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1. Indian women's doubles pair of Sutirtha and Ayhika clinches WTT Contender tournament title in Tunis (June 26, 2023)

Sutirtha Mukherjee and Ayhika Mukherjee, the **Indian women's doubles pair**, emerged victorious in the **World Table Tennis (WTT) Contender tournament** held in **Tunis** on 25th June.

An overview of the news

- In the final, they defeated the **Japanese duo of Miyuu Kihara and Miwa Harimoto** with a score of 3-1 (11-5, 11-6, 5-11, 13-11) in a challenging match.
- This win makes **Sutirtha Mukherjee and Ayhika Mukherjee** the first Indians to secure a Contender title in the current year.
- Prior to reaching the final, the Indian pair faced a tough last-four battle against the **Korean duo of Shin Yubin and Jeon Jihi**, which they won 3-2 (7-11, 11-9, 11-9, 7-11, 11-9).
- On the other hand, the Indian mixed doubles pair of **Manika Batra and G Sathiyan**, as well as the men's **doubles duo of Manav Vikash Thakkar and Manush Utpalbhair Shah**, were unable to progress to the finals as they lost their respective semifinal matches.

2. Cristiano Ronaldo receives Guinness World Record award (June 24, 2023)

Cristiano-Ronaldo-receives-Guinness-World-Record-award

Portugal's star footballer Cristiano Ronaldo has made another big record. Ronaldo has become the **first football player in history to play 200 international matches**.

An overview of the news

- The 38-year-old Ronaldo set this record as soon as he was named in the playing XI against Iceland in the **2024 Euro Cup qualifying match**.
- The **Guinness World Records team** honored Ronaldo for this record before the match.
- In the match held in **Iceland's capital Reykjavik**, **Ronaldo scored a goal in the 89th minute** and gave the team a 1-0 victory over Iceland.
- With this win, Portugal have retained the top spot in Group J with wins from all four matches they have played so far.

Cristiano Ronaldo

- Cristiano Ronaldo made his international debut for Portugal on **20 August 2003**.
- Now even after almost 20 years, this player is not only playing matches but is also playing an important role in helping his team win.

Ronaldo also holds the record for **most international goals with 123 goals**.

Player with most international matches

- **Kuwait's Bader Al-Mutawa** is in **second place** in terms of playing most international matches, who has played a total of 196 matches so far.
- **Malaysia's Soh Chin Ain** is **third** with 195 matches.
- **Lionel Messi of Argentina** is joint **11th** with 175 matches.
- Team India captain **Sunil Chhetri tops the list playing 137 international matches for India**.

3. Union Minister Anurag Thakur flagged off "Bharat in Paris" campaign (June 24, 2023)

Union Sports Minister **Anurag Singh Thakur** flagged off the campaign with a short marathon at **Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi on 23 June**.

An overview of the news

- The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has launched the **"Bharat in Paris"** campaign to create awareness and promote sports across India ahead of the Paris Olympics games.
- The 2024 Olympics will be held in **Paris, France**, from July 26 to August 11.

Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)

- It was created in July 2014 under the auspices of the **National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)** with the objective of identifying and preparing potential medal prospects for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- It is a flagship program of the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**.
- The idea of the scheme is to look to the future and fund a developmental group of athletes who have the potential to bring medals to the **Olympic Games in Paris in 2024** and **Los Angeles in 2028**.

4. Bhavani Devi creates history by winning India's first medal in Asian Fencing Championships (June 20, 2023)

Asian-Fencing-Championships

Bhavani Devi won the bronze medal in the women's sabre event at the Asian Fencing Championships held in Wuxi, China.

An Overview of the News

- Bhavani **lost her semi-final** match **against Uzbekistan's Zainab Daybekova** with a score of 14-15.

- In the quarterfinals, **Bhavani defeated defending world champion Misaki Emura of Japan by a score of 15-10.**
- Bhavani registered his **first win against a Japanese swordsman.**
- Bhavani's next challenge will be the **World Championships to be held in Milan from July 22 to 30.**

Asian Fencing Championships:

- It is organized by the **Asian Fencing Confederation for the Asia-Oceania zone.**
- The first championships were held in **Tehran in 1973** but faced limited activity in the continent.
- The tournament resumed in **1989** and has been **held annually since 2007.**
- It is an important event for swordsmen in the Asia-Oceania region to showcase their skills.

About China

- Capital - **Beijing**
- President - **Xi Jinping**
- Premier - **Li Qiang**
- Congress Chairman - **Zhao Leji**

5. Indian men's senior football team beat Lebanon 2-0 (June 19, 2023)

The **Indian men's senior football team** emerged victorious in the **Intercontinental Cup** by defeating **Lebanon 2-0** in the final held at **Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar** on 18th June.

An overview of the news

- The first half of the match ended without any goals being scored.
- In the second half, the Indian team took the lead with a goal from their captain, **Sunil Chhetri**, in the 46th minute, making it 1-0.
- **Lallianzuala Chhangte** extended the lead with a goal in the 65th minute, resulting in a final score of 2-0 in favor of India.
- This victory marks **India's second title in the Intercontinental Cup**, with their first win occurring during the **inaugural edition in 2018.**
- **Korea won the tournament in 2019.**
- The Indian team maintained their unbeaten streak in the competition, having previously drawn against Lebanon and won against **Vanuatu and Mongolia.**

- Sunil Chhetri's goal in this match marked his 87th international goal in **137 appearances** for the Indian national team.
- Chhetri continues to hold the distinction of being the third highest goal-scorer among active players in international football, trailing behind **Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal and Lionel Messi of Argentina.**

6. Goa CM Pramod Sawant launches mascot for upcoming 37th National Games (June 19, 2023)

Chief Minister of Goa Dr Pramod Sawant

Chief Minister of Goa Dr Pramod Sawant launched the **mascot** for the upcoming **37th National Games on 18th June.**

An overview of the news

- The ceremony took place at the **Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Stadium** in Taleigao and was organized by the Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs and the **Sports Authority of Goa.**
- The launch event coincided with the celebration of **Goa Revolution Day.**
- Prominent figures present at the ceremony included the Sports Minister of Goa, **Govind Gaude**, the President of the Indian Olympic Association, **Dr. P.T Usha**, and Olympic medalist **MC Mary Kom.**
- During the ceremony, the Chief Minister expressed that similar to the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), the National Games would also be hosted in Goa.

About National Games

- The objective of the National Games is to **identify sporting talents** who are capable of representing the country at the Olympics.
- The organization of the National Games was led by **Dorabji Tata**, a prominent Indian businessman, **Harry Crowe Buck**, founder of the YMCA College of Physical Education in Chennai (then Madras), and **Dr. A. G. Nohren**, the director of the college.
- **After the 1920 Olympics**, Dorabji Tata suggested a national level body to promote Olympic sports.
- After the meeting of the selection committee for the Olympics, the **All India Olympic Committee** was established.

7. Egypt won the World Squash Championship (June 18, 2023)

Egypt emerged victorious in the World Squash Championship, defeating **Malaysia** 2-1 in the final held in **Chennai** on 17th June.

An overview of the news

- Malaysia secured the **silver medal** in the championship.
- The **third place** in the championship was shared between the host country, **India, and Japan**.
- Malaysia defeated India with a score of 3-0 in the **semi-final** held the previous day.
- The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, **M.K.Stalin**, awarded the winning team with the **golden cup**, while the Sports Minister, **Udhayanidhi Stalin**, presented medals to the victorious players.
- The state of Tamil Nadu has gained recognition in international sports by successfully organizing the Chess Olympiad within a remarkable four-month timeframe.
- A total of **eight countries** participated in the championship, which commenced on **June 13**.

8. Mission Olympic Cell approves Mirabai Chanu, Bindaryani Devi's proposal to train in USA (June 15, 2023)

Mission-Olympic-Cell-approves-Mirabai-Chanu

The Mission Olympic Cell of the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** approved **Mirabai Chanu** and **Bindaryani Devi's** proposal for an overseas training camp.

An Overview of the News

- Target Olympic Podium Scheme athletes **Mirabai Chanu and Bindaryani Devi** will train under the guidance of **Dr. Aaron Horschig at Squat University in St. Louis, USA**.
- The aim of the training camp is to focus on rehabilitation and strength training for the upcoming Asian Games.
- Mirabai Chanu, Bindaryani Devi, Indian head coach **Vijay Sharma and physiotherapist Tesnim Zayed** will be part of the camp and it will run for 65 days.
- The government will bear various expenses including air travel, boarding and lodging, medical insurance, local transport, gym fees and doctor's consultation.

About Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS):

- **Launch:** Tops was launched in September 2014 and got a facelift in April 2018.
- **Objective:** The objective of the scheme is to provide support and assistance to athletes for Olympic Games/ Paralympic Games and other major international tournaments to win medals.
- **Support Services:** TOPS provides financial support, training support, coaching, scientific and technical support, sports equipment and access to facilities.
- **Collaboration:** TOPS promotes coordination between sports federations, NSDF, SAI and other organisations.

- **Goal:** TOPS aims to help athletes excel in international competitions and bring glory to the nation.

9. Ankush won gold in the freestyle 55kg category at the Under-17 Asian Wrestling Championships (June 14, 2023)

freestyle-55kg-category-at-the-Under-17-Asian

On 13 June 2023 **India won a total of seven medals** with **one gold, three silver** and **three bronze medals** on the final day of the tournament in the **Under-17 Asian Wrestling Championships held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.**

An Overview of the News

- Ankush won the only gold medal for India by defeating **Iran's Amirreza Ali Taimoorizad** in the freestyle **55 kg category**.
- **Dhanraj Bharat** Shirke who represented India lost to **Ahora Farhad Khateri** of Iran and earned a **silver medal**.
- Competing in the freestyle **48 kg category**, **Rupesh** won the **silver medal** after losing to Iran's **Sam Reza Sayar in the final**.
- India finished second behind Iran in the freestyle team rankings.

Indian medal winners at the U17 Asian Wrestling Championships 2023

Gold Medal Winners	Silver Medal Winners	Bronze Medal Winners
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1. Srishti: Women's 69kg category	1. Suraj: Greco-Roman 55kg category	1. Ronak: Greco-Roman 110 kg category
2. Savita: Women's 61 kg category	2. Siddhanath Krishnat Patil: Greco-Roman 48 kg category	2. Ranjita: Women's 53kg category
3. Rachana: Women's 40 kg category	3. Sachin Kumar: Greco-Roman 65kg category	3. Narender: Freestyle 71 kg category
4. Parveen: Women's 43 kg category	4. Aman: Greco-Roman 80kg category	4. Sourabh: Freestyle 65kg category
5. Shiksha: Women's 65kg category	5. Muskan: Women's 46 kg category	5. Tushar: Freestyle 60kg category
6. Kajal: Women's 73 kg category	6. Saurabh: Freestyle 80kg category	6. Vinay: Freestyle 92kg category
7. Neha: Women's 57kg category	7. Rupesh: Freestyle 48kg category	7. Jaspooran Singh: Freestyle 110 kg category
8. Ankush: Freestyle 55kg category	8. Rohit: Freestyle 51kg category	
	9. Dhanraj Shirke: Freestyle 45 kg category	

10. Australia beat India by 209 runs to clinch maiden World Test Championship title (June 12, 2023)

Australia-beat-India-by-209

Australia beat India by 209 runs to win its maiden **ICC World Test Championship title at the Kennington Oval in London** on 11 June. Australia became the first team to win all ICC titles.

An overview of the news

- Australia batting first **scored 469 runs** in the first innings. In response, Team India was reduced to **296 runs** and Australia got a lead of **173 runs** in the first innings.
- Australia declared the second innings by scoring 270 runs and set a target of **444 runs in front of India.**
- In response, the Indian team was reduced to **234 runs and lost the match by 209 runs.**
- Indian captain **Rohit Sharma** won the toss and decided to bowl first and the bowlers took three wickets for 73 runs.

- After this, **Steve Smith and Marnus Labushen** shared a 285-run partnership to put
- Australia ahead in the match.
 - Travis Head was dismissed for 163 and Steve Smith scored 121 runs. Australia posted a mammoth score of **469 in the first innings** and were in a strong position.
 - Siraj took four wickets for India, Shami and Shardul got two wickets each.
 - The Indian team has lost in the final of the Test Championship for the second time in a row. Earlier, New Zealand had defeated India by eight wickets.

Player of the Match

- **Travis Head** (163 off 174 balls in 1st innings, 18 off 27 balls in 2nd innings)

Score Card

Australia

- 1st Inning 469/10
- 2nd Inning 270/8
- Travis Head 181 Run

India

- 1st Inning 296/10
- 2nd Inning 234/10
- Ajinkya Rahane 135 Runs

Australia wins in ICC title matches

- 5 times ODI World Cup
- 2 times Champions Trophy
- T20 World Cup 1 time
- 1 time World Test Championship

Prize money of World Test Championship

- **Winners (Australia):** \$1.6 million
- **Runners Up (India):** \$800,000