



Mulan CC Edge Rehari Kings by 6 Runs to Lift Jambu Lochan T20 Title

Bandral stars with all-round performance, defends 11 in final over

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 23

The Jammu and Kashmir Masters Games Association (JKMGA) successfully concluded the 1st Jambu Lochan T20 Cricket Tournament at M.A. Stadium, Jammu, with Mulan Cricket Club clinching a thrilling 6-run victory over Rehari Kings in the final.

Opting to bat first after winning the toss, Mulan Cricket Club were bowled out for 111 runs in 20 overs. Ankush Bandral top-scored with 29 off 35 balls, while Kanan Mahajan (19 off 15) and Shaurya (16 off 12) made useful contributions. For Rehari Kings, Dr. Vishav Pratap Singh and Jatin claimed two wickets each.

In reply, Rehari Kings fell just short, managing 105 for 8 in their 20 overs. Puneet Kumar scored 42 off 55 balls, while Atul added 35 off 37, but the target proved elusive.

Ankush Bandral turned the game in Mulan's favour with a superb bowling spell, taking 4 wickets for 17 runs. He held his nerve in the final over, defending 11 runs to seal the match and earn the Man of the Match



award. The winning team received a trophy and Rs 1,00,000 from JKMGGA President Ranjeet Singh Chib, while runners-up Rehari Kings were awarded Rs 50,000 by General Secretary Neete Kaur. Jatin of Rehari Kings was named Man of the Series and awarded a trophy and Rs 5,000 by the tournament sponsors, including Deepak Handa (Owner, Tiny Tots School), Navneet Abrol (Owner, Palwan), and Narender Mahajan (MD, Nama Group).

Matches were officiated by umpires Harsh Nayyar and Deepak Gupta (Lucky), with Surinder Kumar as

scorer and Raman as Tournament Coordinator.

On the occasion, medal winners and convenors of the 8th National Masters Games held in Pune were also felicitated. Addressing the gathering, Sh. Ranjit Singh Chib, former SSP, international handball player, and JKMGGA President emphasized the role of Masters Games in promoting fitness and proving that age is no barrier to excellence.

General Secretary Neete Kaur expressed gratitude to all convenors and officials for ensuring the smooth conduct of the tournament and reiterated the association's commitment to pro-

moting fitness and sporting opportunities for all.

Executive Member Ashok Sharma also addressed the gathering, stating that master athletes continue to inspire society with their dedication and perseverance, proving that age is no barrier to excellence.

The program was conducted by Mamta Bajaj, whose energetic presence added vibrancy to the event. Prominent dignitaries of JKMGGA in attendance included Romesh Sharma, Som Raj Gupta, Sanjay Puri, Prabal Sharma, Rameshwar Singh Manhas, and other members of the sporting fraternity.

Suzie Bates to retire after ICC Women's T20 World Cup

NEW DELHI, APRIL 23: New Zealand have announced that star all-rounder Suzie Bates will retire from international cricket after this year's ICC Women's T20 World Cup.

Bates will retire from international cricket after the upcoming ICC Women's T20 World Cup in England, bringing the curtain down on a glittering career spanning 362 appearances for New Zealand.

Reflecting on a wonderful career, Bates told New Zealand Cricket, "When I look back on the past twenty-plus years, I can't quite believe how quickly the time has gone. I'm immensely proud to have worn the fern so many times, and I've been filled with enormous purpose and joy in striving each day to be a better person, teammate, cricketer, and athlete for this team. Words can't truly express my gratitude to all my teammates and coaches along the way. I have one final mission: to head to the UK - a place that holds so many special memories for me - and win another World Cup."

Bates has scored a whopping 14 centuries across all formats and taken 145 wickets. The all-rounder will depart the game with one of the most impressive resumes in recent times, having consistently performed at the highest level for her country since making her



debut against India in Lincoln back in 2006.

Bates will retire as New Zealand's highest-ever run scorer across all formats, and only Australian great Meg Lanning (15) and India opener Smriti Mandhana (14) can boast to have scored more ODI centuries than the 13 she has managed in 50-over cricket.

Her best ODI score of 168 came against Pakistan at the 2009 edition of the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup, while she also reached triple figures against the same opposition at the 2022 edition of the tournament on home soil.

While best known for her batting skills most regularly at the top of the batting order, Bates has also excelled

with the ball across the majority of her career and especially at a younger age, with the medium-pacer having picked up four-wicket hauls at both ODI and T20I level in 2009 and 2011, respectively.

Bates enjoyed a stint as captain of New Zealand between 2011 and 2018 and was perhaps at the peak of her powers in 2013 when she was adjudged the ICC Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year, having dominated the World Cup in India when she finished as the leading run-scorer.

She was also named the ICC Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year and ICC Women's T20I Cricketer of the Year in 2016 following a dominant period in bilateral

cricket in both formats.

Bates has also filled in as captain in recent times when regular skipper and long-time friend Sophie Devine has been sidelined, with her crowning moment from a team perspective arriving at the 2024 edition of the T20 World Cup when New Zealand claimed the title for the first time, and the right-hander finished as the equal leading run-scorer for her side.

The New Zealand legend will be aiming to help her side to back-to-back T20 World Cup trophies when the 20-over showcase commences in June, with the White Ferns drawn in Group B alongside hosts England, Ireland, Scotland, Sri Lanka and West Indies.

YSS Doda intensifies drive against drug abuse

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 23

The Department of Youth Services & Sports (YSS) Doda has stepped up its efforts to curb drug abuse by intensifying the identification of cannabis hotspot areas and scaling up awareness initiatives under the ongoing Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan.

As part of the drive, field staff have been mobilized across the district to systematically map vulnerable locations in close coordination with the district administration and law enforcement agencies. The exercise is being carried out with utmost confidentiality and responsibility to ensure effective intervention and community trust.



In parallel, YSS Doda is actively organizing a series of awareness programmes across schools and local communities.

These include pledging ceremonies, interactive sessions and youth engagement activities aimed at educating young

minds about the harmful effects of substance abuse and encouraging them to adopt a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

DYSS Ganderbal holds Girls' Zonal Badminton Championship, promotes Drug-Free Lifestyle

GANDERBAL, APRIL 23:

Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) Ganderbal organised a Zonal-Level Badminton Championship for girls under the ongoing Nasha Mukta Abhiyan, encouraging young athletes to adopt a healthy and disciplined lifestyle.

The championship was held across the zones of Kangan, Ganderbal, Tulmullah, and Hariganwan, covering three age categories viz. Under-14, Under-17, and Under-19. A total of 203 participants took part in the championship, reflecting strong enthusiasm and growing interest in sports among young girls in the district.

The matches were conducted in a competitive yet friendly atmosphere, with participants demonstrating skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the event.

District Youth Services and Sports Officer (DYSSO) Ganderbal, appreciated the active



participation of the players and commended their spirit of fair play. He stressed the importance of sports in shaping character and keeping youth engaged in positive activities.

He also highlighted that such events under the Nasha Mukta Abhiyan play a vital role in spreading awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and motivating young people to lead a

healthy, drug-free life. The championship concluded successfully, with officials reiterating their commitment to promoting sports culture and youth development across the district.

CSK maul MI by 103 runs, get their biggest IPL win

MUMBAI, APRIL 23: Chennai Super Kings (CSK) registered a commanding 103-run victory over Mumbai Indians (MI) in their IPL 2026 "El Clasico" clash at Mumbai on Thursday, powered by a sensational century from Sanju Samson and a clinical bowling performance led by Akeal Hosen.

CSK posted a formidable 207/6, riding on Samson's fluent 101, before their bowlers dismantled MI's batting lineup, bundling them out for just 104. The hosts never recovered from an early collapse and were eventually outclassed in all departments as CSK sealed a dominant win.

With this victory, the Super Kings climbed to fifth in the IPL 2026 standings.

CSK's dominant 103-run victory over MI also went into the record books as their biggest win in terms of runs in IPL history. They surpassed their previous record of a 97-run win against Kings XI Punjab (Now Punjab Kings) in Chennai during the 2015 season.

For the Mumbai Indians, the defeat marked their heaviest loss in IPL history by runs. Their earlier worst margin of defeat was an 87-run loss to the Rajasthan Royals in Jaipur during the 2013 season. It also became their biggest defeat at the Wankhede Stadium, surpassing a 39-run loss to the Royal Challengers Bengaluru in 2015.

The total of 104 is MI's lowest score against CSK in IPL, lower than their 136/8 at Dubai in the 2021 edition. Overall, CSK have now won five of the last six encounters against MI since 2023. Chasing a target of 208, MI endured a disastrous start to their innings. They



lost opener Danish Malewar for a golden duck, dismissed by left-arm spinner Akeal Hosen in the very first over.

The troubles continued in the next over when seamer Mukesh Choudhary clean bowled Quinton de Kock for 7, leaving MI reeling at 11/2 after two overs.

In the third over, Hosen struck again, removing Naman Dhir for a three-ball duck as MI slipped further to 11/3 in just three overs.

By the end of the sixth over, MI had managed to reach 29/3, still under pressure after the early setbacks. However, the team staged a recovery as Tilak Varma and Suryakumar Yadav steadied the innings, taking MI to 78/3 at the conclusion of the 10th over.

On the fifth delivery of the 11th over, Hosen struck again to claim the crucial wicket of Tilak Varma, who was clean bowled. The left-handed batter played a fighting innings of 37 off 29 balls, hitting five boundaries before his dismissal, as MI scored 85/4.

In the 13th over, leg-spinner Noor Ahmad delivered a double blow that further dented Mumbai's innings. He first dismissed captain Hardik Pandya for just 1 on the opening delivery of the over, and followed it up immediately by removing

Sherfane Rutherford for a golden duck on the very next ball.

The twin strikes left MI reeling at 87/6 at the end of the 13th over, as their batting collapse continued.

The wickets continued to tumble as Akeal Hosen struck again on the very first ball of the 14th over, claiming his fourth wicket of the innings.

The left-arm spinner removed the key batter Suryakumar Yadav, who had played a resilient knock of 36 off 30 balls, including five boundaries. After the end of the 16th over, MI were reeling at 99/7.

Speedster Jamie Overton got the wicket of Krish Bhagat, as MI lost their eighth wicket during the last ball of the 17th over. The hosts reached 100/8. In the very next over, Anshul Kamboj removed Shardul Thakur (6).

MI were eventually bundled out for 104 runs after Gurjapneet Singh took the final wicket of Jasprit Bumrah. The Super Kings won the one-sided clash, El Clasico by 103 runs.

For CSK, Akeal Hosen bagged a four-wicket haul (4/17). Noor Ahmad (2/24), Mukesh Choudhary (1/31), Anshul Kamboj (1/10), Jamie Overton (1/14), Gurjapneet Singh (1/7) were

among the wicket-takers for their side.

Sanju Samson's fluent second hundred of the ongoing IPL cruised CSK to a massive 207-6. Samson was at his best once again as he slammed 101 off 54 balls, laced with 10 fours and 6 sixes, striking at 187.04.

This was also Sanju Samson's fifth IPL hundred, taking him to joint fourth on the all-time list alongside KL Rahul, behind Virat Kohli (8), Jos Buttler (7) and Chris Gayle (6). Samson's hundred is the first individual century by a CSK batter against MI in IPL.

MI won the toss and elected to bowl first. Sanju Samson and Ruturaj Gaikwad opened the innings for CSK. The Powerplay was a high-octane affair, dominated by CSK's aggressive intent.

They raced to 73 runs in the first 6 overs, utilising the fielding restrictions to the fullest. This was CSK's second-highest power-play score vs MI in IPL, after 90/0 at the same venue in 2015.

Despite losing skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad (22 off 14) in the 3rd over to Allah Ghazanfar, the scoring rate didn't dip.

Sanju Samson and Sarfaraz Khan continued the attack on MI bowlers, smashing both pace and spin. However, Mitchell Santner, after being smashed for 2 fours, got the better of Khan, removing him for 14, bringing Shivam Dube to the crease.

Ghazanfar struck again, removing Shivam Dube in the 9th over for just 5. Samson anchored the innings with a 26-ball fifty, supported by Dewald Brevis (21), before Ashwani Kumar removed Brevis in the 11th over.