

Central Zone gain 118-run lead over West in semifinal

Bengaluru, (UNI)

Central Zone produced a powerful all-round batting performance on the third day of the Duleep Trophy semifinal to seize control against West Zone at the BCCI CoE Ground B here today.

Replies to West Zone's first-innings 438, Central stretched their total to 556 for 8 in 157 overs at stumps, carving out a significant 118-run lead.

With two days still remaining, the onus will be firmly on West Zone's batsmen to save the contest as Central have placed themselves in pole position to reach the final.

The day was defined by a string of half-centuries from Central batsmen, each stepping up to blunt the West Zone attack. Shubham Sharma's composed 96 anchored the top order, Rajat Patidar's brisk 77 provided early momentum, while middle-order contributions from wicketkeeper-batsman Upendra Yadav (87) and



allrounder Harsh Dubey (75) tilted the game decisively in Central's favour.

Resuming at 287 for 2, Central started the day positively with Patidar taking on the bowlers, striking four boundaries in a single over from offspinner Tanush Kotian.

His stroke-filled 77 from 84 balls pushed West Zone on the de-

fensive before left-arm spinner Dharmendrasinh Jadeja broke through with a classical dismissal, bowling him with a dipping delivery.

That breakthrough was quickly followed by the dismissal of Yash Rathod, brilliantly caught at slip by Ruturaj Gaikwad. Soon after, Shubham Sharma, who had ground his way into the 90s, fell to

a run-out for 96 after a mix-up – a cruel end to an innings that consumed 241 balls. At 322 for 5, West Zone sensed an opening.

But any hopes of a collapse were dashed as Harsh Dubey and Upendra Yadav came together in a match-defining partnership. The duo added 134 for the sixth wicket, mixing patience with controlled aggression.

Dubey, particularly, was fluent – raising his fifty in just 62 balls with a flurry of boundaries against the spinners.

Upendra, steady at the other end, notched his half-century off 84 balls and grew in confidence, lofting Shama Mulani for a six and punishing anything short.

Together, they not only erased the deficit but also took Central into the lead before Jadeja struck again to dismiss Dubey for 75. A brief rain interruption halted play, but Upendra fell soon after the resumption, attempting to clear Mulani but holing out for 87.



Classy Rahil Pillarisetty tops Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open race, close wins for Jagathishree, Raj Kumar, Venkatesh

Chennai, (UNI): Notching up his third win in five starts in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open class,

Hyderabad's Rahil Pillarisetty (RACR Castrol Power1) extended his lead on the points table in the third round of the MRF MMSC-FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit, at Irungattukottai, about 40 km from here, today.

The day's other winners in the National championship included Rajender Beedani (MAI Racing) from Hyderabad in the Stock 165cc (Novice) category and Chennai's Jagathishree Kumaresan (One Racing) who won a truncated

Girls (Stock 165cc) race.

Meanwhile, Raj Kumar (Motul Sparks Racing) from Coimbatore, topped the Stock 165cc (Novice) race and

Mohamed Mikhait (Mad Rabbit Racing) from Thiruvallur, won a close contest in the Stock 301-400cc (Novice) race, while Venkatesh Iyyappan (Rookies Racing) took the honours in the Pro-Stock 200cc Open race that saw fraction of a second separating the top three.

The 27-year-old Rahil, piloting a Yamaha R3, who started from pole position, carried far too much pace for the rest that ensured he had sufficient gap over his nearest rival, defending champion Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Racing) at the finish line.

Rahil's team-mate Bengaluru's Anish Damodara Shetty, a former two-time National champion, marked his return to racing after three years with a podium spot. Later, in one of the closest finishes, the top three in the Pro-Stock 200cc Open race crossed the line almost together with Venkatesh Iyyappan, who had started from P5, just ahead of Senthilkumar (RDX Torque Racing).

UTT National Ranking Table Tennis Championships from Sep 7

New Delhi, (UNI)

The absence of top paddlers like Manav Thakkar, G. Sathiyam and Sreeja Akula from the second UTT National Ranking Table Tennis Championships, starting tomorrow at the Thyagaraj Stadium, has done little to dim the spotlight on the event. If anything, the scale of participation is almost 3,000 entries across 12 categories – which signals the growing depth and competitive hunger within Indian table tennis. The figure surpasses the 2,587 entries in the season opener at Vadodara, reflecting the sport's expanding base.

The championships will open with the men's and women's singles,



where defending champions Manush Shah (RBI) and Anusha Kumbale (Railways) from the first event will look to extend their winning form. For Manav, the country's only men's player inside the world's top 50 (currently ranked 42), injury recovery takes priority ahead of next month's Asian Table Tennis Championships (ATTC) in Bhubaneswar.

Match against Oman a good preparation opportunity for India: Anwar Ali

New Delhi, (UNI)

India, in their debut appearance at the CAFA Nations Cup 2025, have had a win, a loss, and a draw thus far – results that have helped them pip hosts Tajikistan to the second spot in Group B.

The Blue Tigers, under new head coach Khalid Jamil, have exhibited discipline in defence that has pitted them against Oman in the third-place match of the play-off round, which is set to take place at the Hisor Central Stadium in Hisor, Tajikistan, on September 8, 2025, at 17:30 IST; the match will be streamed live on FanCode.

For India (133rd in the FIFA rankings), a match against higher-ranked Oman (79th) will go a long way in preparing them for their real objective, which is to qualify for the AFC Asian Cup 2027; they play two



matches (away and home) against Singapore next month.

Blue Tigers centre back Anwar Ali is relishing the opportunity to get another game in an India jersey. "An

international game is an international game, so when you get one extra match, it just gives you more time and more confidence, every time you play at this level."

"I think it's a good opportunity for us to prepare for the Asian Cup qualifiers. We will give it our best on Monday and try to get that third place," said Anwar. With Sandesh Jhingan ruled out for the rest of the tournament after he suffered a fractured jaw in the match against IR Iran, Anwar's role at the heart of the India defence, alongside makeshift centre-back Rahul Bheke, becomes all the more important. The 25-year-old certainly stepped up to the role, putting in an outstanding performance in the stalemate against Afghanistan, in their last game, an effort that earned him the Player of the Match award.

"He is obviously a big miss for us, but that's how things are in football. We hope he'll be back soon, but till then, the rest of us have to keep performing our roles, and keep filling in his boots," said Anwar.

BUSINESS

13th annual convocation held at VIT Chennai

Chennai: The 13th annual convocation of VIT Chennai



was held on Saturday (September 6, 2025). Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services, Government of Tamil Nadu, participated in the convocation ceremony as the chief guest and presented medals and degree certificates to rank holders and PhD scholars. Mr. Shelley Salehin, Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Deputy High Commission, Chennai, was the guest of honour. Dr. G. Viswanathan, Founder and Chancellor, Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), presided over the convocation ceremony. VIT Vice-Presidents Mr. Sankar

Viswanathan and Dr. G.V. Selvam took part in the convocation ceremony.

In his address, Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan stressed the importance of universal access to education for everyone across genders, communities, and religions. Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan ap-

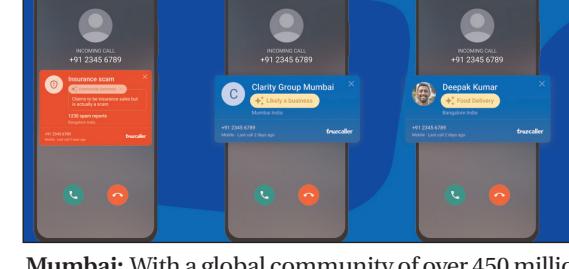
pealed to the youth to follow their own vision and path. He said education should make people have a softer view of society, and he said the concept of offering humanities, social sciences, and law in technical institutions was important.

VIT Founder & Chancellor

As many as 6,581 undergraduate, post-graduate, and research scholars received their degrees.

VIT Vice-Chancellor Dr. V.S. Kanchana Bhaskaran, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of VIT Chennai Dr. T. Thyagarajan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of VIT Vellore, Dr. Partha Sharathi Mallik, VIT Registrar Dr. T. Jayabarthi took part in the convocation ceremony.

Truecaller Transforms Caller ID with AI: Know Why They're Calling, Not Just Their Name



Mumbai: With a global community of over 450 million active users, Truecaller has become more than just a caller ID service; it's a trusted guide in helping people understand not only who is reaching out, but the intent behind every call.

Truecaller has now started providing deeper contextual insights using AI on incoming calls received by its users, going way beyond showing just the caller's name. This includes AI summaries of user comments as well. From flagging potential fraud and identifying

likely spam to suggesting relevant business categories, this information is delivered instantly, powered by advanced AI classification models and continuously enriched by millions of daily reports from its highly engaged user community. This real-time intelligence not only enhances user trust and safety but also reinforces Truecaller's leadership in the next generation of caller identification technology. While the company also offers a Verified Business badge for official brand identities, the majority of contextual insights shown to users are generated dynamically by AI – requiring no manual labeling or business registration.

While basic caller ID services provided by telecom operators have traditionally offered little more than a name (when available) and sometimes a simple spam tag, Truecaller, on the other hand, leverages AI and real-time insights, making it a far more intelligent layer of protection.

"People hesitate to answer unknown calls because they lack context and in today's world, context is everything," said Rishit Jhunjhunwala, Global CEO of Truecaller.

Prime PR wins Quality Mark Awards 2025

Indore: Prime PR, the youngest and fastest growing public relations firm, was presented with the 14th Quality Mark Awards 2025 in the category of PR & Communications, by Cabinet Minister Kunvarji Bavaliya as Chief Guest, Dilip Sanghani, Chairman IFFCO as Guest of Honour, renowned Bollywood actor Sharman Joshi. The awards ceremony was organized by Quality Mark Trust at Narayani Heights, Ahmedabad on 26th August, 2025, under the concept of 'Make in India.'

Prime PR, established in 2020, is well-connected with over 60 cities across India, with its team that works 365 days a year, which includes PR professionals and publicists, strategists and influencers, and linguists and media managers. Prime PR also works with flourishing start-ups, as well as the MSME and Make in India projects.

On the occasion, Phool Hasan, Founder and Managing Director of Prime PR said that "Prime PR is a strong supporter of on-going learning and development for public relations professionals."

We have resilient networks in tier 1, tier 2, and tier 3 cities. Our network-wide team has been distinguished for its media relations skills

through delivering high-quality projects and developing long-term partnerships with our clients. The recognition we got at Quality Mark Awards 2025 will boost our morale to work with more creative and strategic acumen."

Prime PR provides a vast range of services to its clients, which includes Public Relations, Brand Management, Conducting Press Conferences, Release Dissemination, PR Analysis, Planning & Strategy as well as Digital Marketing, Influencers Management, Image Building, Crisis Management, Investor Relations. Prime PR deals with the public relations for Government and Public Affairs also. Prime PR has extensive experience in planning and implementing high-impact initiatives that boost brand exposure and revenue.

Phool Hasan said, "We understand the difficulties generally faced by our clients, be it corporates, or individuals like doctors, bankers or other social opinion makers who are very keen to express their views on various burning topics in the society, but have no approach to the right platform, so through our service namely, article placement, we felicitate them with proper platform to voice their concerns in time."

Kriti Cooking Oils Unveils New Campaign & Packaging - Reinforcing 30+ Years of Legacy with the Message 'Quality bhi, Kifayat bhi'

Indore: Kriti Cooking Oils, a trusted name in the edible oil segment with a legacy of over 30 years under Kriti Nutrients Ltd., today announced the launch of its new brand campaign and refreshed packaging. The campaign highlights the brand's core philosophy - "Quality bhi, Kifayat bhi" - aimed at reinforcing Kriti as the premium yet value-for-money choice for Indian households.

The new campaign theme, "Quality and Kifayat", redefines kifayat as "value-for-money" rather than "cheap," positioning Kriti Oils as a smarter, health-conscious choice for today's consumer. Backed by independent lab certifications, Kriti Soyabean Oil has been proven to con-

sume upto 11% less oil compared to other packed cooking oils, ensuring healthier meals & delivering superior value at the same time.

Speaking at the press conference, Prafull Anchaliya, CEO Kriti Nutrients said: "For over three decades, Kriti Cooking Oils has been part of

Indian kitchens, built on trust, quality, and value. The new campaign is built around humorous situations, where we are reaffirming that consumers of Kriti Oils get Quality & Kifayat....both, in one product.

The campaign 'Quality bhi, Kifayat bhi' reflects what

Kriti Oils stands for - a perfect blend of health, taste, and value. We have developed 3 entertaining films - targeted at different set of consumers from traditional households to modern urban families to young Millennial couples - to re-inforce the core values of Kriti Oils in a very entertaining style."

To celebrate the 33rd Anniversary of Kriti Oils, the brand has also rolled-out a consumer promotion offering an attractive Laddle Spoon free with every Jar of Kriti Soybean Oil. Through this initiative, Kriti aims to strengthen its bond with homemakers, health-conscious families, and acknowledge their continued trust & patronage of the brand.