



Won't change our style but we have plans for Sooryavanshi: Parthiv Patel

MULLANPUR, MAY 28: Gujarat Titans have been branded as a predictable outfit by rival teams and experts but assistant coach Parthiv Patel defended their approach by highlighting the team's remarkable consistency since its inception in 2022.

GT won the IPL in their debut season in 2022 and have not made the play-offs only once in the franchise's history.

Their top order including Shubman Gill, Sai Sudharsan and Jos Buttler have been highly effective with their traditional approach when openers of other teams are going at a much higher strike rate.

GT would be playing Rajasthan Royals in Qualifier 2 here on Friday and in the opposition is Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, who is in a league of his own at 15 years of age. He is the leading run getter in the tournament with 680 runs and batting at a strike rate of 242.85.

LSG director of cricket Tom Moody said GT fast bowlers, Mohammed Siraj and Kagiso Rabada, come into the game a lot more when there is assistance from the surface.

On the eve of the game, Parthiv said there is no reason for them change as they finished the league in top two. The loss to RCB in Qualifier is something they



would not like to dwell too much on.

"We were sitting pretty at number 2 in the points table. I know other teams can think whatever they want to think. There are 6 teams who have not qualified also and I know that the references which you have come from, that I know Tom Moody has said about GT. But see, we have finished number 2. And we know what kind of cricket we want to play. And we back ourselves to give results."

"Since GT's inception, four out of five years, we have qualified. Results are there for everyone to see. Everybody has their differ-

ent way of playing. We have our own style of playing. Even in the first half of the tournament, we were not doing that great. We were just doing okay.

"But we still stuck to our process. We trust in our ability. We know what we can do. And that is something which we will try to do tomorrow as well," said Parthiv.

Royals have the x-factor of Sooryavanshi and Jofra Archer while GT rely on consistency. What would Parthiv prefer?

"So as long as we are getting results, we don't have to think about whether we need an X-factor or consis-

tency. It's about getting pieces together and getting the result," said the former India wicketkeeper.

Titans will have to get rid of Sooryavanshi early else he could run away with the game. Having seen his sensational hitting on Wednesday night, Titans are wary but prepared at the same time. The team had used the short ball sparingly against Sooryavanshi in their last league game with Siraj getting him out.

Parthiv said they will reveal their cards only on the field.

"I am not a broadcaster at the moment, so won't be able to reveal our plans. I am very excited about the way he is batting. Hopefully, we will be able to get him out early in the game and we will be able to execute our plans.

"But what it is, you will only know when we are on the ground.

"The way he is batting people are liking it. I said the same thing last time as well. We should not be talking about his age.

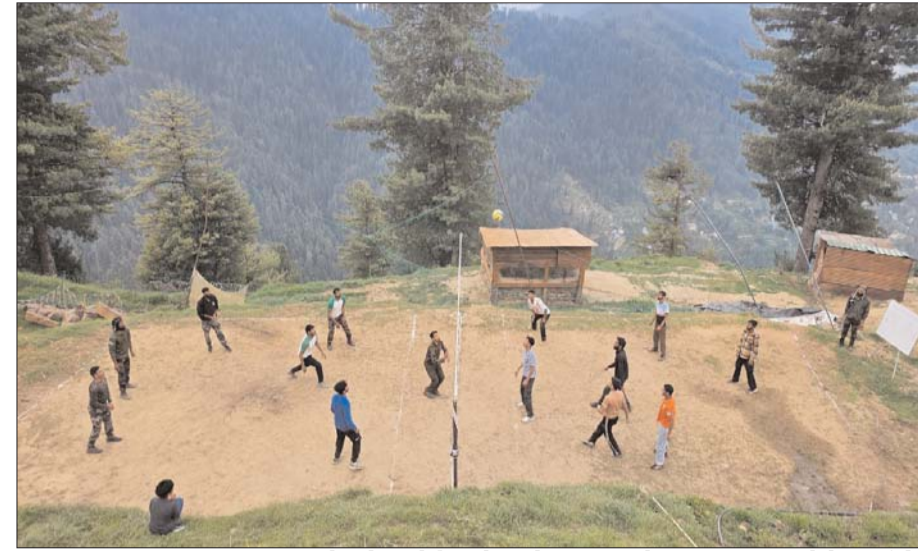
"I think that's something we need to put an end to. He's been a phenomenal talent just the way he's been playing. And it's great to see him and just from the opposition's point of view, we hope that he doesn't get too many runs," Parthiv added.

Army organises friendly volleyball match at Bhart in Doda

**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 28**

On popular demand of the locals of Bhart, the Indian Army organised a friendly volleyball match at Bhart, Doda, on 28 May 2026. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from four local teams, comprising 26 players from different communities, reflecting unity, sportsmanship and healthy competitive spirit.

The matches remained thrilling and closely contested till the end, drawing keen interest from locals and spectators. The initiative aimed to promote physical fitness, develop competitive spirit among youth and provide them a platform to showcase their sporting tal-



ent. Officials of the Indian Army congratulated all participating teams for their spirited performance and appreciated the enthusiasm

displayed by the players. The event also helped strengthen bonhomie among the youth, locals and the Indian Army.

Team members and resi-

dents expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Indian Army for organising the match and requested more such sporting events in the future.

7th District Samba Pencak Silat Championship concludes at Indoor Stadium Samba



**HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 28**

The 7th District Samba Pencak Silat Championship 2026 concluded successfully today at Indoor Stadium Samba with enthusiastic participation from more than 500 athletes representing various schools, clubs, and academies from across District Samba. The championship showcased remarkable talent, discipline, sportsmanship, and competitive spirit across multiple weight categories in both boys' and girls' divisions.

The championship was organized by the Pencak Silat Association Samba in collaboration with MY Bharat, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, and Nations Development Association (NDA).

Sh. Nitin Hangloo, State Director, MY Bharat Jammu & Kashmir, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The Guests of Honour included Dr. Samar Dev Singh Charak, Secretary, Dogra Educational Trust; Vivek Kumar, District Youth Officer, MY Bharat Jammu; Sushil Singh Charak, Chief Functionary, Nations Development Association (NDA) and State Resource Person, MY Bharat Jammu & Kashmir; former DDC Shilpa Dubey; and the Manager of Indoor Stadium Samba.

While addressing the gathering, the dignitaries highlighted the vital role of sports in shaping a disciplined, healthy, and drug-free society. They encouraged the participating athletes to continue striving

for excellence and actively contribute towards nation-building through sports and youth engagement.

The championship witnessed several outstanding performances, and the winners were felicitated during the closing ceremony. Gold medal winners included Narya, Vidhi, Aryush, Bhupinder, Ashish Sharma, Aryan Jamwal, Parnav Singh, Vihaa Rajput, Manik Sharma, Ridhan Sharma, Sanchita, and Aradhya Mathur, who displayed exceptional skill and determination in their respective categories.

Sh. Nitin Hangloo, SD, MY Bharat Jammu & Kashmir, highlighted the vision and objectives of MY Bharat and stressed the importance of youth engagement in nation-building activities. He stated that MY Bharat is providing a strong platform

for empowering youth through sports, leadership, volunteerism, and community participation, encouraging young people to contribute positively towards the development of society and the nation.

The event was conducted under the supervision of Event Organizer Ajay Sharma. The organizing committee included Nikhil Jaral as President, Prakshi Sharma as General Secretary, Amresh Kumar as Treasurer, and Aditya Singh as Organizing Secretary. Simran, Team Member of Pencak Silat Association Samba, also played an active role in the successful management and coordination of the championship.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks followed by the distribution of medals and certificates among the winners and participants.

A memorable debut for sprinter Nipam, wins 100m bronze in Hong Kong

NEW DELHI, MAY 28: It was a memorable debut for sprinter Nipam as she won the 100m bronze on the opening day of the U20 Asian Athletics Championships, which got underway in Hong Kong on Thursday.

The 18-year-old national record holder in the U20 women's 100m was slow off the blocks but regained lost ground as she shifted gears to post a time of 11.62 seconds to win the bronze medal. The sprinter from Uttar Pradesh has a personal best (also national U20 record) of 11.53 seconds, clocked during a domestic meet in April, as per a release. "I'm excited to have won a bronze medal for the team," jubilant Nipam said.

Nipam is also a member of the national 4x100m relay team and was confident of winning another medal in the four-day continental meet.

Qatar's 16-year-old Dana Noor Salem had a good start and eventually won the gold medal with a time



of 11.47 seconds. China's Xinxuan Chen, 16, took home the silver with a time of 11.54 seconds.

India's Vikas Kumar missed out on a medal as he finished fourth in the men's 3,000m race. He clocked 8:24.88, a personal best. In the women's 400m heats, India's Neeru

Pathak was a comfortable winner in her heat with a time of 54.42 seconds. Tahura Khatun finished second in her heat with a time of 55.06 seconds. Both athletes have qualified for the final.

However, it wasn't Mohammed Ashfaq's day. The athlete from Kerala fin-

ished fifth in the men's 400m semis with a time of 47.06 seconds and did not progress to the final.

In the men's hammer throw, India's Ashuendra Pratap Singh (64.34m) and Aman (63.40m) finished seventh and eighth, respectively.

India has a bright chance of winning a medal in the decathlon. Rahul Jakhar was impressive on Day One of the gruelling ten-event competition spread over two days. In the 100m, Rahul Jakhar clocked 10.70 seconds to earn 929 points. In the long jump, he collected 760 points with a leap of 6.77m.

In the shot put, his best throw of 13.04m got him 670 points. In the high jump (1.93m), he added 740 points to his tally. In the last event of the day---400m he clocked 50.25 seconds to earn 803 points.

The four-day 22nd Asian U20 Athletics Championships will conclude on May 31. (ANI)

Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar set to host major Asian Athletics events in 2027 and 2028

NEW DELHI, MAY 28: Two major continental competitions, the Asian Relay Championships and Asian Indoor Championships, will be held on Indian soil for the first time.

Chandigarh will be the venue for the 2027 Asian Relay Championships. The 2028 Asian Indoor Championships will be held in Bhubaneswar, as per the AFI website.

A Council Meeting of the Asian Athletics Association was held on Wednesday in Hong Kong, and India was allotted prestigious continental competitions, says Bahadur Singh Sagoo, president of the Athletics Federation of India (AFI).

"It will be a big boost to athletics in particular and sports in general. International events will enable the athletics

fraternity to witness top athletes in action," says the AFI president.

Odisha's Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi says hosting the Asian Indoor Championships in 2028 will further give a fillip to the sports culture in the state and the country.

"The Asian Indoor Championships will be good preparation for the 2028 World Athletics Indoor Championships," says Odisha's Chief Minister.

The 2028 Asian Indoor Championships will be held in Bhubaneswar's Indoor Stadium. "The Asian Indoor Championships will be held in January," says the AFI president.

Chandigarh will be the venue for the 2027 Asian Relay Championships. The competition will be held in May 2027, says Sagoo.

"The Chandigarh Administration has come forward to support the continental competition," says the AFI president. "The Asian Relay Championships will be held at Sector 7 Sports Complex." Mandeep Singh Brar, Chandigarh's home secretary, says organising Asian Relay Championships will be a big boost to sports culture in the region. "Chandigarh will host the prestigious continental competition for the first time. We are all excited to welcome top athletes from other Asian countries," says Brar.

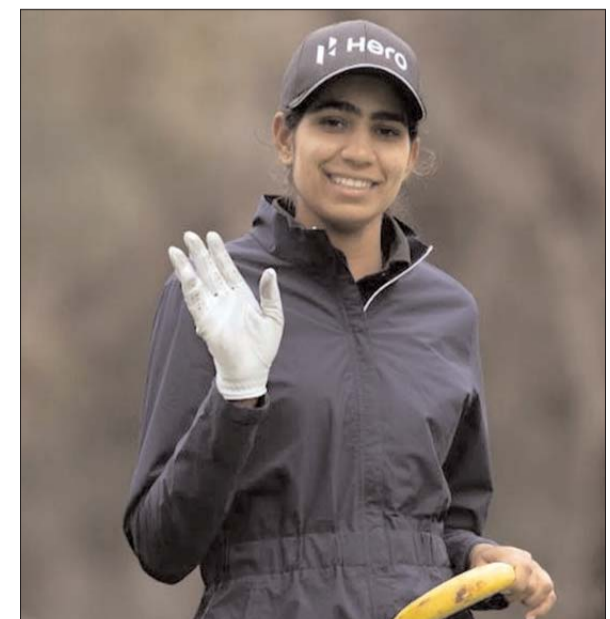
The Asian Relay Championships will be held in six events: Men's 4x100m and 4x400m relay. Women's 4x100m and 4x400m relay. The mixed relay will be organised in 4x100m and 4x400m. (ANI)

Strong start by Diksha Dagar at Jabra Ladies

EVIAN-LES-BAINS [FRANCE], MAY 28: Diksha Dagar produced a strong late finish to card a 4-under 67 and place herself firmly in contention after the opening round of the Jabra Ladies Open on the Ladies European Tour.

The two-time LET winner, who began her round from the sixth tee at the Evian Golf Resort, mixed steady golf with timely birdies to end the day just one shot behind the clubhouse leader.

Diksha opened confidently with birdies on the seventh and ninth holes before adding another gain on the 15th. Her only blemish came on the 17th, but she recovered impressively with back-to-back birdies on the fourth and fifth -- her closing holes -- to finish the day in second place midway through the first



round. The Indian golfer has already spoken of her ambition to challenge strongly this season, especially at the Women's Indian Open,

and her performance in France underlined that intent. Norway's Dorteia Forbrigg held the clubhouse lead with a 5-under 66.

Searching for her maiden Ladies European Tour title, Forbrigg registered six birdies against a lone bogey in an impressive opening effort.

Denmark's Sofie Kibsgaard was another player to make a bright start, carding a 2-under 69.

Among the other Indians in the field, Hitaashee Bakshi endured a difficult round and finished with an 8-over 79, leaving herself needing a strong second round to make the cut.

Avani Prashanth, who was still on the course, was even par through six holes, while Pranavi Urs stood at 1-over after three holes.

With several afternoon starters yet to tee off, Diksha's excellent opening round placed her in a strong early position heading into the remainder of the tournament. (ANI)