



11 years Atiqa becomes youngest Indian to record two top-10 finishes in 'Formula 1 of Karting'

KRISTIANSTAD (SWEDEN), AUG 11: Racing sensation Atiqa Mir added another feather to her cap by becoming the youngest Indian to collect a couple of impressive top-10 finishes in Round 4 of the FIA European Championship, a marquee event in the world of karting.

Atiqa, all of 11, showed tremendous speed and fight to achieve a ninth and J10th place in the heat races in the 12-14 age category. Atiqa, the first Indian to be backed by F1 Academy, qualified P11, which was remarkably only 0.13 seconds off the fastest time, reflecting the intensely competitive nature of the grid.



reer but considering the challenge at hand in the FIA European Championship, which is dubbed as 'Formula 1' of the karting world, she was pleased with her performance in Sweden.

"I'm super happy with my performance here. We achieved all our targets and we have a good technical understanding of these FIA events. I've improved my driving as well and I feel with some more experience I can fight towards the front of the grid. I feel ready for a full championship next year," she said.

Atiqa's father Asif Mir, India's first national karting champion, felt she exceeded expectations with her performance against drivers with a lot more experience.

"Atiqa showed a lot of maturity far beyond her age. She was up against all star karters of the world including Formula 1 junior development drivers. Her speed in qualifying against them was very encouraging with only a tenth of a second separating her from the fastest time. She still has a lot to learn and driving amongst the best drivers in the world gives her an opportunity to learn from them. We feel we will be in a championship fight next year. She is only 11 so she has time of her hands," said Asif.

In May, Atiqa had created another record by becoming the youngest Indian to finish sixth in Round 2 of the FIA European championship in Spain.

The European Championship is the highest level of karting and is run directly by the sport's governing body FIA.

Kohli's intensity inspires 5 others to stretch limits, says ex-India coach

NEW DELHI, AUG 11: Former India fielding coach T Dilip says Virat Kohli's relentless intensity has a contagious effect on the team and pushes at least five other players to "stretch their limits" whenever they share the ground with him.

Dilip, whose nearly five-year stint with the Indian team ended after the recent tour of England, also lauded Kohli's ability to maintain the same intensity in training and matches as one of the biggest influences on India's fielding standards.

"When it comes to Virat Kohli, intensity is non-negotiable. You have seen him in the powerplay, how he is as a batsman, whether at cover or short mid-wicket, with his reflexes and with his dives, is admirable," Dilip told 'JioStar'.

"Even in the last series, he was putting in those dives and was sharp, always at you all the time.

"Even at this juncture of his career, he runs from long-on to long-on at either end during the death overs, and he is the first one to run out of the circle when the field is spread, and that's a fabulous thing to do for the team."

Dilip, however, said Kohli's influence extends beyond the moments when



the ball comes his way.

"But what impressed me more is not just the actions, what he does when the ball is at him, but also when the ball is not near him, he wants the ball in his hands," he said.

"With Virat Kohli, there is not much difference between him in a practice session and a match, because it's not just Virat; it's the five other players who have stretched their limits when they are fielding with Virat Kohli. That's the influence he brings into the group."

Dilip's tenure as India's fielding coach included the team's triumph in the 2024 T20 World Cup in Barbados, which he described as the best moment of his stint.

"If I go back to my best moment, I think Barbados 2024, not just the trophy, but the dressing room atmosphere afterwards, the silence for a few seconds before it broke. I could sense the amount of hard work the boys had put in over those four years. And I'll always keep that frame in my mind," he said.

Dilip also recalled the emotions surrounding Suryakumar Yadav's spectacular catch to dismiss David Miller in the final over of the 2024 T20 World Cup final.

"For the first few seconds, I was silent and calm physically because my mind was doing all the calculations, whether Surya had taken that ball cleanly, whether his feet were inside the boundary rope, whether he had popped the ball out in

time.

"But once it was confirmed that it was a clean catch, there was a surge of emotions. But in the back of my mind, I also knew that the match had yet to be completed."

Dilip also spoke about the fielding medal introduced during his tenure, saying it helped create healthy competition among the players.

With India set to tour Sri Lanka for a Test series, Dilip said fine margins in slip positioning could prove crucial, particularly against fast bowlers and spinners.

"The important factor is that the spacing between the fielders has to be very fine because the ball comes faster in the slip region while fielding to fast bowlers. You may not have time to really go wide on your lateral side," he said.

"And for the spinners, I think, with most of the spinners, we saw how Shubman placed them in the Afghanistan series. It's like, how would you place yourself, the gap between your keeper and slip, to take those finer edges which go on to your left side?" he noted.

"And also, based on the turn, how fast or slow it is coming, how much you should stand away from the batter or not, will be key."

Shooter Maheshwari draws on Paris Olympics lesson ahead of Asian Games debut

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 11: Maheshwari Chauhan, one of the India's key shotgun athletes who missed a coveted medal at the Paris Olympics by a whisker, wants to take forward learning lessons to the Asian Games 2026 in Aichi-Nagoya games.

The 30-year-old is currently part of an Asian Games preparatory camp for trap and skeet shooters at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi.

According to a press release from NRAI, a total of 12 shooters - six each from the skeet and trap teams - are a part of the camp, sanctioned by the Sports Authority of India (SAI), to be held until August 18.

SAI has provided finan-

cial assistance to the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) for organising the camp which also covers boarding and lodging, travel, range facilities, ammunition and consumables, coaching and support staff, among other requirements.

Maheshwari and Anantjeet Singh Naruka finished fourth in the mixed team skeet event in Paris, missing the bronze medal by just one point. Their fourth-place finish was historic as they became the first Indian pair to reach the final of an Olympic skeet event.

For Maheshwari, that experience, over the last two years, became a foundation for her next challenges. Speaking ahead of the Asian Games, she said her ap-

proach remains the same regardless of the stature of the competition.

"My actual expectation (from my debut Asian Games) is to really just be very present and enjoy myself. I think I'm going to just have the same approach to any competition. The titles keep changing and the process and the approach stays the same," she told SAI Media on the sidelines of the camp.

The Rajasthan shooter, who is also a Khelo India Athlete (KIA), said the Paris experience has given her greater confidence and a stronger foundation to build on.

"A debut Olympic Games can be a little strange but I did really enjoy myself and

it's given me a great base to build on and I think that's all I want to do going ahead, learn from that experience," she continued.

Reflecting on the 2024 moment, Maheshwari added, "It isn't something that you can forget. And it just stays with you. And then you're always a little more motivated and hungrier to push yourself more."

The ongoing camp includes Indian Shotgun Athletes selected for participation at the Asian Games 2026:

Skeet team - Anantjeet Singh Naruka, Parinaaz Dhalwal, Bhavtegh Singh Gill, Mairaj Ahmad Khan, Raiza Dhillion, Maheshwari Chauhan.

ASMITA Bandipora Wushu League concludes

Sports & Allied News JAMMU, August 11:

The two-day ASMITA District Bandipora Wushu League concluded today at Universal Educational Trust, Bandipora witnessing a healthy participation of around 350 female players.

The League featured women athletes from sub-junior, junior and senior categories across nine weight divisions, providing them an opportunity to compete at the district level, showcase their talent and gain valuable competitive exposure, a handout issued by the Wushu Association of J&K here today informed.



The DySP Bandipora, Vasu Agarwal attended the closing ceremony as chief guest, while Dr. Farooq Ahmad, chairman of Universal Educational Trust, was the guest of honour. Brand Ambassador of Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan, Padma Shri Faisal Ali Dar was among other prominent present.

Addressing the participants, Vasu Agarwal appreciated the initiative and highlighted the importance of martial arts for girls, particularly at a time when concerns over crimes against women and girls are increasing. He also appreciated Bandipora's growing sporting culture and lauded the efforts of Faisal Ali Dar in bringing such sporting opportunities to the district.

Faisal Ali Dar thanked the

Wushu Association of J&K for providing technical support for the league, including deputing certified referees for the competition.

In the Sub-Junior Girls 32 kg category, Nazrana Ma-jeed of Universal Educational Trust won gold, Heerun Nisa from Shadipora secured silver and Humaira Shafi of Universal Educational Trust bagged bronze. In the 42 kg category, Uzma Qadir from Shadipora claimed gold, followed by Mansha of Universal Educational Trust with silver and Huda Farooq of Universal Educational Trust with bronze.

In the Sub-Junior Girls 45 kg category, Mehreen Mehraj of Ali's Sports Academy won gold, while Aari-zoo Mudasir and Aiman, both from Universal Educational Trust, secured silver and bronze respectively. In the 48 kg category, Ronak Zehra from Shadipora won gold, Anjuman Shabir from Shadipora took silver and Soliha Bint Parvaiz of GHSS Bandipora secured bronze.

In the 52 kg category, Aabiru Din from Shadipora won gold, Insha Ishfaq of Universal Educational Trust secured silver and Aisha Firdous of GHSS Bandipora claimed bronze.

In the 56 kg category, Iqra Bilal of Ali's Sports Academy bagged gold, Naila Zahoor from Shadipora won silver and Seerat Sajad of GHSS Bandipora secured bronze.

In the Junior Girls 56 kg category, Falakun Nissa from Shadipora won gold, Razia Bashir of GHS Plan

secured silver and Nasreena Bano of GHS Plan took bronze.

In the 60 kg category, Laika Mushtaq of Ali's Sports Academy claimed gold, while Simran Jan and Gulshan Bano of GHSS Bandipora won silver and bronze respectively.

In the Junior Girls 65 kg category, Saima Mushtaq of GHS Plan won gold, Sadiya Nisar of Universal Educational Trust secured silver and Samiya of GHS Plan bagged bronze.

The event concluded with the distribution of gold, silver and bronze medals among the top performers. The league provided young girls with a platform to gain competitive experience while promoting sports, fitness, confidence and self-defence.

Commonwealth Fencing Championships 2026: CISF Fencers win 2 bronze medals in Lagos

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 11: CISF sportspersons Annu Priya from Haryana and Shruti Joshi from Maharashtra won bronze medals at the ongoing Commonwealth Fencing Championships 2026 in Lagos, Nigeria. The competition, which started on August 9, will finish on August 14.

Annu Priya secured the Bronze medal in women's Individual Epee, while Shruti Joshi won the Bronze medal in Women's Individual Sabre.

Representing CISF at the international championship, both athletes put up strong performances in their respective events and brought recognition to the Force at the international level, according to a press release from CISF.

The Director General, CISF, along with senior officers of the Force, congratulated Annu Priya and Shruti



Joshi on their achievement and appreciated their performance at the championship. The achievement also reflects CISF's continued focus on promoting sports and supporting its sportspersons through its sports policy, which provides opportunities and an

enabling environment for personnel to pursue sporting excellence while serving in the Force. With these two medals, CISF sportspersons have once again demonstrated their presence and competitive strength at the international sporting arena. In Durand Cup

2026, CISF Protectors lost to Mohun Bagan Super Giant 0-6 at the Kishore Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata on Monday. The win secured Mohun Bagan's spot in the quarter-finals/last-eight as Group A winners, while CISF Protectors were eliminated. Sahal Abdul Samad stole the limelight with a scintillating first-half hat-trick, while Manvir Singh, Jamie MacLaren and Tekcham Abhishek Singh also found the scoresheet as the Mariners completed a perfect group-stage campaign with three wins from three matches, as per a press release from AIFF Media. Already on six points from their opening two matches, Panagiotis Dilimperi's side entered the contest with a quarterfinal spot confirmed, while CISF Protectors were looking to end their campaign on a positive note after back-to-back defeats.

Yash Dhull, Siddharth Joon power Central Delhi Kings to 9-wicket win over New Delhi Tigers

NEW DELHI, AUG 11: Central Delhi Kings produced a dominant all-round performance to register a convincing nine-wicket victory over New Delhi Tigers in the Delhi Premier League (DPL) at the Arun Jaitley Stadium on Tuesday in a rain-curtailed fixture that was reduced to 18 overs per side.<



Yash Dhull and Siddharth Joon gave the side a flying start, putting together a massive 126-run partnership for the opening wicket. Dhull was at his destructive best, smashing 76 off just 28 balls. His explosive innings included eight sixes and six fours, putting the Kings' bowling attack under

balls, according to a press release from DPL.

Despite the Tigers putting up a competitive total, Central Delhi Kings kept taking wickets at regular intervals. Gavnish Khurana was the pick of the bowlers, finishing with impressive figures of 3/36 from his four overs.

Chasing 186, Central Delhi Kings came out with a

clear attacking approach. Captain Yash Dhull and Siddharth Joon gave the side a flying start, putting together a massive 126-run partnership for the opening wicket. Dhull was at his destructive best, smashing 76 off just 28 balls. His explosive innings included eight sixes and six fours, putting the Kings' bowling attack under

huge pressure.

After Dhull's dismissal, Joon continued to attack alongside Yugal Saini. The pair added another 50-run stand to keep the chase firmly under control. With wickets in hand and the required run rate well within reach, Central Delhi Kings comfortably completed the chase to seal a comprehensive victory. Joon smashed an unbeaten 83 off 34.

Brief Score: New Delhi Tigers (185/8 in 18 Overs) - Himmat Singh 46 (21), Keshav Dalal Singh 39 (31) and Gavnish Khurana 36/3 lost to Central Delhi Kings (187/1 in 12.2 Overs) - Siddharth Joon 83* (34), Yash Dhull 76 (28) and Yashjeet 44/1.