

Upbeat India take on West Indies in tri-series today

KINGSTON, June 29: On a roll after their Champions Trophy triumph, the Indian cricket team would aim to continue the unbeaten run when they take on the West Indies, who would be eyeing revenge, in their opening clash of the tri-nation ODI series, here tomorrow.

The Indians got barely a few days to rejoice after their Champions Trophy win before boarding the flight to the Caribbean and fatigue could be the only worry for a side which looks in unbeatable form.

The West Indians, on the other hand, would be eager to extract revenge for the loss to India in a Champions Trophy group match.

The hosts have in fact, started impressively in the ongoing series mauling Sri Lanka in their lung-opener. The biggest positive from the game was the return to form of Chris Gayle, who was slightly off-colour in the Champions Trophy.

Gayle's marauding hundred, which included seven sixes and nine fours, helped the West Indies overhaul a 209-run target in a mere 37.5 overs. He would without doubt be the backbone of the

West Indian batting against India as well. Both the sides are well aware of each other's strengths and weaknesses as their key players have played in the Indian Premier League either with or against each other.

Interestingly, rival captains Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Dwayne Bravo are Chennai Super Kings teammates while Virat Kohli and Chris Gayle turned out for Royal Challengers Bangalore.

A look at the teamsheets will, however, give India the edge. Their batting looks in awesome form. Rohit Sharma, as an opener, proved to be a success in the Champions Trophy.

His partner Shikhar Dhawan is also in sublime form and was the star of India's title-winning campaign. And it is unlikely that India will disturb the winning combination that saw Dinesh Karthik promoted to No. 4 and Dhoni up at No. 5 ahead of Suresh Raina.

On the other hand, in spite of their enormous potential, the West Indies remain a fickle lot. But there is no denying that West Indies have the experience and the talent to give the Indians a run for their money.

Gayle, Johnson Charles, Darren Bravo and Marlon Samuels can see off India's new ball bowlers -- the troika of Umesh Yadav, Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Ishant Sharma -- but will have to apply themselves.

West Indies will surely test the Indian batsmen with both speed and spin. Pacers Kumar Roach and Ravi Rampaul can be a handful while spinner Sunil Narine will always have a few tricks up his sleeve.

Squads (from): India: Mahendra Singh Dhoni (capt), Ravichandran Ashwin, Shikhar Dhawan, Ravindra Jadeja, Dinesh Karthik, Virat Kohli, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Amit Mishra, Mohammed Shami, Suresh Raina, Ishant Sharma, Rohit Sharma, Murali Vijay, Vinay Kumar, Umesh Yadav.

The West Indies: Dwayne Bravo (capt), Chris Gayle, Johnson Charles, Darren Bravo, Marlon Samuels, Kieron Pollard, Devon Smith, Darren Sammy, Denesh Ramdin (wk), Sunil Narine, Tino Best, Ravi Rampaul, Kumar Roach. (PTI)

Gayle blasts ton as Windies start campaign with easy win

KINGSTON, June 29: Opener Chris Gayle was at his attacking best as he smashed a 100-ball 109 to fashion an easy six-wicket victory for the West Indies against Sri Lanka in the opening match of the Tri-nation One-Day series here.

The big-hitting Gayle blasted nine fours and seven sixes in front of his home crowd to make an easy work of the 209-run target at the Sabina Park.

This was Gayle's 21st ODI ton and third on this ground, the previous one coming against New Zealand last year.

Even as Gayle got out after bringing his side to the doorstep of victory -- the West Indies needed just 28 runs for win in 19 overs -- they lost two more wickets after the Jamaican's dismissal.

But skipper Dwayne Bravo and Marlon Samuels kept their cool to see the hosts through for a bonus-point win with 73 balls to spare.

After helping himself to two fours, Gayle did what he is best at -- hitting Jeevan Mendis straight over his head for a six to get the local crowd on their feet.

That was just the beginning of Gayle's assault as he hoicked Nuwan Kulasekara over deep midwicket for another maximum. The next ball was carted over wide long-off for same result.

Sri Lanka's pace spearhead Lasith Malinga was not spared either as his fast bouncer flew off a top-edge for six.

Mendis was hit for two more sixes before Rangana Herath found himself at the receiving end of Gayle's onslaught.

Gayle got to his century with a cheeky single to mid-off, got down on his knees, arms aloft, to celebrate yet another awe-inspiring knock.

Kieron Pollard was unlucky to have been wrongly given out lbw by fellow Jamaican Joel Wilson, Darren Bravo's run out seemed unnecessary.

Earlier, West Indies rode on Sunil Narine's 4/40 to bowl out Sri Lanka for a modest total despite skipper Angelo Mathews' battling, unbeaten half-century.

Mathews scored 55 off 77 balls to help Sri Lanka put up a 200-plus total after Mahela Jayawardene's (52 off 52 balls) early enterprise. (PTI)



Participating Principals, mentors, AWES officials posing for a photograph alongwith the Chief of the Army Staff, General Bikram Singh during a workshop.

All India APS' workshop concludes

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, June 29: Five days workshop for newly recruited 25 Principals of Army Public Schools (APS) all over India was held in HQ AWES, New Delhi.

Workshop was inaugurated by Chief of Army Staff, General Bikram Singh, while mentors for the workshop included KCS Mehta, Principal APS Akhnoor, Jakhar Principal APS Hissar, Tanden, Principal APS Kanpur, Dr Vijay Dutta, Principal APS Dakshai, Mathur, Principal APS Lucknow, Rama Rao, Principal APS Bangalore.

MD AWES, Maj General BS Daulta assured that quality education is imparted to the wards of Army Personnel in all 130 APS' where more than 1.5 lakh children of serving Army Personnel, ESM and Civilians are studying.

Chief of Army Staff, General Bikram Singh in his address highlighted the duties of school leaders for providing quality education and prepare students for defence services and other competitive examinations.

While wishing for a value education and life skills to be taught, Singh said that APS' will get full support in terms of providing best infrastructure, besides technical and teacher training programmes.

The workshop lasted for five days in which the topics discussed were discussion of leadership for 21st Century, quality education, academic leadership, holistic empowerments, life skills, effective communication skills, exploiting library resources, child friendly schools and health care for students and teachers.

The resource persons of the workshop were Dr KP Singh HoD, Delhi University, Mukesh Kohli from Physical Education Congress, Dr Jatinder Nagpal, Senior Consultant Psychologist and Col A Datta, Dir AWES, Brig. HPS Dhillon.

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Minister for Tourism, GA Mir flagging off Leg-2 of 4th Mughal Road Car Rally at Verinag.

Mir flags off Leg-2 of 4th Mughal Road Car Rally

Excelsior Sports Correspondent
SRINAGAR, June 29: In a bid to expand the tourism avenues in unexplored potential areas of South Kashmir, the leg 2 of 4th edition of Mughal Road Car Rally was flagged off by Minister for Tourism, Ghulam Ahmad Mir from Verinag, Saturday morning.

Under Leg 2 (extreme) the rally passes through Srinagar, Khanabal-Larkipora-Nowpora-Doru-Bongund-Verinag-Batagund-Kokernag, Daksum-Sinthan Pass and back to Srinagar.

"This is a big step towards promotion of adventure tourism in South Kashmir", tourism Minister said adding that such events prove beneficial in exploring untouched areas with lush green and adventure spots in South Kashmir including Sinthan Pass, Peer Ki Gali, Bafliaz and picturesque medieval Mughal Sarai at Alibag along the historic Mughal road that connects

Kashmir valley with Rajouri and Poonch districts of Jammu division.

He said the rally also encourages the youth of the State to come forward and participate in adventure tourism. He said the Jammu Kashmir tourism is not only popular for its animated natural beauty and splendid architecture but is also renowned as an ideal destination for adventure sports, adding that Government endeavors to explore it fully to attract high end adventure lovers to the visit of the State adding that in this regard several adventure activities including river rafting, paragliding, heli-skiing, mountain trekking have been already started at different adventure spots, which is receiving good attention by enthusiastic adventure lovers.

As Tourism Minister flagged off the rally, 53 adventure lovers hit the Doru-Verinag-Kokernag-Sinthan-Kishtwar road in 31 vehicles including motor cycle riders.

J&K fencers sparkle in 5th Federation Cup

Excelsior Sports Correspondent
JAMMU, June 29: J&K fencers blossomed in the 5th Fencing Federation Cup held at Patalia in Punjab, recently.

In sabre team event, J&K fencers defeated Services which reigned crown from last four years. In a neck to neck fight, J&K prevailed over Services by (45-44). The sabre team included Rahsid Ahmad, Ujwal Gupta and Vishal Thappar.

In sabre individual, Vishal Thappar won bronze, while in foil individual Javed Ahmad claimed bronze.

By winning one gold and

two bronze medals J&K secured 13 points and claimed third sport in the Cup, while Services with 16 points bagged overall Championship and Manipur with 14 points clinched second spot.

Chotu Lal accompanied the team as coach and Rashid Ahmed as captain.

Eight teams participated in the event.

Secretary J&K State Sports Council, Dalip Thussoo and the office bearers of J&K Fencing Association congratulated the team coach, captain and the medal winners for this landmark achievement.

Army organizes seminar on Communal Harmony, National Integration

Excelsior Correspondent
BHADRAWAH, June 29 : To promote everlasting peace and prosperity in the region of the Rashtriya Rifles located at Bhaderwah under the aegis of Counter Insurgency Force (Delta) organised "A Seminar on Communal Harmony and National Integration" at Tourist Reception Centre (TRC), here today.

In the seminar, Army organised Slogan Writing Competition, Collage Making Competition and a Peace Run in Doda district with the theme as Communal Harmony and National Integration. The youth of the area actively participated in the events and spread the message of peace, prosperity and brotherhood.

Major General A K Singh, Sena Medal, General Officer Commanding, Delta Force, Mr Naresh Kumar Gupta, MLC Bhaderwah presented welcome address.

Bhaderwah, DIG Shakoore Wani, Brig A N Jha, Commander 4 Sector Rashtriya Rifles and renowned intellectuals from J&K state presented their views on the occasion.

A total of 700 persons from Armed Forces, Civil Administration, Police, CRPF, Schools, College, University and other prominent citizens of Bhaderwah attended the seminar. Cultural programme on the theme was organised during the seminar by theatre group consisting of young and vibrant youths of 'Sangam Theatre Group'. Prize winner of Slogan Writing Competition, Collage Making Competition and Peace Run were facilitated during the seminar by the dignitaries present.

Earlier, Naresh Kumar Gupta, MLC Bhaderwah presented welcome address.



Students posing for a group photograph during concluding function of Summer Camp at Adarsh College of Education.

Summer Camp concludes at ACE

Excelsior Sports Correspondent
JAMMU, June 29: To explore inherent talent of children, Adarsh College of Education (ACE) organized a five days Summer Camp for the students of villagers in its College premises at Tarore, here.

60 students drawn from various schools of this area participated in the Camp.

Earlier, the Camp was inaugurated by the chairman of the College, AK Kapoor, who while speaking had said that the aim of the Camp is to provide opportunity to inculcate healthy habits among the children and to encourage them to pursue various activities of their choice. Rahul Kapoor, Secretary and Poonam Chib, Principal along with all faculty members of the College were present on the occasion.

As part of the programme, Classes on Art and Craft,

Computer Training Programme, Dance and Music, Games and Sports, English Vocabulary etc were conducted under the guidance and supervision of experts in respective fields. The students while showing keen interest in all the activities of the Camp, also learnt how to prepare useful things like photo

frame, piggy bank, pen holder etc with the waste material.

PB Kapoor, Managing Director Adarsh Educational Trust was present on the concluding function, who while speaking on the occasion assured that activities which help in developing personality would be organized in future also.

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Bank faces Police in football final today

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

SRINAGAR, June 29: J&K Bank XI will lock horns with J&K Police XI in the summit clash of the 22nd State Football Championship at Polo Ground, here tomorrow.

According to an official handout issued by the organizers-Jammu and Kashmir Football Association, Minister for Youth Services and Sports and Medical Education will be chief guest on the valedictory function and will distribute the prizes, while SM Sahai, Additional DGP, Basharat Ahmad Dhar, MD JKPCD, Abdul Hamid Bandy, Executive President JK Bank Limited, Rouful Hassan, IGP and Dilip Thussu, Secretary, J&K State Sports Council will be the guests of honour.

Young Lalchowk trounces Young Iqbal Sports in football

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

SRINAGAR, June 29: Young Lalchowk defeated Young Iqbal Sports by two goals to nil (2-0) in the 'A' Division match of the football league at Polo Ground, here today.

Earlier, the players of both the teams showed aggression and defence in the first half, yet failed to score any goal. However, in the second half, Irshad Bhat of Young Lalchowk scored a splendid goal in the 59th minute, while Zahid Bhat of the same team pelted a superb goal in the 68th minute to help his team win by (2-0) goals.

Meanwhile, in the Super Division match played between Young Maharaja and Safaloo 'A', the former drubbed the latter by a solitary goal as Niyaz Ahmad managed to score a fabulous goal in the second half, after a goalless first half.

In this Tournament of District Srinagar, 14 teams are taking part in Super and 'A' Division, while 75 teams are participating in 'B' Division.

Navneet bags 'Outstanding Science Teacher Award'

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 29: In recognition of his contribution to Science Education, Navneet



Gupta, a teacher at Government High School, Thandapani, Rajouri bagged the CNR Rao Education Foundation Prize for Outstanding Science Teacher from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), University Bangalore, recently.

The award was presented to Navneet by Prof Mrs Rao, president JNCASR in an impressive function.

Navneet has the honour of being the recipient of Innovative Science Teacher Award 2011, Best Teacher Award and Best Guide Teacher Award.

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INDIAN RAILWAYS HAS REVISED TICKET REFUND RULES

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Main Highlights of the Revised Refund Rules

Reserved Tickets

- Full refund (minus cancellation charge) shall be given if confirmed reserved ticket is surrendered 48 hours before the scheduled departure of the train.
- 25 per cent of the fare as cancellation charge if the confirmed reserved ticket is presented between 48 hours to 6 hours before the scheduled departure of train.
- 50 per cent of the fare as cancellation charge if the confirmed reserved ticket is presented between 6 hours before the scheduled departure of the train and 2 hours after the actual departure of the train. (irrespective of distance)

Unreserved Tickets

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- Will be refunded subject to deduction of clerkage charges if presented upto 3 hours after the actual departure of the train.
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- Allowed provided the ticket is surrendered at least 48 hours before the scheduled departure of train in which originally booked.
- Allowed for the same destination for the same or higher class in the same or any other train.

Refund of fare under other circumstances - bandh, agitation, floods etc.

- Ticket Deposit Receipt (TDR) shall be issued to the passengers upto 3 days after the scheduled departure of the train. Refund may be applied **within 10 days** from the day of commencement of journey.

No hike in the existing clerkage/cancellation charges

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KCCE holds Annual Day-cum-Prize Distribution Function

Excelsior Sports Correspondent
JAMMU, June 29: KC College of Education held its Annual Day-cum-Prize Distribution Function in the College premises, here today.

Sudesh Gupta, VSM, Chief Administrator, KC Educational Society was the chief guest on the occasion.

The programme began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp followed by Saraswati Vandana and thereafter a variety of cultural items were presented to make the occasion appealing and colourful.

Paes, Bhupathi, Bopanna advance with contrasting victories

Excelsior Sports Correspondent
LONDON, June 29:

Indian players enjoyed a fine outing at the Wimbledon with the seasoned trio of Leander Paes, Mahesh Bhupathi and Rohan Bopanna winning their respective men's doubles matches to progress into the third round, here today.

Fourth seeds Paes and his Czech partner Radek Stepanek sailed past Britain's Jamie Delgado and Australia's Matthew Ebden in straight sets 6-4 6-4 6-3 in an hour and 55 minutes. Eight seeded Indo-Australian

pair of Bhupathi and Julian Knowle came from a set down to get the better off Nicholas Monroe of the US and German Simon Stadler 3-6 6-4 6-4 6-2 in a tough battle that lasted for two hours and 22 minutes.

They will now take on the Canadian pair of Jesse Levine and Vasek Pospisil.

Bopanna and his French-partner Edouard Roger-Vasselin had to fight hard before prevailing over Daniel Brands and Lukas Rosol in a gruelling five setter of three-hour duration.(PTI)