted contractor & working with other Govt Department meeting eligible criteria for selection of contractors in MES for the under mentioned work:-

1. REFERENCE NO: CWE(U/S)-81/2017-2018:

Name of Work	: SPL REPAIR TO BLDG NO P-175 (OR COOK HOUSE AND DINNING HALL) OF 4 PARA (SF) UNDER GE SOUTH UDHAMPUR.
Estimated Cost	: Rs. 38.30 Lakhs
Period of Completion	: 06 Months
Tender ID	: 2018_MES_171959_1

2. REFERENCE NO: CWE(U/N)-82/2017-2018:

Name of Work	: PROVON OF PARKING SHED FOR 2.5 TON/ALS VEHs, PARKING SHED FOR LT VEHs & SUN/RAIN PROTECTION SHED AT MAIN GATE AND PATHWAY FROM HQ LINE NP-19 TO MAIN GATE UNDER GE NORTH UDHAMPUR.
Estimated Cost	: Rs. 41.87 Lakhs
Period of Completion	: 06 Months
Tender ID	: 2018_MES_171420_1

NOTES:

- For all detail please visit web site www.eprocuremes.gov.in
- For submission of e-bids, bidder are required to get registered with website eprocuremes.gov.in alongwith having class-II or Class-III DSC issued by CCA under IT act 2003.
- In no case, subletting of tender is permitted.
- Commander Works Engineer reserves the right to reject/cancel any or all tenders without assigning any reason.
- Notice Inviting Bid as published in newspapers shall not form part of Notice of Tender/Bid document.
- Type of tender (lump sum/tem rate etc) shall be as applicable and bid system shall be specifically mentioned as decided by Accepting Officer.

Sd/- (Vaibhav Vishwakarma) EE (SG) (QS&C) DCWE (Contracts) for CWE

DAVP/10102/11/2384/1718

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Office of the Collector Land Acquisition (Assistant Commissioner, Rev), Udhampur

Phone No: - 01992-270397, Fax No: - 01992-271845, E-mail Id: udhampur@nic.in, squadhampur@gmail.com

Subject:- Notification U/S 4 (1) of the Jammu and Kashmir Land Acquisition Act No X of 1990 BK construction of road from "Ritti to Kuperala" under PMGSY in village Mandolat Tehsil & District Udhampur.

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred upon me under section 4(1) of the land acquisition act 1990 BK. I Subhash Chander Dogra, (KAS) Collector Land Acquisition, Assistant Commissioner, (Rev) Udhampur do hereby notify the land measuring 13 Marlas particulars of which shown below is likely to be needed for public purpose namely for construction of road from "Ritti to Kuperala" under PMGSY in village Mandolat Tehsil & District Udhampur.

Objections if any to the acquisition of the said land will be received by undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notification in Govt. Gazette.

S. No.	Name of District	Name of Tehsil	Name of village	Khasra No.	Area			Kind of soil
					K	M	S	
1	Udhampur	Udhampur	Mandolat	36min	0	13	0	Hail
G. Total					0	13	0	

Sd/- (Subhash Chander Dogra) KAS Collector Land Acquisition (Assistant Commissioner, Rev) Udhampur

DIP/J-3575-Notification Dt: 12-2-2018