

Delhi Capitals get off to a flier, beat Mumbai Indians

MUMBAI, Mar 27:

Lalit Yadav played the innings of his life with an unbeaten 48 while Axar Patel smashed 38 not out off just 17 balls as a depleted Delhi Capitals started their IPL campaign with a stunning four-wicket win over Mumbai Indians here today.

Chasing a challenging 178, Delhi were down 72 for 5 inside 10 overs but the lesser-known Delhi all-rounder Yadav stayed calm during his 38-ball unbeaten knock to take his side home.

India all-rounder Patel chipped in with a quick fire 17-ball 38 not out as DC overhauled the target with 10 balls to spare.

Yadav smashed four boundaries and two sixes, while Patel had two hours and three maximums as the duo stitched a match-winning 75-run partnership from 30 balls for the seventh wicket.

After an ordinary day with the ball (4-0-40-0), Patel kept his best for the run chase after Delhi lost their key batters -- Prithvi Shaw (38), Rishabh Pant (1), Rovman Powell (0) -- cheaply.

Mumbai looked ordinary in their pace attack with Jasprit Bumrah returning wicketless (3.2-0-43-0).

They were also sloppy on the field as Patel made full use of his dropped catch by Daniel Sams on 15.

Sams also leaked 24 runs in the 18th over with Yadav hitting

him for back-to-back four and six, while Patel hammered a monstrous six in the final ball to seal the chase, reaching 179 for 6 in 18.2 Overs.

With their star Australian recruit David Warner unavailable for initial few matches, Kiwi recruit Tim Seifert sizzled in his new opening role for Delhi.

He took on Bumrah up front, and lofted the India's pace spearhead over his head for a boundary. Seifert dished out another stunner against Bumrah, this time a lofted drive over cover in a shot that had class written all over it.

At the other end, Shaw started it off with a six off Basil Thampi as DC cruised to 30 in three overs.

Rohit introduced leg-spinner Murugan Ashwin (4-0-14-2) in the fourth over and that move paid dividends.

Ashwin deceived Seifert with a wrong one to clean up the Kiwi wicketkeeper-batter through the gate.

He next had Mandeeep Singh in the space of one delivery with the batter gifting his wicket off a high full toss.

After Ashwin's twin breakthroughs, Thampi (4-0-35-3) rocked Delhi with his triple strikes -- Shaw, Rovman Powell and Shardul Thakur.(PTI)

TODAY'S FIXTURE

Gujarat Titans V/s Lucknow Super Giants - 7:30 PM

SCOREBOARD

Mumbai Indians:			
Rohit Sharma	c Powell b Kuldeep	41	
Ishan Kishan	not out	81	
Anmolpreet Singh	c Lalit Yadav b Kuldeep	8	
Tilak Varma	c Shaw b Ahmed	22	
Kieron Pollard	c Seifert b Kuldeep	3	
Tim David	c Mandeep b Ahmed	12	
Daniel Sams	not out	7	
Extras: (LB-1 W-2)		3	
Total: (For 5 wickets in 20 overs)		177	
Fall of wickets:	1/67 2/83 3/117 4/122 5/159		
Bowling:	Shardul Thakur 4-0-47-0, Khaleel Ahmed 4-0-27-2, Axar Patel 4-0-40-0, Kamlesh Nagarkoti 2-0-29-0, Kuldeep Yadav 4-0-18-3, Lalit Yadav 2-0-15-0.		

Delhi Capitals:			
Prithvi Shaw	c Ishan Kishan b Basil Thampi	38	
Tim Seifert	b M Ashwin	21	
Mandeep Singh	c Tilak Varma b M Ashwin	0	
Rishabh Pant	c Tim David b Tymal Mills	1	
Lalit Yadav	not out	48	
Rovman Powell	c Daniel Sams b Basil Thampi	0	
Shardul Thakur	c Rohit b Basil Thampi	22	
Axar Patel	not out	38	
Extras: (LB-4, W-7)		11	
Total: (For 6 wks, 18.2 Overs)		179	
Fall of Wickets:	30-1, 30-2, 32-3, 72-4, 72-5, 104-6		
Bowler:	Daniel Sams 4-0-57-0, Jasprit Bumrah 3.2-0-43-0, Basil Thampi 4-0-35-3, Murugan Ashwin 4-0-14-2, Tymal Mills 3-0-26-1.		



BJP leader Devender Singh Rana awarding a player in presence of other dignitaries at Nagrota.

Nagrota warriors clinches Easter Cup Cricket Trophy

Rana lauds J&K cricketers making mark in national, IPL events

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

NAGROTA Mar 27: Nagrota Warriors today defeated New Life Church Cricket Club Prem Nagar by four wickets in the keenly watched 2nd Easter Cup Cricket Tournament.

While Ramesh Mashi of Nagrota Warriors was declared as Man of the Match, Prem Singh of the same team was adjudged as Man of the Series.

In all, 14 teams participated in the tournament, which drew a large number of cricket lovers to watch the matches.

Giving away the Winner and Runner Up trophies, BJP leader Devender Singh Rana appreciated the players for their excellence in the game, saying there is no dearth of talent in Jammu and Kashmir and their capabilities and make a mark in national and international sports events.

He said Jammu and Kashmir has already produced some ace cricketers who are making their mark in the national team as well in the IPL. This is highly encouraging and rekindles hope about best of

the times in the field of cricket.

"Our youngsters are second to none and provided opportunities, coaching and avenues, the day is not far when they will shine in the cricket horizon of the country", Rana said.

He appreciated the enthusiasm among the budding cricketers and said that over month long competitions will place them in good stead to face the competitive world with vigour and confidence. He wished success to the participants, saying though just one team will make it to the top yet this should not be the end of the game. "In sports there is always another time", he said and hoped that by emulating this spirit the players will do their best and play with commitment.

Rana also complimented the organizers for holding the tournament, saying this will go a long way in providing larger canvass to the budding cricketers. He said holding of such events are imperative for identifying talent, sharpening them and to provide them opportunities to perform, first at a limited scale and then in various tournaments at the local and the national level.

Punjab Kings stun RCB by five wickets

NAVI MUMBAI, Mar 27:

Newly-appointed skipper Faf du Plessis' scintillating 57-ball 88 went in vain as Punjab Kings produced a solid batting display to script a successful chase for a five-wicket win over Royal Challengers Bangalore in a thrilling IPL match here today.

While Du Plessis showed his six-hitting prowess, hammering seven maximums in his whirlwind knock, Virat Kohli also chipped in with an unbeaten 41 off 29 balls and Dinesh Karthik made a quick fire 32 not out as RCB posted a massive 205 for 2 after being invited to bat.

The chase was steep but not impossible and Punjab produced a sensational effort to overhaul the target, scoring 208 for 5 with an entire over to spare.

While Mayank Agarwal (32 off 24) and Shikhar Dhawan (43 off 29) added 71 for the first wicket to lay the foundation for the chase, Bhanuka Rajapaksa (43 off 22) also shone on his IPL debut but Punjab suffered a collapse to be down and out at 156 for 5.

However, Shahrukh Khan (24 not out off 20 balls) and Odean Smith (25 not out off 8 balls) then joined hands to complete the job in the end. The duo shared a 52-run unbroken stand off just 25 balls for the sixth wicket to take Punjab home.

Smith smashed three sixes and a four off Mohammed Siraj in the 18th over to accumulate 25 runs and bring down the equation to 11 from the final two overs.

Shahrukh, who hit one four and two maximums, finished the game with a boundary as Mayank Agarwal started his captaincy tenure with a win.

Earlier, RCB skipper du Plessis and Kohli added 118 runs for the second wicket after the former and Anuj Rawat (21) had laid the foundation with their 50 run-stand.

R C B amassed 11 'extra' runs, off the second over off Arshdeep Singh. Du Plessis got his first boundary in the third, while in the same over, Rawat hit his first maximum, as RCB raced to 23/0.

Rawat hit successive boundaries in the sixth over, off Odean Smith.

But leg-spinner Rahul Chahar (1/22) cut shot Rawat's stay by cleaning him up in the seventh over.

Kohli came in and he took time to settle down.

After successive twos, Kohli's first maximum came in the 10th over as RCB fetched 13 runs off it and at 70/1, the foundation was

laid for a big total. The former South Africa skipper, who got a 'life', made optimum use of it and then upped the

SCOREBOARD

Royal Challengers Bangalore:			
Faf du Plessis	c Shahrukh Khan	88	
Anuj Rawat	b Arshdeep Singh	21	
Virat Kohli	b Rahul Chahar	41	
Dinesh Karthik	not out	32	
Extras: (B-5, LB-6, W-12)		23	
Total: (2 wks, 20 Overs)		205	
Fall of Wickets:	50-1, 168-2		
Bowler:	Sandeep Sharma 4-0-37-0, Arshdeep Singh 4-0-31-1, Odean Smith 4-0-52-0, Rahul Chahar 4-0-22-1, Harpreet Brar 3-0-38-0, Liam Livingstone 1-0-14-0.		

Punjab Kings:			
Mayank Agarwal	c Shahbaz Ahmed b W Hasaranga	32	
Shikhar Dhawan	c Anuj Rawat b Harshal Patel	43	
Bhanuka Rajapaksa	c Shahbaz Ahmed b Siraj	43	
Liam Livingstone	c Anuj Rawat b Akash Deep	19	
Raj Bawa	lbw b Siraj	0	
Shahrukh Khan	not out	24	
Odean Smith	not out	25	
Extras: (lb 1, w 2.1)		22	
Total: (5 wks, 19 Ov)		208	
Fall of Wickets:	71-1, 118-2, 139-3, 139-4, 156-5		
Bowler:	David Willey 3-0-28-0, Mohammed Siraj 4-0-59-2, Shahbaz Ahmed 1-0-6-0, Akash Deep 3-0-38-1, Wanindu Hasaranga 4-0-40-1, Harshal Patel 4-0-36-1.		

ante, as the carnage started from the 12th over when he hammered a towering six off Liam Livingstone.

Du Plessis was brutal on Odean Smith, whom he hammered for a boundary and two successive sixes. He followed it up with two sixes off Harpreet Brar (0/38).(PTI)



Winners displaying medals and certificates while posing with dignitaries at Bantlab Jammu on Sunday.

2nd UT level Sport Climbing C'ship concludes

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: The 2nd UT level Sport Climbing Championship, organised by Mountaineering Association of J&K, concluded at Sprawling Buds ICSE School Bantlab, here today.

Shilpa Charak- an international climber clinched the women's title of the 2nd J&K UT Sport Climbing Championship, while Mrityunjay Sharma bagged the men's title. Shubam Sharma of Jammu District and Yawar Ahmad of Pulwama secured 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

In junior boys, the Gold, Silver and Bronze medals were won by Sapna Ranjan, Gourav Bhagat, both of Jammu district and Maroof Nazir of Budgam, respectively, whereas in sub junior girls, Zennie Bhagat from Kishtwar dazzled the crowd with her speed to top the 40ft high fibre glass wall in 2 minutes and 26 seconds and won the Gold medal. The Silver and Bronze medals were secured by Uzma Altaf of Budgam and Aradhna Manhas of Jammu.

A total of about 200 climbers from various districts participated in the championship, which was sponsored by J&K Sports Council.

General Secretary of the Association, Shawetika Khajuria was the president of the jury who was well supported by technical personnel and logistics from the IMF North Zone Committee, New Delhi.

At the valedictory function Ashwani Sharma, former MLA was the chief guest. He along with Rahul Sharma presented medals to the winners and mementoes to all the participating teams and technical officials. The chief guest appreciated the performance of the climbers during the competition and exhorted them to prepare for the next national and international competitions including the Olympics-2024.

Prominent persons including Seema Sharma, Director of host School, Ram Khajuria, senior vice president and other members of the Association were present during the event.



Winners displaying certificates while posing for a group photograph with Mayor Chander Mohan Sharma and others at GGM Science College Jammu on Sunday.

3rd UT level Cycling C'ship culminates at Science College

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: The 3rd UT level Cycling Championship, organised by Cycling Association of J&K (CAJK), sponsored by J&K Sports Council (JKSC), culminated at GGM Science College, here today.

Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta was the chief guest during the valedictory function and Principal GGM Science College Dr Ravender Kumar Tickoo was special guest. While speaking on valedictory function, the chief guest was impressed with the large participation and ever growing interest in Cycling.

Appreciating the efforts of Cycling Association of Jammu and Kashmir and overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of Jammu and Kashmir youth towards cycling, the Mayor promised to ensure Velodrome at Jammu besides 5 cycling tracks in Jammu.

In men MTB under-14, Arfat Bashir stood 1st, NowmanArshad bagged 2nd and Anurag Kapoor 3rd place, in under-17, Parvaiz Ahmad stood 1st, Adnan Bashir bagged 2nd and Hilal Ahmad Dar claimed 3rd place, in under-19, Sujal Basotra stood 1st, Harsh

Rajput bagged 2nd, Ayush Abrol clinched 3rd place, in under-23, Akash Bhat stood 1st, Manav Radha bagged 2nd and Fasil Shaji clinched 3rd place and in senior, Ayush Sharma stood 1st, Yawar Ali Khan bagged 2nd and Waheed Ahmad 3rd place.

In men road under-14, Arfat Bashir stood 1st, Shah Sahil Mansoor bagged 2nd and Kiran Saini 3rd place, in under 17, Adnan Bashir stood 1st, Hilal Ahmed Dar bagged 2nd and Mir Bahjat Nawal remained 3rd place, in under 19, Harsh Rajput stood 1st, Hashim U1 Nabi bagged 2nd place and Akash Sharma remained 3rd place, in under-23, Mohmish Ismail stood 1st, Shivrdar bagged 2nd and Moin Nabi Bhas stood 3rd place, in men senior, Waheed Ahmed stood 1st, Mansoor bagged 2nd and Parwez clinched 3rd place.

Earlier, President of the Association, Ravinder Singh presented a brief note on the objective of the two days Cycling championship, whereas vote of thanks was presented by general secretary Sarwant Singh Gill.

The chief guests felicitated technical and other officials of the tournaments.

Bhaderwah world peace marathon organised

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

BHADERWAH, Mar 27: Bhaderwah world peace marathon was organised by Army's Rashtriya Rifles (RR) in collaboration with Yuva Ek Sangharsh and Tourism Department to spread message of peace across world as well as divert the energy of youths in a positive way, wherein 500 students participated, here today.

The marathon was organised in three categories including 21km, 10 km and 5 km of different age groups in view of ongoing Ukraine-Russia War, beside to inculcate the sense of responsibility, oneness, communal harmony



DDC Chairman Dhananter Singh along with other dignitaries flagging off marathon at Bhaderwah on Sunday.

- Excelsior/Tilak Raj

and brotherhood among the participants especially youth. The marathon witnessed participation of officers of 4th RR and Tourism department along with students and athletes from different areas of J&K, which was flagged-off from Dak Bunglow, here by DDC Chairman Doda,

Dhananter Singh in presence of BDC Chairman Omi Chand and DDC Councillor Bhaderwah-West Yudhvir Thakur, while Yuva Ek Sangharsh president Nitin Manhas presided over the event.

The DDC Chairman urged youth to follow the principles of unity in diversity, mutual brotherhood and communal harmony and appreciated the enthusiasm and dedication of the participants, especially students. A runner, Anisa Nabi (JKAS) who came from Jammu to participate in the event appreciated the organisers for this event.

In 21 km, Pardeep, Suraj and



Participants of Delhi Marathon.

Kamal stood 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively, while in 10 km run, Mohd Younus, Neelam Singh and Sunny Kumar remained 1st, 2nd and 3rd and first three places were secured by Piyush, Amit and Rajit in 5 km. The winners were awarded cash prizes and certificates, while all participants were also presented certificates.

District Kho-Kho C'ship conducted

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

REASI, Mar 27: Two days District level Kho-Kho Championship was organised by District Association under the aegis of J&K Sports Council and J&K Olympic Association at General Zorawar Singh Sports Stadium, here today.

Pawan Dev Singh, senior BJP leader was the chief guest of the function wherein GDC Reasi men section team won the



Winning team celebrating victory at Panzgam in Kupwara on Sunday.

Women Cricket League inaugurated

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

KUPWARA, Mar 27: Indian Army organised Women Cricket League to empower girls in sports activities and provide a platform to showcase their talent and interest towards this sport at Panzgam village in Kupwara, here today.

A total of four teams have registered so far for this tournament. The inaugural match of the League was played between Rawatpora Riders and Chowkibal Chargers.

Rawatpora Riders won the toss and invited Chowkibal

final match by defeating Pouni Club by 7 points, whereas in women category, Pouni Club emerged winner by defeating Talwara Club by 5 points.

Prominent persons including Om Raj Sharma (President), Rattan Singh (General Secretary of District Association) Jhamir Singh (Vice-president), Darshan Thakur (Treasurer), Anagrez Singh and Romesh Chander (Organized Secretary) as well as others were present during the event.



Director Industries & Commerce, Mahmood Ahmad Shah flagging off the Carrom team along with others at TRC Srinagar.

UT level Carrom team flagged off

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 27: Mahmood Ahmad Shah (Director Industries & Commerce) flagged off J&K UT Carrom team in presence of Zeeshan Khan (Assistant Director J&K Tourism), Shafakat Shafi (Manager, SKISC), Rauf Tramboo (Former Member J&K Sports Council), Sameer Ahmed (Vice President), Adil Rashid Shah (General Secretary) and others from TRC, here today.

The team will represent J&K at 49th Senior National Carrom Championship, scheduled to be held at Dadar Mumbai, Maharashtra from March 30 to April 3 which is being hosted by Maharashtra Carrom Association and Mumbai District Carrom Association.

Ladakhi runners shine at Delhi Marathon

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

LEH, Mar 27: Tashi Ladol and Diskit Dolma today excelled in the 7th edition of the Ageas Federal



Participants of Delhi Marathon.

Half Marathon, while Diskit Dolma secured 3rd position in Elite Full Marathon with clocked timing of 3 hour 22mins 06 seconds to complete 42 km.

The championships started with the demonstration of Taekwondo skills by young boys and girls of different institutions.

The chief guest of the opening ceremony was Rof Ahmad, Under Secretary to the Government and president Civil Secretariat Employees Union, while Gurinder Rakwal vice president DJTA and Vikas Abrol were among the guests of honour.

Dr SM Bali is heading the charge of organizing committee along with Master Atul Pangotra as Tournament Director and Anuj Sharma as organizing secretary.

On the opening day, Arav Sharma, Muhammad Ayaan Adil, Siraaj Gupta, Soham Sharma, Aryan Singh Chib, Suryaansh Victor Sharma, Zubana Bhat, Mahnoor Naseer, Saksham Singh, Palak Bhadouria, Sanna Mehraj Sofi, Sumit Kumar, Laxmi Salaria, Firdous Mushtaq Lone, Musadiq Qayoom, Patras Masih, Janvi, Taneesha Devi, Ziya Shaheen, Aadeba Qureshi, Shrawan Kotwal, Rutba Majid, Aman Saleem Chandai, Hreedyansh, Kushagra Sharma, Palk Kumar and Satjeet Kumar won Gold medals in different categories.

The 26-year-old from Hyderabad has happy memories of this venue as she had also claimed the World Championships gold in 2019.

On Sunday, Sindhu registered her 16th win over Busanan in 17 meetings, having lost to the Thai only once -- at the 2019 Hong Kong Open, to claim the Super 300 crown, the second lowest tier of BWF Tour events.

Life Insurance New Delhi Marathon, organized by NEB Sports at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

Tashi Dolma secured first place and he finished the run with the timing of 1 hour 27 mins 49 seconds to complete 21 km in Elite

Playing her second successive final in the tournament, Sindhu, a double Olympic medallist, took 49 minutes to get the better of the fourth seeded Busanan 21-16 21-8 at the St. Jakobshalle here.

However, Pranroy suffered a 12-21 18-21 defeat against Asian Games gold medallist and fourth seed Jonatan Christie of Indonesia in a 48-minute summit clash to finish runner-up.

For Sindhu, it was a moment of glory as she finally lifted the trophy after losing to Rio Olympics gold medallist Carolina Marin of Spain in the final of last edition.

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Sindhu had won the Syed Modi International Super 300 in Lucknow in January this year.

Sindhu rode on her attack to open up a 3-0 lead but Busanan started to stay in the rallies and produced some good quality shots to make it 7-7.

Busanan tried to keep Sindhu away from the net initially, making her move across the court but the Thai was erratic in her finishing, allowing the Indian to go into the break with a narrow two-point lead.

Busanan used her deceptions and drop shots to dictate the rallies but Sindhu relied on her retrieval skills to stay ahead.(PTI)

24th UT level Taekwondo C'ship commences

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: 24th J&K UT Taekwondo Championships, organised by J&K Taekwondo Association, commenced at J&K Sports Council Indoor Sports Complex Bhagwati Nagar, here today.

Many senior coaches and athletes are taking part in this championship along with around 500 players from all the districts of J&K, while the competition is taking place over the fully electronic sensor scoring system.