



Virat Kohli reinvents his T20 game with change in mindset, push from 'super young' players



AHMEDABAD, JUNE 01:

Indian superstar Virat Kohli said he needed a change in mindset and a bit of pushing from "super young" players to reinvent his T20 game after he smashed his fastest IPL fifty to power Royal Challengers Bengaluru to their second successive trophy.

In the IPL final against Gujarat Titans on Sunday, he fulfilled his long-cherished dream of hitting the winning runs for the franchise.

Kohli's unbeaten 75 was the cornerstone of RCB's second IPL title and the legend couldn't be more pleased with the amount of consistency he showed throughout the season.

"(It is the) stuff you dream of. (I) thought of this moment many times, wanting to hit the winning run," Kohli said at the post-match presentation ceremony.

Asked about his 25-ball half-century, Kohli showed why he eternally remains a

student of the game.

"Such is the demand (that) super young players (are) pushing you to up the ante," he said in jest, but the seriousness of his statement wasn't lost on anyone.

"I had to change my mindset, not my game so much, take on bowlers and get extra runs," he added.

What has pleased Kohli this season is the fact that in the first 10 games, there were eight different cricketers who won the Player of the Match award.

"We've had to wait for so long and then just to have a group of guys where you feel like you're stepping onto the ground, you don't need to be the one to step up every time," Kohli said.

"These guys are behind you (and) around you, who can win games of cricket for you. We have so many Man of the Match awards spread throughout the group as well."

"You look at world-class bowling of Hoff (Josh Ha-

zlewood), Bhuv (Bhuvneshwar Kumar), Duff (Jacob Duffy), and Krunal Pandya - you can bank on him as good as ever - Rasikh (Salam) Dar was brilliant this season," Kohli said.

The kind of team that RCB management put on the park during the last two seasons has made the difference, feels Kohli.

"I felt really relaxed coming in. The team we have gives confidence to see any kind of situation through. (We) knew exactly what to do in the chase."

Very carefully, he also spoke about how they didn't care which team was in the opposition but at the same time, there was respect for each and every other opponent.

"Our first target was to go top of the table. We didn't care what jersey was in front of us thereon. We are respectful, don't poke any team. We have mature professionals and experience shines through."

For him, on big days, it is the duty of the stars to pull the team through.

"Come the big situation, you need the big boys to step up. I know it's a chase and they'll look to get me out early, but I knew we have a champion side that can chase it down with 3-4 overs to go."

Having missed the bus for 17 seasons, Kohli remembers what Director of Cricket Mo Bobat told them after their maiden win in 2025.

"When we won last year, Mo Bobat said this is not the end of the journey and we had to go back-to-back. At the start of the chase, I told Venky (Venkatesh Iyer) that we need to kill the game in the powerplay. There was total clarity."

Kohli said the final this year felt a lot different than last year.

"I said to a few of the boys that it doesn't feel like the same pressure as last year, we knew what kind of ability we have in the group," he said.

"We topped the table, there's a reason why we got here first and we just said one thing, 'if we stick to our cricket, if we execute our plans, we are the best team in the competition' and there's a reason why we've done well so far."

Kohli said RCB were tested after a short break for them in the season, but a close victory over Mumbai Indians in Raipur instilled the belief back in the group.

"After the break, we had a couple of losses; I mean, one loss, and then we had a close win against MI," he said.

Corporate Cricket Club Clinch J&K Masters Cup Edition- 4 T20 Championship Title



HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUNE 01

The grand finale of the J&K Masters Cup T20 Cricket Championship Edition-4 organized by the Veterans Cricket Association J&K (VCAJK), witnessed an enthralling contest as Corporate Cricket Club emerged champions after defeating GST Gladiators by 40 runs in a high-intensity title clash.

The presentation ceremony was graced by Rajive Sharma, Member, J&K Sports Council, who attended as the Chief Guest

and distributed trophies, medals, and awards to the winners, runners-up, and outstanding performers of the tournament in presence of Deepak Dogra 'Baba', former Ranji Trophy player, Vivek Suri, General Secretary, Veterans Cricket Association J&K, and Anil Wadhwa, Manager, MA Stadium Jammu.

Speaking on the occasion, Rajive Sharma congratulated the organizers and participants for promoting cricket among veteran players and fostering a culture of fitness, camaraderie, and sporting excellence. Deepak

Dogra lauded the efforts of VCAJK in providing a competitive platform for veteran cricketers and encouraging lifelong participation in sports.

Vivek Suri expressed gratitude to all teams, officials, sponsors, and supporters for making the fourth edition of the championship a resounding success.

In the Finals, Batting first, Corporate Cricket Club posted a fighting total of 133 runs in 19.5 overs. Satish Kumar fought hard with 22 runs, while Ujwal added 12 but Jatin Sethi & Lucky shared match winning part-

nership of 34 runs for the last wicket.

For GST Gladiators, Rocky J delivered a sensational bowling spell, claiming 5 wickets for 24 runs, while Yogeshwar Saini chipped in with two wickets. Anchal Singh was equally impressive, conceding just 8 runs in his four overs.

Chasing 134 for victory, GST Gladiators faltered under pressure and were bundled out for 93 runs in 15.3 overs as the disciplined bowling attack of Corporate Cricket Club never allowed the chase to gain momentum.

Manik Gupta and Satish Kumar starred with the ball, taking two wickets each, while Jatin Sethi, Rinku and Lucky made crucial breakthroughs to dismantle the opposition batting lineup.

The final turned into a gripping contest before Corporate Cricket Club tightened their grip with timely wickets, producing a clinical all-round performance to lift the coveted trophy. Satish Kumar was declared Man of the Match, Rocky was declared Player of the tournament & Best Bowler, Samiullah Best Batsman & Lovish as Best Fielder of the tournament.

Massive participation witnessed in Inter-School Zonal Level Sports Competitions in District Doda

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUNE 01

The District Youth Services and Sports Department Doda is successfully conducting Inter-School Zonal Level Tournaments for Under-14 Boys and Girls across various zones of the District.

The sports competitions are being held at Ghat, Baderwah, Gundna, Bhalesa, Thathri, Bhagwah, Bhalla and Bhatyas in accordance with the departmental activity calendar issued by the Directorate of Youth Services & Sports, J&K UT.

The tournaments are being organized under the guidance of Director General, Youth Services & Sports J&K Anuradha Gupta with overall supervision of District Youth Services and Sports Officer Ashok Kumar and active monitoring by the respective Zonal Physical Education Officers.

The sporting events have witnessed overwhelming participation from thousands of students represent-



ing government and private educational institutions across the district.

Competitions are being hosted in a diverse range of disciplines, including Athletics, Football, Badminton, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Cricket, Chess, Yoga, Cycling, Fencing, Archery, Rifle Shooting, Karate, Wrestling, Table Tennis, Boxing, Swimming, Taekwondo, Handball and Basketball.

The tournaments created a vibrant sporting atmosphere, offering young athletes a valuable platform to showcase their talent, build confidence, strengthen teamwork and demonstrate true sportsmanship. The events are also fostering physical fitness, discipline, leadership qualities and healthy lifestyle practices among students. Comprehensive arrange-

ments have been made by the department to ensure the smooth and successful conduct of competitions at all venues.

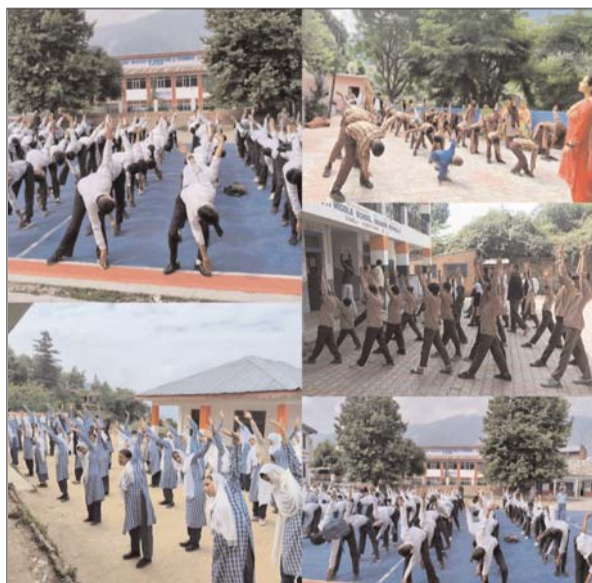
The dedicated efforts of Zonal Physical Education Officers, field staff, Physical Education Teachers, school authorities and organizing committees have played a pivotal role in the successful organization of these tournaments.

YSS Kishtwar organises district-wide fitness activities

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUNE 01

The Department of Youth Services & Sports (YSS) Kishtwar today organized "Fit India Movement" Warm-Up Exercise sessions along with an extensive Information, Education and (IEC) Campaign across various educational institutions of the district. The initiative formed part of ongoing 100 Day Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan.

The programme was conducted under the directions of Director General, Youth Services & Sports J&K Anuradha Gupta and under the supervision of District Development Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma. DYSSO Jaffer Haider Sheikh and Zonal



Physical Education Officers (ZPEOs) coordinated the programme.

The activities were organized at GHS Sangrambhatta, GHS Sarthal, GHS Tipri, Gali Gad Trigam-C,

GHSS Palmar and GHS Manzagam Qaderna and Other institutions. The students and staff members enthusiastically participated in warm-up exercises, embracing physical

fitness, healthy lifestyles and overall well-being.

Promoting Nasha Mukta Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan, the participants were sensitized to the harmful effects of drug abuse and substance addiction. Students were encouraged to adopt healthy habits, engage in sports and physical activities and act as ambassadors of a drug-free society.

The programme highlighted the importance of regular physical exercise as a key component of the Fit India Movement while reinforcing the objectives of the Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan. Resource persons emphasized that sports and fitness play a vital role in channelizing the energy of youth towards positive and productive pursuits.

Asian Junior Boxing Champion Yasser honoured at GBMHSS Rajouri

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUNE 01

Government Boys Model Higher Secondary School (GBMHSS) Rajouri on Monday accorded a grand and heroic welcome to its star student Mohd Yasser, who brought immense pride to the nation, Jammu & Kashmir and Rajouri by clinching the Asian Junior Boxing Championship 2026.

A special felicitation ceremony was organized by the school management,



staff, and students to celebrate the extraordinary achievement of the young boxer. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers,

parents, and members of the local community, who gathered to honour the champion's remarkable success. Speaking on the occa-

sion, Principal Mohd Muslim Wani congratulated Mohd Yasser for his historic achievement and announced several special recognitions in his honour. The School Principal declared free education for Mohammad Yasser as a mark of appreciation for bringing laurels to the institution and the country. He also presented a cash reward of 750,000 on behalf of the school fraternity in recognition of Yasser's dedication, hard work, and sporting excellence.

NEW DELHI, JUNE 1:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday congratulated the Indian contingent for its outstanding performance at the 22nd Asian U20 Athletics Championships.

PM Modi congratulated the Indian contingent on winning 19 medals, including 10 Gold medals, at the Championships.

Modi said that the achievement reflects the determination and excellence of India's young athletes.

He expressed hope that these accomplishments would inspire many more young Indians to pursue sports in the years to come. "Congratulations to the Indian contingent at the



22nd Asian U20 Athletics Championships for winning 19 medals, including 10 Golds. This outstanding

performance reflects the determination and excellence of India's young athletes.

May these achievements inspire many more young Indians to pursue sports in the years to come," Modi