Rohit concedes Bangladesh played better

'When you're defending such a small target, you need to keep taking wickets'

CRICKET

RAKESH RAO

didn't play well."

NEW DELHI "They were better than us today and we accept that we

Long before Rohit Sharma signed off the post-match press conference with this candid admission following India's nine-wicket drubbing at the hands of Bangladesh on Sunday, the stand-in skipper sounded confused when it came to describing the target of 149.

'Winning score'

He started by looking at it as a "winning score". Soon, he changed it to "a good, fighting total". Before long, it was "a small target". Eventually, he called it "only 140-plus". In short, the target was seen differently by Rohit in response to different questions.

Consider these: "We decided, if we bat first, we have to look to get somewhere around 140-150. We had seen that before as well, when we've played on pitches like that, a winning score becomes somewhere around

Minutes later, Rohit came up with this: "We didn't get enough runs on the board. Whatever we got was a good, fighting total, where we can fight, and get the game towards us but when you're defending such a small target, you need to keep taking

Further, while defending the fast bowlers' performances, Rohit said, "I feel,



Need to strike: The Indian team, which reached Rajkot on Monday, will have to bring its 'A' game in the second T201. PTI

they (Khaleel Ahmad and Deepak Chahar) still need to understand, when they are defending smaller targets, they need to bowl according to the plan. They will learn from playing games like this where you're defending only 140-plus."

To his credit, the stand-in captain was forthcoming in admitting, "we lacked in terms of decision making."

On the unsuccessful review, Rohit said, "you've got to trust your bowler or your 'keeper – what they say. Based on that we always try and make that decision. Of course, Rishabh Pant is still very young. He will need time to understand those

kind of things. "It's too soon to judge whether he can make those decisions or not. It's a combination of a 'keeper and a bowler that influence those decisions when the captain is not in the right position to make one."

Guarded Finally, looking at this young Bangladesh combination,

Rohit sounded guarded. "A lot of new guys are here, and there's no way that we can take this team lightly.

We want to win and we can do that only by executing our skills. That's what we failed to do today

In cricket, we all are students of the game, and we understand every game is a new game. We want to win and we can do that only by executing our skills. That's what we failed to do today.'

This victory frees us up to play fearless cricket: Mushfigur

'The last two or three weeks have been the toughest'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Mushfigur Rahim has scripted many a triumphant tale for Bangladesh. But the role he played in taking his team to a historic first victory over India in a T20 match is going to be one of the recall points once this wicketkeeper-batsman is done with the game.

With an international career spanning over 14 years, the 32-year-old former captain is the highest run-getter in Tests for his country.

Though his T20 track-record could look a lot better, Mushfiqur is happy as long as he play a match-winning role, much like he did here on Sunday.

Momentous occasion It was indeed a momentous

occasion for the Bangladeshi cricket-lovers since the ninewicket triumph ended an eight-game losing streak to India.

"It is a great moment in Bangladesh cricket. We have beaten them for the first time in T20Is. We had two of our key players missing in our line-up but it was outstanding the way the young players stuck together and bowled on this track. It set up the game.

"It wasn't an easy wicket to bat against couple of quality spinners. Our guys showed their character. We had nothing to lose coming into this game, and the whole series. It has given us a great cushion, and frees us up to play fearless cricket," said Mushfiqur.

Reflecting on the team's core strategy, the seasonedcampaigner said: "One of the top-four batsmen must be there till the end, regardless of whether you are batting first or second. It was our plan. It is important that whoever shows good form, must carry it over to the next couple of games."

Adjudged man-of-thematch for his unbeaten 60, Mushfiqur said, "the last two or three weeks have been the toughest situation that I have faced in my 15-year cricketing career. I told journalists before I left Bangladesh that we can come back on the right track with a couple of wins in India. It will bring back smiles and calmness to the team, and the na-



Getting it right: Mushfiqur Rahim is happy with the way the young players bowled and set up

Indian women draw level

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Punam Raut (77) starred with the bat before the spinners put up a fine performance to set up India's comfortable 53-run win over West Indies in the second ICC Women's Championship ODI here. India defended a modest 191, by bowling out West Indies for 138, to level the three-match series 1-1 here on Sunday night. Leftarm orthodox Rajeshwari Gayakwad, leg-break specialist Poonam Yadav and off-spinner Deepti Sharma did the trick for the visitors.



Standing firm: Punam Raut anchored the Indian innings with a responsible half-century. • FILE PHOTO: PRASHANT NAKWE

5-0-23-1,

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

Priya Punia c Campbelle b Gajnabi 5, Jemimah Rodrigues c Taylor b Alleyne O, Punam Raut c Alleyne b Fletcher 77, Mithali Rai c Fletcher b Grimmond 40. Harmanbreet Kaur b Alleyne 46, Deepti Sharma st. Campbelle b Fletcher 5, Taniya Bhatia (not out) 9, Jhulan Goswami (not out) 1; Extras (w-8) 8; Total (for six wkts. in 50 overs):

FALL OF WICKETS 1-5, 2-17, 3-83, 4-176, 5-178,

6-190. **WEST INDIES BOWLING**

Fletcher 10-0-32-2, Anisa 7-1-31-0, Grimmond 4-0-22-1, Taylor 7-0-23-0. **WEST INDIES**

Gajnabi

Alleyne 10-2-38-2, King 7-1-

Natasha McLean retd. hurt 15, Stacy Ann-King b Shikha 6, Shermaine Campbelle c Punam b Rajeshwari 39, Stefanie Taylor lbw b Poonam 20, Chedean Nation c Deepti b Poonam 6, Kyshona Knight c Taniya b Deepti 1, Sheneta Grimmond st. Taniya b Rajeshwari O, Shabika Gajnabi run out 7, Aaliyah Alleyne c

Mithali b Jhulan 16, Afy

Fletcher b Deepti 14, Anisa Mohammed (not out) 3; Extras (b-3, lb-1, w-7): 11; Total (in 47.2 overs): 138.

FALL OF WICKETS 1-10, 2-78, 3-90, 4-96, 5-97, 6-100, 7-105, 8-128, 9-138. INDIA BOWLING

Jhulan 7.2-2-24-1, Shikha 7-1 19-1, Rajeshwari 10-3-27-2, Poonam 10-1-26-2. Deepti 8-0-25-2, Harmanpreet 5-1-13-0. Toss: India

Player-of-the-match: Punam

India won by 53 runs to level the three-match series 1-1.

Parshant Singh soars to a new high in pole vault jith, Akhil Babu, T.K. Sayooj and

NATL. JR. ATHLETICS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Haryana's Parshant Singh Kanhaiya broke a 33-year-old National under-20 pole vault record with an effort of 5.05m in 35th National junior athletics championship at Acharya Nagarjuna University campus here on Monday.

Parshant, the defending champion, came up with the third best jump by an Indian pole vaulter this year behind Siva Subramaniam (5.16m) and K.G. lessan (5.10m).

The Haryana athlete, who was pushed hard by Maharashtra's Rakesh Gond and who came up with his personal best of 4.90m, eclipsed the previous record of Vijav Pal Singh's (5.00m) set in the World junior athletics championships in Athens in July

There were other National records for Tamil Nadu's P.M. Thabitha (girls under-18 100m hurdles) and Harvana's Amit (boys under-16 5km) on the third day of competitions.

Meet records were also rewritten by Kerala's Aparna

Roy (girls under-20 100m hurdles), Delhi's Chanda (girls under-20 3km), Haryana's Anisha Dahiya (girls under-20 hammer throw), Tejas Ashok Shirse and Delhi's Harshita Sherawat (girls under-18 hammer throw) today.

The results: Finals: Boys: Under-20: 10m hurdles: 1. Abhishek Vinay Ubhe (Maha) 13.84s, 2 L.Yashwanth Kumar (AP) 14.00s, 3. S. Veeraraghavendra (TN) 14.01. 5km: 1. Sunil Dawar (MP) 14:30.93, 2. Bahadur Patel (MP) 14:34.71, Gurpreet (Har) 14:34.78. Long jump: 1. Lokesh L. Sathyanathan (Kar) 7.79m (NMR - OMR 7.72m, M Sreeshankar, Manglagiri, 2017), 2. Rishabh Rishiwar (UP) 7.29m, 3. Sunny Kumar (Bih) 7.14m

Pole vault: 1. Parshant Singh Kanhiya (Har) 5.05m (NNR & MR - ONR 5.00m, Vijay Pal Singh, Athens, 1986, OMR 4.85m, S Siva, Ranchi, 2015), 2. Rakesh Gond (Mah) 4.90m. 3. Shekhar Kumar Pandey (Del) 4.90m. High jump: 1. Mahfurur Rahman (Bangladesh) 2.10m, 2. Rohit (Har) 2.06m, 3. Abhay Bhatu Gurav (Mah) 2.04m. Discus: 1. Ikram Ali Khan (MP) 53.34m, 2. Aniket (Utk) 50.62m, 3. Abhay Gupta (Har) 50.30m. Hammer throw: 1. Jai Chand (Raj) 63.54m, 2. Alim Uddin (UP) 62.39m, 3. Ashu Deva (Har) 61.58m. 4x100m re-



Parshant Singh Kanhaiya. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

lay: 1. Kerala (Anukool Joseph, Anith John, K. Bijith and C. Abhinav) 41.28s (NMR, OMR 41.37s, Kerala, Chennai, 2005), 2. Tamil Nadu 42.73s, 3. Maharashtra 42.92s.

Under-18:110m hurdles: 1. Teias Ashok Shirse (Mah) 13.59s (NRM, OMR 13.76s, Santhosh Kumar, Ranchi, 2015). High jump: 1. Uchchaal Kumar Roy (WB) 2.08m. 2. Kaushik Raiendra Jadhav (Guj) 2.01m, 3. Robindeep Singh (Pjb) 1.99m. 10 km: 1. Paramdeep Mor (Har) 43:07.24, 2. Paramjeet Bisht (Utk) 43:51.36, 3. Bajrang Prajapati (MP) 44:03.31. 1000m medley relay: 1. Kerala (R.K. Surya-

C.R. Abdul Razak) 1:55.96, 2. Maharashtra 1:56.50, 3. Tamil Nadu 1:56.89. Under-16: 100m hurdles: 1.

R.K. Viswajith (Ker) 13.67s, 2. Ruturaj Dattatray Nale (Maha) 13.76s, 3. V. Vishnukumar (TN) 13.88s. **5km:** 1. Amit (Har) 20:27.82 (NNR & MR, OR 21:17.63, Amit, Ranchi, 2019), 2. Dhoundiyal (Utk) 21:16.71, 2. Rohit Kumar Yadav (Guj) 21:51.23. 1000m medley relay: 1. Haryana (Kapil, Dushyant, Ankit and Sanjit Balhara) 1:59.90, 2. Maharashtra 2:00.18, 3. Telangana 2:00.56. Under-14: Shotput: 1. Moham-Hansdeep Singh (Har) 13.16m. 3. Yash Verma (Del) 12.12m.

Girls: Under-20: 100m hurdles: 1. Aparna Roy (Ker) 14.00s (NMR, OMR 14.09s, Sapna Kumari, Mangalagiri, 2017), 2. Pratibha Kumari (Jhar) 14.75s, 3. Rishika Rajesh Nepali (Maha) 14.89s. 3km: 1. Chanda (Del) 9:42.71 (NMR, OMR 9:44.62, Saniivani Jadhav, Ranchi, 2015), 2. Seema (HP) 9:51.20, 3. Poonam Dinkar Sonune (Maha) 9:54.44. Hammer throw: 1. Anisha Dahiya (Har) 50.74m (NMR, OMR 50.71m, Nidhi, Ranchi, 2015), 2. Sneha Suryakant Jadhav (Maha) 49.98m, 3. Aishwrya (Har) 48.98m. 4x100m relay: 1. Kerala (Sophi-

ya Sunny, Anjali P.D. Dileesh, Aparna Roy and Mrudula Maria Babu) 47.18s (NMR, OMR 47.28, Kerala, Chennai, 2005), 2. Karnataka 47.72; 3. TN 48.74s.

Under-18: 100m hurdles: 1. P.M. Thabitha (TN) 13.70s (NMR, OMR 13.76s, Aparna Roy, Ranchi, 2018), 2. Agasara Nandini (TS) 14.47, 3. Ann Rose Tomy (Ker) 14.48s. Javelin: 1. Jyoti (Har) 48.01m, 2. Dhanmati Xess (Odi) 40.62m, 3. Amisha Devendrabhai Solanki (Guj) 39.92m. Hammer throw: 1. Harshita Sherawat (Del) 59.35m (NMR, OMR 58.23m, Poonam Jakhar, Mangalagiri, 2017), 2. Kessia Mariam Benny (Ker) 55.27m; 3. Ritu (Har) 51.03m. 1000m medley relay: 1. Karnataka (D. Aanchal Rajesh, V. Varsha, Jyothika and Priya Habbathanahally) 2:11.44 (NMR, OMR 2:11.90, Kerala, Ranchi, 2015), 2. Kerala 2:12.78; 3. Ha-

ryana 2:14.51. Under-16: 100m hurdles: 1. Namayi Ruchita (Kar) 14.57s, 2. Nayana Jose (Ker) 14.70s, 3. Vyasali Ganesan (TN) 15.00s. 1000m medley relay: 1. Maharashtra (Sakshi Champalal Chavan, Saniya Mahendra Sawant, Diya Deepak Sumerpur and Riya Nitin Patil) 2:16.10, 2. Kerala 2:16.81, 3. Tamil Nadu 2:20.05. Under-14: Shotput: 1.V. Madhumitha (TN) 12.68m, 2. Tamanna (Har) 12.20m, 3. Harleen Pure-

wal (Chandigarh) 11.58m.

Substitution in IPL?

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The concept of players' substitutions during an IPL match could be floated during Wednesday's governing council meeting in Mumbai but the final call rests with BCCI president Sourav Ganguly.

It has been learnt that a senior executive of the IPL operations team prepared a note few months ago with an intention to do away with traditional playing XI.

According to the note, a 'Power Player' concept could be used, allowing a player, who is not a part of playing XI, to come in at the fall of a wicket or replace a bowler at any given point of time.

"The final call will rest with the BCCI president. He will certainly discuss with the IPL GC including chairman Brijesh Patel and other office bearers but a lot of factors needs to be taken into account," a senior BCCI functionary told PTI on condition of anonymity.



On the right track: Valtteri Bottas finished first for his fourth win of the season and the seventh of his career. • AFP

Hamilton one adrift of Schumacher

Clinches sixth drivers' title; Bottas makes it 1-2 for Mercedes

US GRAND PRIX

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Lewis Hamilton clinched his sixth drivers' world championship, but not in the style he hoped for on Sunday when he finished second behind his triumphant Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas in an eventful United States Grand Prix.

The 34-year-old Briton fought with ferocious determination to win from fifth on the grid, but was unable to resist the Finn, who started from pole and, with a twostop strategy, had fresher tyres in the critical final laps.

150th podium finish

After leading twice, Hamilton was passed by Bottas with three laps remaining and then resisted Red Bull's Max Verstappen to take his 150th podium finish and his 31st successive finish in the points. It sealed his sixth title,

leaving him one adrift of Mi-

chael Schumacher on seven. Hamilton added the 2019 title to previous victories in 2008, 2014, 2015, 2017 and 2018. "I can't believe it, thanks a

lot," Hamilton said over the

team radio as he moved out

of a tie for five titles he held with Argentina's Juan-Manuel Fangio. "My dad told me when I was like six or seven never to give up and that's kind of the

family motto," It was Bottas's fourth win of the season and the seventh of his career.

Verstappen finished third ahead of Charles Leclerc of Ferrari. The results: 1. Valtteri Bottas

(Mercedes) 1h 33:55.653, 2. Le-Hamilton (Mercedes) +4.148, 3. Max Verstappen (Red Bull) +5.002, 4. Charles Leclerc (Ferrari) +52.239, 5. Alexander Albon (Red Bull) +1:18.038, 6. Daniel Ricciardo (Renault) +1:30.366, 7. Lando Norris (McLaren) +1:30.764, 8. Carlos Sainz Jr (McLaren) +1 lap, 9. Nico Hulkenberg (Renault) +1 lap, 10. Daniil Kvyat (Toro Rosso) +1

lap, 11. Sergio Perez (Racing Point) +1 lap, 12. Kimi Raikkonen (Alfa Romeo Racing) +1 lap, 13. Lance Stroll (Racing Point) + 1 lap, 14. Antonio Giovinazzi (Alfa Romeo Racing) +1 lap, 15. Romain Grosjean (Haas) +1 lap, 16. Pierre Gasly (Toro Rosso) +1 lap, 17. George Russell (Williams) +2 laps, 18. Kevin Magnussen (Haas) +4 laps.

Best lap: Charles Leclerc (Ferrari) 1:36.169 (44th lap).

Did not finish: Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari), Robert Kubica (Wil-Kevin Magnussen

Drivers' standings: 1. Hamilton 381 points (champion), 2. Bottas 314, 3. Leclerc 249, 4. Verstappen 235, 5. Vettel 230, 6. Albon 84, 7. Sainz Jr. 80, 8. Gasly 77, 9. Ricciardo 46, 10. Perez 43, 11. Norris 41, 12. Hulkenberg 37, 13, Kyvat 35, 14, Raikkonen 31, 15, Stroll 21, 16, Magnussen 20, 17. Grosjean 8, 18. Giovinazzi 4, 19. Kubica 1.

Constructors: 1. Mercedes 695 points (champion), 2. Ferrari 479, 3. Red Bull 366, 4. McLaren 121, 5. Renault 83, 6. Toro Rosso 65, 7. Racing Point 64, 8. Alfa Romeo Racing 35, 9. Haas 28, 10. Williams 1.





Lewis

Michael

Total race victories – second only to Schumacher All-time record number





TV PICKS

New Zealand v England: 3rd T20I, SS Select 1 (SD & HD), 6.30 a.m. **NBA:** Sony Six (SD & HD), 9

Australia v Pakistan: 2nd T20I, Sony Six (SD & HD), **UEFA Champions League:**

Sony Ten 2 & ESPN (SD & HD), 11.30 p.m.; Sony Ten1,2,3, Six & ESPN (SD & HD), 1.30 a.m. (Wednesday)

IN BRIEF



Luka Doncic logs in another triple-double

Luka Doncic recorded his second consecutive tripledouble as the Dallas Mavericks defeated the Cleveland Cavaliers 131-111 at the Ouicken Loans Arena on Monday. The 20-year old is the youngest player in NBA history to have back to back 25-point triple doubles and it was the 11th triple double of his burgeoning career. The results: Pacers bt Bulls 108-95, Knicks lost to Kings 92-113, Heat bt Rockets 129-100, Spurs lost to Lakers 96-103. Cabaliers lost to Mavericks 111-131, Clippers bt Jazz 105-94.



Bayern Munich sacks coach Niko Kovac

Bayern Munich on Sunday sacked coach Niko Kovac, a day after the German champion suffered a historic 5-1 loss against Eintracht Frankfurt - its worst Bundesliga defeat in a decade. Assistant coach Hansi Flick will take charge of the team "until further notice", said a statement. AFP



Todd wins in Bermuda with birdie blitz

LOS ANGELES Brendon Todd fired a nineunder-par final round of 62 to win the PGA Tour's inaugural Bermuda Championship on Sunday. The 34-year-old reeled off seven consecutive birdies during a remarkable display on the front nine to finish ahead of overnight leader Harry Higgs. AFP

All-round show gives India-B the title

Kedar Jadhav and Shahbaz Nadeem's exploits highlight the facile win over India-C

DEODHAR TROPHY

Y.B. SARANGI

Kedar Jadhav's responsible 86 and Shahbaz Nadeem's crucial four-wicket haul were significant contributions in the well-rounded performance of India-B, which beat India-C by 51 runs to win the Deodhar Trophy at the JSCA Stadium here on Monday.

Opting to bat in the final, India-B overcame a slow start to post 283 for seven and then restricted India-C for 232 for nine.

Porel strikes

On a pitch offering good bounce and movement, medium pacer Ishan Porel bowled beautifully to hand India-C an early advantage. He had Ruturaj Gaikwad with a perfect outswinger and the rival skipper Parthiv Patel, who had promoted himself and had escaped on three, with a delivery that found the southpaw's outside edge. India-B was struggling at 28 for two in nine overs.

Yashasvi Jaiswal, prieved on 10, stitched together 45 runs with B. Aparaiith (13) before the latter was trapped in front by Jalaj Sax-

Shaking off two forgettable

seasons, B. Aparajith is back

among runs in the domestic

one-dayers and looks for-

ward to continue his good

run-getters in the Vijay Ha-

zare Trophy (598 in 12

matches) and the highest

scorer in Deodhar Trophy

(167 in three), said prepara-

tions in the off-season bene-

"I prepared really well in

the off season as regards fit-

ness and skill. That aspect is

helping me now. I even

worked on my bowling," said

Aparajith, who was part of

the India-B side that won the

Aparajith, among the top

Y.B. SARANGI

touch.



Champion: The triumphant India-B team with the Deodhar Trophy • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Jaiswal (54, 79b, 5x4, 1x6) flourished to play some delectable shots to get his second half-century. He perished due to his rush of blood, hoisting Axar Patel to Porel at deep midwicket.

Good stands

At 92 for four in the 25th over, India-B was in the danger of losing its grip. However, Jadhav stood firm in three important partnerships worth 79, 74 and 31 with Nitish Rana (20), Vijay Shankar (45) and K. Gowtham (35) n.o.) respectively – to turn the script around.

Even while using his excel-

Deodhar Trophy on Monday.

runs at 39.35 in 70 first class

matches and 2887 runs at

43.74 in 77 List-A matches

apart from taking 42 and 43

wickets respectively with his

off-breaks – said he needed

to keep doing the good work.

"Nothing will come easy, so I

have to keep performing and

be in the process. It is impor-

tant for me to score a lot of

runs – not only in one tour-

nament, but in T20s and

were not great, but now I

have performed well in con-

"I should carry that con-

"The last two seasons

Ranii Trophy as well.

secutive matches.

Aparajith – who has 3660

'Able to handle situations better than before'

Off-season preparations have helped Aparajith perform consistently this season

lent judgement to rotate the strike, Jadhav played some good-looking strokes, predominantly off Mayank Markande on the leg side, in his 94-ball knock containing four fours and as many sixes.

As Vijay and Gowtham switched gear in the death, Jadhav provided support until the final over. Gowtham was severe on Pathania, who spilled two catches off his own bowling and conceded 31 in his last over, during his blitzkrieg which gave his side a distinct advantage.

Porel scalped Rana, Vijay and Jadhav for his second fifer (five for 43).

sistency forward in all for-

mats. If I keep doing well,

one day that (India selection)

perform in every match -

batting, bowling or fielding,

The 25-year-old Tamil Na-

du batsman said the chal-

lenges he faced in his eight-

year-old career made him a

keep evolving as a player.

From where I started, I am

able to handle situations and

Constant improvement

Aparajith's goal is to get bet-

ter every year. "I have been

pid fire pistol. India has been

anxiously seeking to secure

Olympic quota in these three

better

than

"With experience, you

mature cricketer.

challenges

before."

contribute in every match."

""For me it is important to

will happen.

India-C faltered in its reply, losing captain Shubman Gill to Mohammed Siraj in the second over. Ten overs later, Nadeem removed a well-set Mayank Agarwal

Soon, Virat Singh was run out and Suryakumar Yadav and Dinesh Karthik fell to Nadeem's disciplined bowling as India-C reeled at 77 for five. The efforts of Priyam Garg (74), Axar (38), Saxena (37) and Markande (27) were in vain.

India-B: Ruturaj Gaikwad c Suryakumar b Porel O (6b), Parthiv Patel c Karthik b Porel 14 (20b, 1x4), Yashasvi Jaiswal c

working on my batting...This

year I wanted to get better in

rounded batsman, have

last year I wanted to be 15-20

his twin Indrajith, who has

many people have that

also played for the State.

(more) organised batting.

"I wanted to be a well-

"That was my goal. From

Aparajith was thankful to

"We exchange ideas. Not

About his targets in the

forthcoming Syed Mushtaq

Ali Trophy and Ranji Trophy,

Aparajith said, "I am going

sent and concentrate on

"I need to be in the pre-

the technical part.

per cent better."

advantage.

match-by-match.

what I am doing.'

Porel b Axar 54 (79b, 5x4, 1x6), B. Aparajith lbw b Jalaj 13 (30b, 1x4), Kedar Jadhav c Shubman b Porel 86 (94b, 4x4, 4x6), Nitish Rana c Karthik b Porel 20 (28b, 1x4), Vijay Shankar c Axar b Porel 45 (33b, 4x4, 2x6), K. Gowtham (not out) 35 (10b, 3x4, 3x6), Rush Kalaria (not out) 0 (1b); Extras (b-4, lb-3, nb-1, w-8): 16: Total (for seven wkts. in 50 overs): 283.

Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-28, 3-73, 4-92, 5-171, 6-145, 7-276. India-C bowling: Porel 10-0-43-5, Pathania 10-0-79-0, Jalaj 10-0-42-1, Axar 10-0-33-1, Markande 10-0-79-0.

India-C: Mayank Agarwal c Gowtham b Nadeem 28 (31b, 3x4). Shubman Gill c Jaiswal b Sirai 1 (7b). Privam Garq b Sirai 74 (77b, 8x4, 1x6), Virat Singh run out 6 (7b, 1x4), Suryakumai Yadav b Nadeem 3 (7b), Dinesh Karthik lbw b Nadeem 3 (10b), Axar Patel run out 38 (49b,3x4, 1x6), Jalaj Saxena (not out) 37 (65b, 1x4), Mayank Markande c Siraj b Nadeem 27 (35b, 3x4), Diwesh Pathania b Kalaria 6 (10b), Ishan Porel (not out) 5 (2b, 1x4); Extras (lb-2,w-2): 4; Total (for nine wkts. in 50 overs): 232.

Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-56, 3-64, 4-71, 5-77, 6-140, 7-165, 8-212, 9-223.

India-B bowling: Kalaria 10-0-56-1, Siraj 10-1-43-2, Rana 10-0-45-0, Nadeem 10-1-32-4, Gowtham 10-0-54-0.

India-B won by 51 runs.

Harsimran selected for Australia

NBA camp

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Harsimran Kaur has been selected for the NBA Global Academy basketball camp to be conducted from November 7 to 24, in Canberra, Australia. The 16-year-old was adjudged the MVP in the third NBA Academies women's program held in Mumbai from October 2 to

Harsimran has been a regular in the national team, and was one of the four girls who attended the Next Generation program at the NCAA women's final in Tampa, US, in April this year. She had also participated in the Basketball Without Borders Asia in Tokvo

Harsimran, who will practise with top Australian prospects under the guidance of coaches from the NBA Academy and Basketball Australia's Centre of Excellence, said "the opportunity to train at the NBA Global Academy will not only identify and address the areas I need to work on, but also serve as a platform to showcase my skills."

ITF shifts India-Pakistan tie to neutral venue

AITA names Rohit Rajpal as non-playing captain

DAVIS CUP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The International Tennis Federation on Monday decided to shift India's Asia/ Oceania Group I Davis Cup tie against Pakistan from Islamabad to a neutral venue, hours after Rohit Rajpal was named captain for the upcoming matches.

The November 29-30 contest had already been rescheduled from September owing to security concerns raised by India due to the prevailing diplomatic tensions between the two nations after the revocation of Article 370.

'Safety first'

"The ITF and Davis Cup Committee's first priority has always been the safety of athletes, officials and spectators and the decision was made on this basis," said an ITF statement.

According to Davis Cup regulations, the Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) now has the choice to nominate a neutral venue and has five working days to confirm their proposed venue.

Earlier in the day, the All India Tennis Association (AITA), at its executive committee meeting in Chandigarh, named former India player and chairman of its selection panel Rohit Rajpal as the non-playing captain following pullouts by top players and captain Mahesh Bhupathi.

"Rohit will stay as captain of the side. He will talk to the top players if they are available.

"We were ready to send team to Pakistan too but it's an excellent decision. We welcome it," said AITA president Praveen Mahajan.

AITA sources added that Bhupathi, whose term had ended in December 2018, may not be considered for the job, for he refused National duty.

"It's a huge responsibility and I am thankful to AITA for choosing me for such an important tie.

"The onus is on ITF and Pakistan government to ensure Indian contingent's security," Rajpal told PTI. "I am going to approach all the players who have made themselves unavailable and request them to reconsider their decision," he added.

Documentary on Real Kashmir wins award

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

BBC documentary Real Kashmir F.C. has won the 'Single Documentary' category at the British Academy Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Awards Scotland.

The work documents the journey of former Rangers ace David Robertson as the head coach of Real Kashmir FC and its success story in the I-League 2nd division in

Real Kashmir FC co-foun-

der Sandeep Chattoo said, "Our dream, which started as a small team of Kashmiri youth, playing football as a hobby, soon became one of the biggest and the most successful dream runs by

"We won the 2nd division on debut and finished 3rd in the 1st division I-League.

"This award is a tribute to each and every person who has contributed to making this club what it is today."

BFC's Cuadrat appeals for improved refereeing

Raising the standard of the players and coaches alone cannot help Indian football, the level of the referees has improve in equal measure to ensure the development of the game, said Carles Cuadrat, the coach of the reigning ISL champion Bengaluru FC.

"My premise is pretty simple. Like I am assessed by my club on the kind of work I do with the team and in the same way the players are banished to the bench if they do not perform well, the referees should also be made accountable about their decisions," Cuadrat said. "What shocks me is that I have not seen much of improvement in the standard of referring in the four years that I have been here in the country."

Lot of expectations on Indian team ASIAN SHOOTING

SPORTS BUREAU

There will be a lot of expectations on the strong Indian team to add to the nine Olympic quota places won so far as it will be the chance to book berths for the 2020 Tokyo Games when the Asian shooting championships begins here on Tues-

Air rifle finals for men and women will be conducted on the opening day, apart from women's air pistol finals.

India has won the maximum possible share of two Olympic quota each in women's air rifle and air pistol. In men's air rifle, India can win one more Olympic quota. There will also be mixed trap junior event on the first day. The preliminary rounds will be shot in men's and women's trap, apart from the first stage in men's 25m ra-

events and thus it should be interesting to see how well the shooters place themselves on the first day to stay in the race for final berths.

Having topped the medals table in all the four World Cups this season in rifle and pistol, the Indians will be keen to close the season a bright note.

Have worked on my power & reach: Panghal

BOXING

ANANT KAUR NEW DELHI

in stature but big in strength and power. Recently-promoted to the rank of Subedar, the army man believes the silver medal at the World Championship in September motivates him to dream big for the forthcoming Asia Oceania Olympic qualifiers in Wuhan, China in February. "I have worked on a lot of punches in my game," Pangal told The Hin-

Amit Panghal is diminutive

"I have definitely improved a lot in my weight (52 kg) category. In the final bout (against Uzbekistan's Shakhobidin Zoirov, the reigning Olympic champion) I lacked power and since then I have worked on my power and reach. Earlier my attack was only of one or two punches. My game was about defence first and then counter, more of single punches," said Panghal.

Panghal always studies his opponent's game and then decides on the course to adopt. "In the first round I always observe my opponents' playing style. Me and



Amit Panghal • ANANT KAUR

my coaching staff make the strategy accordingly and play on those lines. I wait for my opponent to play his game," said the 2018 Asian Games gold medallist in 49

On his training in recent times, Pangal said, "I have added multiple punches to my game because points can be earned by attacking continuously. I have been sparring with tall boxers one weight category higher to test my reach and power," Panghal added.

The 24-year-old praised all his coaches and especially the training regimen of the foreign coach Santiago Nieva. Panghal claimed his regimen was unique.

"Earlier we used to work on one thing once in a week and on the contrary now we repeat that one single technique the whole week in every training session."



A Space Marketing Initiative

Chinese import expo sets to inject fresh momentum into open world économy

by Li Laifang, Xu Ruiqing, Zhou Rui

As China's key move to actively open its market, the second China International Import Expo (CIIE) is set to inject fresh momentum into an open world economy.

This year's CIIE scheduled from Nov. 5 to 10 sees a rising number of participating companies, new products and cutting-edge technologies as well as the expanding space for exhibitions.

Official data show the import-themed fair this year will attract more than 250 of the world's top 500 or leading companies, showing the fair's growing influence. The exhibition area will rise to 360,000 square meters, up by 60,000 square meters from last year.

"Set up by China and shared by the world, the CIIE injects vitality and confidence into the building of an open world economy," China's Commerce Minister Zhong Shan said.

WIDER OPENING-UP

Mohammad Nurus Safa, a Bangladeshi businessman, will soon have his second group of commodities shipped to Shanghai for the

"This year we will bring unique local embroidery products to the expo, so that more Bangladeshi people can share development opportunities brought by the 'China express train'," said Safa, founder of Dada Bangla Limited.

Safa's company is one of the 3,000 enterprises from about 150 countries and regions having signed up for this year's expo.

Regarding the CIIE as a great platform to reach customers of every description, Fabrice Megarbane, CEO of L'Oreal China, said the company will exhibit 11 brands in the new high-end section of the consumer goods



BEIJING, Aug. 26, 2019 (Xinhua) -- Aerial photo taken on April 11, 2019 shows a container wharf at Qinzhou port in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. (Xinhua/Cao Yiming)

(Alinnua) -- visitors enter the venue of the first China inte

national Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 9, 2018. The CIIE is opened to

"In addition to the opportunities brought by the import expo itself, China's constantly enhanced business environment has also impressed us," said Anna E, public affairs director of Mars China.

China's new opening-up policies this year have provided greater impetus for foreign companies to increase investment in the world's second-largest economy.

On July 30, China put into force revised negative lists for foreign investment market

access, introducing greater opening-up in such sectors as services, manufacturing and mining, and allowing foreign investors to run majorityshare-controlling or wholly-owned businesses in more sectors.

In August, China announced a master plan for new pilot free trade zones (FTZs) in six provincial-level regions, bringing the total number of its pilot FTZs to 18. The FTZs will test new styles of foreign investment management, trade facilitation and transformation of government functions to better integrate the economy with international practices.

The import expo not only boosts the import of goods and services, but also promotes the upgrading of foreign investment through the pull of trade and the market. said Min Shilin, executive deputy director of the Administration Committee of Shanghai Hongqiao Central Business District. A bonded logistics center in the Hongqiao CBD was launched in September to offer one-stop trading services to support the CIIE.

MORE FRUITFUL ACHIEVEMENTS

The first import expo in Shanghai last November accelerated the entry of foreign brands into more inland regions in China, especially the country's third- to fifth-tier towns and cities, highlighting the potential of the huge Chinese market. more inland regions in China, especially the country's third- to fifthtier towns and cities, highlighting the potential of the huge Chinese market.

variety of local jute handicrafts, such as carpets, baskets and bags. The products, many of which were made by impoverished women in Bangladesh, attracted attention of visitors and buyers.

"The CIIE opportunities are contributing to global poverty reduction efforts," Safa said.

Thanks to the first CIIE, these Bangladeshi handicrafts are now sold at a high-end department store in Shanghai.

Three months after the first CIIE, milk pro-

ducts of a New Zealand brand showcased atthe expo appeared in a county supermarket in northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. In a bonded trading center in southwestern Chongqing Municipality, foreign commodities such as Russian ice cream. Georgian wine and Kenyan decorations have become a hit among local consumers.

The first CIIE has drawn more than 3,600 enterprises from 172 countries, regions and international organizations, attracting more than 400,000 domestic and overseas purchasers.

Deals for intended one-year purchases of goods and services worth a total of 57.83 billion U.S. dollars were reached in the six-day event. Many of the goods were imported via the China-Europe freight rail service network, which has pushed forward China's opening-up and boosted trade cooperation with overseas

The facilitated import policies, such as reduced import tariffs and simplified customs clearance process, also make foreign brands reach the Chinese market faster. A batch of fresh milk leaving a New Zealand farm on Monday can reach Chinese dinner tables as soon as Wednesday. Food traders are preparing to import more fresh and frozen food to the Chinese consumers.

"The first CIIE reinforced our confidence in China's business environment policies and enabled us to see the country's continuously growing domestic market demand," said Megarbane.

"The second CIIE will build a platform for the launch and display of new products and technologies. It demonstrates China's determination and confidence to implement free trade, and will further improve people's living quality and promote domestic consumption,' said Sun Chenghai, vice director of CIIE Bureau.



SHANGHAI, Nov. 8, 2018 (Xinhua) -- Visitors walk past the showcase at the Trade in Services area of the first China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 5, 2018. (Xinhua/Fang Zhe)

group visitors from Nov. 9 to Nov. 10. (Xinhua/Xing Guangli) At the first CIIE, Safa's company exhibited a China to attract foreign investment with



SHANGHAI, Nov. 8, 2018 (Xinhua) -- The booth of Bangladesh is seen at the first China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 7, 2018. (Xinhua/Chen Fei)

China will introduce more measures and foster a more enabling business environment to facilitate foreign investment, according to a State Council executive meeting held ahead of the second China International Import Expo.

The meeting decided that restrictive measures outside the national and pilot free trade zones negative lists concerning foreign investors' market access will be scrapped.

Restrictions on the business scopes of foreign-invested banks, securities companies and fund management firms are already established in China will be fully

The newly revised administrative regulations on foreign-invested banks and insurance companies will be fully implemented. Policies on foreign investment in the auto industry will be refined, including equal treatment in market access for both domestic and foreigninvested new energy vehicles made in

China will also further facilitate investment. The pilot reform to promote the payments of revenues under capital



SHANGHAI, Nov. 9, 2018 (Xinhua) -- Visitors Chen Fei (L) and Weng Jingyi pose for photos in front of the venue of the first China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 9, 2018. The CIIE is opened to group visitors from Nov. 9 to Nov. 10. (Xinhua/Li Xin)

accounts will be introduced in more places. Foreign-invested companies will be supported in independently choosing the models of borrowing from foreign lenders, and will be encouraged to use their capital funds for equity investment in China. For foreign-invested projects, the preliminary reviews of site selection and land use will be consolidated, and the permitting



BEIJING, Sept. 30, 2019 (Xinhua) -- People look at a new China-Europe freight train from Chengdu to Vienna at the Vienna South Freight Center in Vienna, Austria, on April 27, 2018. (Xinhua/Pan Xu)



SHANGHAI, Nov. 7, 2018 (Xinhua) -- A visitor learns about cereal products at a booth of a Russian company during the first China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, east China, Nov. 6, 2018. Various foods from all over the world are exhibited in the CIIE. (Xinhua/Meng Dingbo)

requirements for the planning and use of construction land will also be combined.

Forced transfer of technology, including those in disguised forms, is not allowed. Trade secrets will be protected in accordance with the law. The notificationremoval rule concerning patent infringement at e-commerce platforms will be improved.

In government procurement, there should be no restrictions based on the ownership type of suppliers, nationality of investors, or the brands of products

and services. Local governments will be supported in intensifying efforts to attract foreign investment. Central and western parts of China will be prioritized in setting up new comprehensive bonded zones.

Figures released in September by the Ministry of Commerce show that in the first eight months of this year, another 27,704 foreign-invested businesses were established in China. Utilized foreign capital exceeded 600 billion yuan (about 84.81 billion U.S. dollars), up by 6.9 percent year on year.