India opener Shafali Verma marched back into the top-10 batters in the latest ICC Women's T20I Player

Wrapping up the five-match T20I series with 176 runs at a strike rate of 158.56, Shafali was the second-highest run-getter behind fellow opener Smriti Mandhana.

The 21-year-old was the star with the bat, top-scoring with 75 off 41 in India's last-ball defeat and has jumped four spots to ninth place with 655 points.

Another key contributor in India's 3-2 series win,



Reddy, snapped six wickets during the course of the series, also

Reddy, who scalped two

wickets in the final T20I leaped four spots to the 39th place in the Bowling Rankings and 26 spots to 80th among the All-Rounders.

Multiple England stars also made positive strides. Spinner Charlie Dean broke into the top 10 Bowling Rankings after a Player of

leap of eight spots to share sixth place with Nashra Sandhu and Georgia Wareham. Linsey Smith also gained nine places to the 38th place while pacer Issy Wong jumped seven places to the 50th. Emily Arlott, who made her England debut earlier this summer against the West Indies, improved 15 places to 67th. Sophia Dunkley, who was England's top scorer with 151 runs, gained seven points to 19th place in the Batting Rankings after vital contributions of 22 and 46

Jharkhand retains title in Sub-Junior

Ranchi, (UNI)

Jharkhand successfuly retained their title at the 15th Hockey India Women's National ip 2025, defeating Championship Odisha 1-0 in a closely contested match held at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda International

In the third-place match earlier in the day, Hockey Haryana edged out

tended by Jharkhand Minister for

Tourism, Art, Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs, Sudivya Kumar, and Hockey India General Secretary, Bholanath Singh. Trophies and medals were presented to the top three teams. Chief Minister Hemant Soren congratulated the Jharkhand team on its consecutive title win and extended best wishes to all participating teams. A total of 28 teams took part in the tournament, divided across three divisions-12 in Division A, 9 in Division B, and 7 in Di-

Jharkhand has now won the sub-

Starc, Boland sink West **Indies in Jamaica**



Jamaica, (UNI)

Australia's fast bowling brigade have made a statement here, bowling out the West Indies for the second-lowest Test total ever in a day of staggering num-

Mitchell Starc claimed the fastest ever Test five-wicket haul by balls bowled (15) while passing the 400-wicket milestone, with the unrelenting Scott Boland taking a hat-trick at the other end in the barrage.

The total of 27 is just one more run than the lowest Test total ever, when England bowled New Zealand out for 26 in 1955.

Starc had figures of 3/0 after his first over, and the target of 204 set by Australia looked out of reach when Starc's fifth left the hosts in a hole at 7/5.

Starc's 15-ball blitz broke Ernie Toshack's record for the fewest balls to a five-wicket haul set back in 1945, and there was no respite for the West Indies who then faced the wrath of Boland (3/2), who claimed Justin Greaves, Shamar Joseph and Jomel Warrican in successive deliveries.

Joseph and Warrican joined five other West Indians with ducks next to their name on the scorecard, with Starc's sixth scalp, clean bowling Jayden Seales, finishing off the job in just 14.3

Starc finished with figures of 6/9, the best innings figures of any player in their 100th Test, bettering Muthiah Muralidaran's 6/54 for Sri Lanka against Bangladesh in 2006, according to an ICC re-

India U20 women's coach Alexandersson eyes victorious ending to Uzbekistan tour

Tashkent, (UNI): After holding Uzbekistan to a 1-1 draw in the first U20 women's friendly match on Monday, India are gearing up to face the hosts again in the second and final game tomorrow at the Do'stlik Stadium at 20:30 IST. Like the first match, this one will also be played behind closed doors as per the mutual agreement between the teams, who are preparing for next month's AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers.

Sulanjana Raul's 79th-minute equaliser rescued a draw for the Young Tigresses after Uzbekistan took a 1-0 lead before the

Reflecting on the result, India head coach Joakim Alexandersson said that his side deserved a victory, but a slow start hampered the chances.

"It was a good game for our side. We struggled with our high press in the first 15-20 minutes. We were not aggressive enough. But with time, we improved and also started to create chances after good build-ups and movements.

'We dominated them in the second half, even though we conceded a couple of chances because of individual mistakes. But we created many more chances than they did, and, for sure, deserved a win. But you have to score goals with these chances," said the Swede.

The match was originally supposed to be played on Sunday but was postponed by over 24 hours due to operational challenges at the Do'stlik Stadium. Despite the unusual lastminute change in schedule, the Young Tigresses remained mentally focused and didn't let it affect their performance.

"The feeling was a bit negative for a short moment after we reached the venue on Sunday and learned that we wouldn't be able to play. But we are a tight group who have been together for a few months, so the girls handled it very well.

Women's Hockey Nationals

Hockey Stadium in Morabadi.

Hockey Mizoram via penalty shootout after both teams were tied 3-3 at full time. Haryana won 5-4 in the shootout.

The closing ceremony was at-

junior national title two years in a

ISL's Foreign Legends: Overseas stars who shaped Indian Football

The Indian Super League (ISL), since its launch in 2014, has been a transformative force in Indian football, with foreign players often serving as pivotal catalysts for change and growth.

While the league champions the development of young domestic talent, it was frequently the seasoned international recruits who injected the essential experience, sophisticated skill sets,

and unwavering winning mentalities that shaped the ISL's early narrative. According to the ISL's official plat-forms, only a select cadre of these overseas professionals managed to embed themselves so deeply within their club's ethos that their names became inextricably linked to the teams they represented, thereby setting new benchmarks for foreign contributions to Indi-

These influential figures earned their



distinguished places not merely through their accolades or statistics, but by consistently elevating standards through exemplary leadership and consistent, impactful performances. Among these standout foreign tal-

ents, goalkeeper Edel Bete earned a reputation as a "silverware magnet," securing two ISL Cups and the Golden Glove in 2015, a testament to his sharp reflexes and exceptional composure under pressure. In defence, Inigo Calderon emerged as a rare and influential foreign full-back for Chennaiyin FC, providing both defensive solidity and attacking impetus, proving crucial to their title success. Mourtada Fall be came a recognised name across three different ISL clubs, showcasing a pow erful blend of aerial dominance, defen sive resilience, and a notable ability to score goals from central defence, cementing his legacy through remarkable longevity and adaptability.

Tiri, holding the record for the most

ISL appearances by a foreign player consistently offered tactical discipline and a calming presence, adapting seamlessly across various teams and coaching philosophies. Meanwhile Bernard Mendy brought a touch of Premier League quality to Chennaiyin FC's defence, leading their backline with relentless energy and contributing vital goals, becoming an icon for the club's formative years.

Namo football tournament kicks off Hazaribag MP Sports Festival 2025

Gola (Ramgarh), (UNI) Hazaribag MP Manish

Jaiswal today opened the second edition ofA the constituency-wide Sansad Khel Mahotsav-

2025", launching the firstphase Namo Football Tournament at Purabdeeh ground in Gola block, Ramgarh district. A total of 52 teams from Gola are contesting

the opener. All players received tournament jerseys and each team a football sponsored by the MP. The champions will earn ?25,000, medals and a trophy; the runners-up Rs 15,000, medals and a Jaiswal said the festival

will run for two months



around 1,500 teams and served two minutes' si- to dampen player enthusiup from 883 teams and footballer Sachin Mahato Officials performed a 13,245 players in 2024. The and took a pledge against torch ceremony and team across all 22 blocks in the MP urged youth to stay substance abuse.

seat. Organisers expect kick-off, participants ob- Jaradih. Heavy rain failed around 1,500 teams and served two himself 22,500 players this year, lence for former local asm.

22,500 players this year, lence for former local asm.

Cook teams and footballer Sachin Mahato Officials performed a

introductions. Local "Bagh five Assembly segments of the Hazaribag Lok Sabha develop talent. Before the SFAC Rola against TFC guests.

Army Para Athletes triumph in Bengaluru, bag 12 medals

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh lauded para athletes of the Indian Army for showing their amazing performance in the 7th Indian Open Para Athletics International Championship 2025 in Bengaluru and bringing medals.

A total of 13 athletes of Indian Army participated in the International Championship 2025 and delivru from July 11 to 12.

Para Athletics Internation- cial media post. al Championship 2025,



ered an impressive performance thus winning 12 medals. The 7th Indian wonderful display of skill dianArmy during the Open Para Athletics Inter- and perseverance. They alnational Championship so showed immense grit 13 athletes of Indian Army 2025 was held in Bengalu- and resilience. Congratula- participated and delivered tions to everyone on their an impressive perfor-"The para athletes of the amazing performance," mance #IndianArmy shine bright Rajnath Singh post on X as medals. in the 7th Indian Open he tagged Indian Army so-

dianArmy during the Championship. This year, mance with a haul of 12

e tagged Indian Army so-al media post. In the championship, man Pradeep in Javelin Subedar Solairaj D, VSM, Throw (T-64); and Naik Ra-A spectacular display of secured a Gold Medal in jvir Singh in 200m (T-64).

Long Jump (T-64, Blade), setting a new Asian and National Record.

Subedar Hokato Sema also earned a Gold Medal in Sitting Shot Put (F57), and Subedar Ajay Kumar clinched Gold in the 200m (T-64, Blade). The Army's athletes also brought home four Silver Medals: Subedar Soman Rana, VSM, in Sitting Shot Put (F57); Subedar Ajay Kumar in 100m; Sepoy Jasbir in 400m (T47); and Sepoy Naresh in 200m (T-64) Furthermore, they earned five Bronze Medals: Sepoy Shubham Juyal in Sitting Shot Put (F-57); Sepoy Naresh in 100m (T-64); Naib Subedar Unni Renu in Long Jump (T-44); Rifle-

Yuvraj Singh aims to revolutionise golf ecosystem

The highly-anticipated Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL) today announced the onboarding of Indian cricket legend and golf enthusiast Yuvraj Singh as a co-owner and the brand am-

To achieve their mission of strengthening the foundation of the sport in India, IGPL has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Golf Union (IGU)— the official governing body for men's amateur golf in India. The landmark agreement underscores their joint commitment to nurturing emerging talent and building a sustainable pathway for India's Olympic golf aspira-

IGPL alo recently received support from the Sports Ministry and Yuvraj's addition to the elite board further sets the stage



for the league to bring on a true transformation in the overall

golfing ecosystem. his association with the IGPL, Yuvraj said, "It is a matter of great excitement to join the IGPL team and have the opportunity to promote this incredible sport in a fresh avatar. Despite being one of the most popular sports in the world, golf is still consid-

exactly what is needed to expand to more audiences, athletes and make golf more spectator friendly." "The tournament will also help in grooming Indian golfers and will help in their development with added apportunities We are confident. opportunities. We are confident IĜPL will help in popularising the sport among the masses in India along with providing a platform to golfers across the board to build their capabilities and compete," he said.

Uttam Singh Mundy, CEO of Expressing his delight over IGPL, also revealed the league's bold international ambitions, stating: "IGPL is not just India's league—it's India's gift to global golf. We will be taking our tour internationally in the very first year itself, creating opportunities for our players to compete globally and for international ered to be a niche sport and a golfers to experience India's fast-paced and quick format is emerging golf scene."

Dubai, (UNI)

The warm-up fixtures will take place between September 25-28 in the

to the main tournament, which runs from September 30 to Novem-

ber 2. All eight teams that have qualified for the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 will take part in the practice matches. Each team is scheduled to play two warm-up games, with the exception of Australia, who will feature in just one. Four venues have been designated for the warm-up matches – the Centre of Excellence Ground and M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Ben-



galuru, along with the R. Premadasa Štadium and Colombo Cricket Club Ground in Colombo. India 'A' and Sri Lanka 'A' will also feature in the warm-up fixtures, with India 'A'

scheduled to play one match and Sri Lanka 'A' set

to play two.
The warm-up fixtures kick off on September 25, with 2017 Finalists India and England facing off

while South Africa take on New Zealand in Bengaluru. At the same time in Colombo, Sri Lanka will Pakistan, while Bangladesh go up against Sri Lanka 'A'.