



19 year Maya wins 400m title at Punjab State Championship

JALANDHAR, JUNE 05: *Nineteen-year-old athlete Maya has scripted an inspiring story by winning 400-metre race at the Punjab State Senior Athletics Championship, held in Ludhiana from June 4 to 5.*

Maya clocked 55.33 seconds to finish first and emerged as one of the standout performers of the championship.

Hailing from Sitto Gunno village in Abohar, Maya's journey to the top has been marked by determination, sacrifice and resilience. Born into a family of farm labourers, she grew up in extreme poverty alongside six sisters and a brother.

Education was a luxury that her family could barely afford.

"I only started going to school when I was 10, after my father managed to build a small house for us," Maya recalled. Until then, the family lived in a single room provided at the fields where her father worked.

Maya's struggle gained attention when The Tribune had highlighted that her mother had sold her earrings to buy her a pair of professional spike shoes, which she wore for the first time, when she competed at the U-20 Federation Cup, held in Bangalore, highlighting the financial challenges she faced in pursuing athletics.

Today, Maya trains in Jalandhar under the guidance of coach Sarabjit Singh Happy and she credits him for his unwavering support throughout her journey.

"He has supported me a lot," Maya said, acknowledging the role her coach has played in her development as an athlete.

Coach Sarabjit Singh Happy praised the young athlete's commitment and dedication. "Maya is a sincere athlete. I have been trying to help her since she came in contact with me. She is a promising athlete and has a bright fu-



ture ahead," he said. Following her victory in Ludhiana, Maya expressed her determination to continue improving and achieve greater success on the national stage. "Now I am preparing for the next national-level championship," she said confidently.

Sports Stadium Doda Witnesses Grand Opening of All India 16th Gufran Memorial T20 Cricket Championship

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUNE 05

The prestigious All India 16th Gufran Memorial T20 Cricket Championship 2026 commenced today at Sports Stadium Doda amidst great enthusiasm and fanfare. The tournament is being organized by the Young Star Cricket Club (YSCC) Doda under the banner of the Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan, with the objective of providing a positive platform for youth and promoting sports as a means to channel their energy towards constructive activities.

The championship is being sponsored and supported by the Indian Army, J&K Police, J&K Bank Ltd., Zum Zum Sweets, LIC, J&K Excise Department, and several other organizations.

The tournament was formally inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Doda Shri Krishan Lal, SSP Doda Shri Kartik Shrotriya (IPS), along with ADC Doda, PO ICDS Doda, officers from the Indian Army, and officials from the civil & police administration.

The inaugural match was played between Bhaderwah Cricket Club (BCC) and Alpha Riders Doda (ARD). After winning the toss, BCC elected to bat first and scored 160 runs before being bowled out in 19.2 overs.



Babar Mughal played a brilliant knock of 50 runs, while Muzaffar Sheikh contributed 31 runs. For ARD, Momen Batt and Yaqoob Butt were the pick of the bowlers, claiming four wickets each.

In reply, Alpha Riders Doda successfully chased the target in just 15.4 overs, losing nine wickets in the process. Muneeb Malik starred with a scintillating 80-run innings, while M. Imran added 22 runs. For BCC, Arif claimed four wickets, while Khalid Bashir took three wickets.

For his outstanding all-round performance, Momen Batt was adjudged the

Man of the Match. While sharing details about the tournament, Chief Patron, YSCC Doda, Mr. Manzoor Ahmed Batt, informed that a total of 64 teams from across India, including one team from Sri Lanka, are participating in the championship, making it one of the biggest cricketing events in the region.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner Doda and SSP Doda appreciated the efforts of the organizers in conducting the tournament and highlighted the importance of sports in promoting discipline, healthy lifestyles, and keeping youth away from

the menace of drug abuse. They extended their best wishes to all participating teams and expressed hope that the championship would further strengthen sports culture in the district.

Pertinent to mention that, the tournament, being conducted on a Day-Night pattern under floodlights, is expected to attract large crowds and provide exciting cricketing action over the coming days. The championship not only showcases cricketing talent from across the country but also promotes the spirit of sportsmanship, youth engagement, and a drug-free society.

50th Test: Rishabh Pant gets advice from Gambhir on what team expects from 'senior player' like him

MULLANPUR, JUNE 5: The lofted strokes still carry the same thrill, but two days before his landmark 50th Test appearance, Rishabh Pant was seen embracing a different approach.

During India's training session ahead of the one-off Test against Afghanistan, the dynamic wicketkeeper-batter appeared more measured, both in body language and intent, seemingly heeding the advice of head coach Gautam Gambhir.

It is no secret within Indian cricket circles that Gambhir was deeply frustrated by Pant's reckless shot selection during India's previous red-ball outing against South Africa in Guwahati.

Pant's dismissal in both innings became a major talking point, drawing criticism at a time when the team expected greater responsibility from one of its senior players.

And when Pant was seen negotiating spinners during the nets, the intent was on rock-solid defence with



Gambhir's hawk-eye prying on him from behind the nets.

The head-down copybook front-foot defence and backfoot defence were on display time and again. Those glorious hits would occasionally come out of closet.

Watching Pant, one could gauge that Gambhir must have had some plainspeak with the burly man from Roorkee.

"I think he's committed to playing a good role model and senior player. I actually heard him and Gauti (Gambhir's nickname) having a chat around that yes-

terday. 'How you want to conduct yourself as a senior player', expanding to the communications or so, how you're going to play," assistant coach Ryan Ten Doeschate said when asked how Pant was adjusting to the recent changes, including his removal from vice-captaincy.

"I don't think he needs a formal title to be a leader in an elite setup like this, and I think Rishabh understands that," Ten Doeschate said.

Pant's game, at times treads the fine line between heroism and harakiri, something that gets him love and hate in equal mea-

sure. Ten Doeschate doesn't want him to curb his brilliance but the team management does want him to tone down his impetuosity based on match situations.

"With Rishabh's brilliance, we don't want to take away all the stuff that he does but occasionally if he can adjust his game to play the (match) situations slightly more, I think that's something you'll see him work on."

A happy Rishabh Pant off the field is a destructive Rishabh Pant on it.

Gambhir knows that and so does Ten Doeschate. So he would reiterate that Pant is in a happy space and even the change in vice-captaincy wouldn't undermine his place as one of the senior-most players in the team -- only second to KL Rahul in this squad.

"He's been in great spirits again. He's always one of those guys who's happy and cheerful and sort of drives the spirit in the team and we've got no complaints from him.

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 05: Fifteen-year-old cricket prodigy Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's rapid financial rise has drawn attention to how Indian tax laws apply to high-earning minors. With an estimated net worth of Rs 7 crore from IPL earnings and brand endorsements, the young cricketer's success has sparked curiosity about his tax obligations and filing requirements.

Under the Income Tax Act, individuals below the age of 18 are classified as minors. In most cases, a minor's income is subject to the clubbing provisions under Section 64(1A), which require such income to be added to the taxable income of the higher-earning parent. This rule generally applies to passive income, such as interest earned on fixed deposits or returns from investments held in the child's name.

However, Sooryavanshi's earnings fall under an important exception. Income generated through a minor's own talent, skill, specialised



knowledge or professional effort is taxed separately in the minor's name and is not clubbed with a parent's income. Since Sooryavanshi's wealth is derived from his cricket skills, these earnings are treated as his independent taxable income. In such cases, a separate Income Tax Return (ITR) must be filed for the minor,

typically using ITR-3 or ITR-4 where applicable, with a parent or guardian acting as the representative assessee. While income arising from a minor's professional talent is taxed separately, any passive income that remains subject to clubbing provisions offers only limited relief. Parents can claim an exemption of Rs

1,500 per child against such clubbed income.

As the number of high-earning teenage athletes and influencers grows, tax experts caution that failing to distinguish between talent-based earnings and passive investment income can result in incorrect tax reporting and potential compliance issues.

Morocco team arrives in US ahead of FIFA World Cup campaign

NEW YORK [US], JUNE 4 (ANI): The Morocco football team has arrived in the United States ahead of the upcoming FIFA World Cup, stating that the squad has "touched down" and is ready to play the tournament, which is set to take place from June 12 to July 20 in the United States, Mexico and Canada.

Morocco will begin its World Cup Group C campaign against Brazil in New Jersey on June 13, before facing Scotland in Boston six days later. The team will then conclude its group-stage fixtures

against Haiti in Miami on June 24.

"Our lions just touched down on soil -- and it's time to play. It's time for 40 million Moroccan hearts to roar behind our. One nation, one dream, one team," Morocco wrote in an X post.

Our lions just touched down on ??? soil -- and it's time to play.

It's time for 40 million Moroccan hearts to roar behind our ???. One nation, one dream, one team. #DimaMaghrib ??? #FIFAWorldCup

pic.twitter.com/DbQ1aWWXOY



— Équipe du Maroc (@En-Maroc) June 4, 2026

Four years ago, Morocco made history by becoming the first African and Arab nation to reach the FIFA World Cup semifinals in Qatar, eliminating Spain and Portugal along the way before narrowly losing to France.

They now enter the 2026 edition with another strong squad, aiming to replicate, or surpass, their remarkable 2022 campaign. Meanwhile, FIFA has confirmed a record-breaking participation for the upcoming show-

piece event, with final squad lists revealing 1,248 players from 48 nations set to compete in the expanded global tournament.

With just a few days remaining until kick-off, the latest figures underline the unprecedented scale of the competition, which will feature more teams, players and matches than any previous edition of the marquee event, as per the FIFA Website.

Argentina are the reigning champion of the World Cup after winning the 2022 marquee tournament in Qatar. (ANI)