



Smriti Mandhana's 124, spinners power India to 137-run win over Hong Kong in Women's Asia Cup

DUBAI [UAE], SEPTEMBER 3 (ANI): *Smriti Mandhana delivered a record-breaking batting masterclass as India Women cruised to a massive 137-run victory over Hong Kong in their Group A encounter of the Women's Asia Cup 2026 at the Dubai International Stadium on Thursday.*

Mandhana produced a breathtaking batting masterclass, smashing 124 off just 64 balls as India Women posted 193/5. In reply, Hong Kong could only manage 56 runs on the board as Indian spinner Deepti Sharma (3/9 in 3 overs), Shree Charani (2/16 in 3.2 overs) and Prema Rawat (2/12 in 3 overs) dismantled the Hong Kong batting lineup in 16.2 overs. Medium pacer Nandani Sharma also claimed two wickets, registering figures of 2/6 in 3 overs.

Hong Kong struggled to build any momentum in their chase of 194 as India's bowlers maintained control from the outset.

Fast bowler Kranti Gaud set the tone with a maiden over to Natasha Miles in the opening over, before Nandani Sharma struck in the second, bowling Mariko Hill for a four-ball duck to put Hong Kong under early pressure.

Hong Kong managed just 16 runs for the loss of one wicket during the power-



play, with Yasmin Daswani and Miles finding boundaries hard to come by. Daswani was eventually dismissed for 11 off 23 balls by Deepti Sharma, while Miles top-scored with 15 off 27 before Prema Rawat accounted for her in the 10th over. Rawat struck again in the 12th over, dismissing Hong Kong captain Kary Chan.

Nandani Sharma then claimed her second wicket by removing Maryam Bibi for seven, while Shree Charani dismissed Marina Lamplough for 14 in the 15th over as Hong Kong slipped to 55 for six.

Deepti Sharma ran through the lower order, claiming three wickets in

the 16th over to dismiss Joyleen Kaur, Iqra Sahar and Mei Wai Siu, leaving Hong Kong nine down.

Shree Charani wrapped up the innings, with Hong Kong bowled out for 56 in 16.2 overs to hand India a commanding 137-run victory.

After India were asked to bat first, Shafali Verma opened the innings along with Mandhana.

Mandhana found able support from Verma, who made a decent 28 off 17 balls, including three fours and two sixes. The opening pair added 74 runs before Verma was dismissed by Ruchitha Venkatesh.

Once the powerplay was done and dusted, Mand-

hana shifted gears to unleash total dominance.

Pratika Rawal contributed 10 off 12 balls before Joyleen Kaur accounted for her, while Richa Ghosh scored 11 off 13 deliveries, including a four, before being dismissed by Marina Lamplough.

Captain Harmanpreet Kaur joined Mandhana in the middle late in the innings but was not able to contribute much as she was also removed for just 10 off 9 balls.

For Hong Kong, Marina Lamplough scalped two wickets, while Ruchitha Venkatesh and Joyleen Kaur grabbed a wicket each.

Notably, Mandhana scripted history by overtaking legendary compatriot Mithali Raj to become the highest run-scorer in women's international cricket across all formats. Mandhana reached the landmark with a 64-ball 124-run knock against Hong Kong, surpassing Mithali Raj's tally of 10,868 runs. The all-time top five run-scorers in women's international cricket now are Smriti Mandhana with 10,880 runs, followed by Mithali Raj, New Zealand's Suzie Bates with 10,740, England's Charlotte Edwards with 10,273 and West Indies' Stafanie Taylor with 10,007 runs to her name. (ANI)

GCW Gandhi Nagar Honours Sporting Stars, celebrates a Legacy of Excellence

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achievers.

The programme was organised by Convenor, Sports, Prof. Shrdha Anand, Director of Physical Education and Sports, Ms. Kajal Premi, and members of the Sports Committee. Speaking on the occasion, Principal Prof. (Dr.) Kulvinder Kour congratulated the sportspersons and lauded their remarkable performances, discipline and perseverance. She appreciated the concerted efforts of the Sports Department and Sports Committee in nurturing tal-

ent and providing students with platforms to compete at prestigious levels.

She encouraged the achievers to continue striving for excellence and inspire other students to take up sports with passion and determination.

Among the prominent achievers felicitated were Jiya Chowdhury, who secured a Silver Medal at the All India Inter-University Championship in Pencak Silat; Simran Devi, who represented at the Senior National level in River Rafting;

and Akriti Sharma, who won a Silver Medal at the National Thang-Ta Championship.

The ceremony was a celebration not merely of medals, but of determination, discipline, courage and the indomitable spirit of young women in sports. The achievements of these sportspersons have added another glorious chapter to the sporting legacy of PSPS GCW Gandhi Nagar and serve as an inspiration for the entire student community.

Smriti Mandhana script's history surpasses Meg Lanning to become leading 100-maker in international cricket

DUBAI [UAE], SEPTEMBER 3: Records tumbled at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium as India opener Smriti Mandhana etched her name in the record books, becoming the batter with the most centuries in women's international cricket.

Mandhana became the leading century-maker in women's international cricket, moving to 18 centuries and surpassing former Australia captain Meg

Lanning's tally of 17.

South Africa's Laura Wolvaardt also has 17 international hundred, while West Indies' Hayley Matthews has 15.

Mandhana achieved this feat during India's Women's Asia Cup clash against Hong Kong in Dubai on Thursday. Mandhana also became the first Indian woman to score two T20I centuries, going past skipper Harmanpreet Kaur. Mandhana also became the leading run-

scorer in women's international cricket, moving to 10,880 runs and surpassing former India captain Mithali Raj's tally of 10,868.

New Zealand's Suzie Bates (10,740), England's Charlotte Edwards (10,273) and West Indies' Stafanie Taylor (10,007) complete the top five.

Coming to the match, Mandhana produced a breathtaking batting masterclass, smashing 124 off just 64 balls as India

Women posted 193/5 against Hong Kong Women in their Women's Asia Cup 2026 Group A clash at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Thursday. Mandhana dominated from the outset, striking 14 fours and seven sixes at a staggering strike rate of 193.55.

For Hong Kong, Marina Lamplough scalped two wickets, while Ruchitha Venkatesh and Joyleen Kaur grabbed a wicket each. (ANI)

Asian Games 2026: Mairaj Ahmad Khan predicts dynamic rise of Indian shooting

NEW DELHI [INDIA], SEPTEMBER 3 (ANI): Mairaj Ahmad Khan is one of the oldest members of the Indian squad at the Asian Games 2026. At 50, the veteran shooter is still going strong and gunning for a debut medal at the Asiad, despite sounding stoic in his approach.

"Look, every athlete expects to win. But as far as I believe, if you go into a competition with fewer expectations, it is better for you. Because if you go with expectations, you are already in the future; you are not in the present. You have to focus on what you need to do at that very particular moment," the experienced skeet shooter told SAI Media.

Two Olympics, including being the first Indian skeet shooter to qualify for the Olympics at Rio in 2016 – exactly ten years back,



"We are preparing very well for the Asian Games. There is a whole team here at our shotgun camp at the Dr. Karni Singh Range (KSSR). SAI has arranged everything for us - we have Strength and Conditioning coaches, physios, our foreign coach Riccardo Filippelli, our head coach Amrinder Singh Cheema, and all other staff are here. I think it is a very useful camp for preparation, and it will

work, Inshallah, at the Asian Games," Mairaj continued.

Mairaj is a part of the preparatory camp for shotgun shooters prior to the Asian Games. The 15-day camp is scheduled until September 14. A total of 12 shooters (six in trap and six in skeet – including Mairaj) are training at Dr. KSSR. The shotgun events start September 21 at the Aichi Prefectural General Shooting Gallery in Toyota City,

Japan.

A notable presence in the Indian shotgun hall of fame, the 50-year-old Mairaj, who started off his journey in 1994, predicts a bright next four years for the country in the sport. "I think skeet and trap, if we talk about shotgun, both have come up very well, and in the coming time it will become even better," Mairaj continued to SAI Media.

Mairaj's CV is illustrious. He has performed at the highest level for over three decades in the sport – and still relishes every little support being given to help him in his career.

"The platforms that the Indian Government, the Sports Ministry and SAI have created at this moment, programs and platforms such as Khelo India, are going to be very important for the coming generation.

DUBAI [UAE], SEPTEMBER 3 (ANI): Indian batting heavyweight Smriti Mandhana dedicated her record-breaking century against Hong Kong to her family, while acknowledging that India had limited exposure to their opponents and had to focus on adjusting to the pace of the game.

Mandhana delivered a masterclass as India Women cruised to a massive 137-run victory over Hong Kong in their Group A encounter of the Women's Asia Cup 2026 at the Dubai International Stadium on Thursday.

"It's been a lot of things; I would like to dedicate this to my family. We are not really aware of them because we have only seen a few videos, just more about adjusting to the pace," Mandhana said after the match.

Mandhana smashed 124 off just 64 balls as India Women posted 193/5. In reply, Hong Kong could only managed 56 runs on



the board as Indian spinner Deepti Sharma (3/9 in 3 overs), Shree Charani (2/16 in 3.2 overs) and Prema Rawat (2/12 in 3 overs) dismantled the Hong Kong batting lineup in 16.2 overs. Medium pacer Nandani Sharma also claimed two

wickets, registering figures of 2/6 in 3 overs.

Mandhana has become the leading century maker in women's international cricket, surpassing Australia's Meg Lanning. She has also surpassed former Indian skipper Mithali Raj

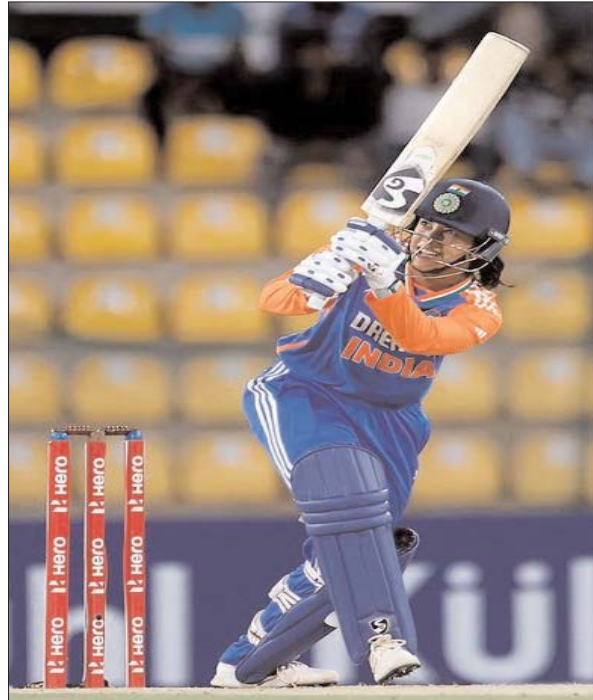
"I didn't know all of this happened": Mandhana after breaking multiple records

DUBAI [UAE], SEPTEMBER 3 (ANI): Following breaking multiple records, Indian batting heavyweight Smriti Mandhana admitted she was unaware of the records broken during her century against Hong Kong.

She also praised Hong Kong's disciplined power-play bowling and energy. She said the surface offered some low bounce early on but became easier to bat on once she settled in, adding that she was delighted to contribute and praised the occasion as memorable for Hong Kong as well.

Mandhana produced a breathtaking batting masterclass, smashing 124 off just 64 balls as India Women posted 193/5 against Hong Kong Women in their Women's Asia Cup 2026 Group A clash at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Thursday.

"I didn't know all of this



happened. It's really hard for me to play slower bowlers, but credit to them. They were really disciplined in the powerplay. They bowled pretty well, and the

kind of energy they showed was something which we all can learn from. Having said that, I just love batting, and I'm happy that I could contribute," Mandhana said af-

ter India's first innings.

"It did keep a little low in the powerplay. I think once you've got your eyes set, it was a little easier to pick up length and just go under the ball a little more. Credit to them; I'll just keep talking about them because it's the first time we're playing them and it's just a memorable occasion for them as well," she added. Mandhana became the leading century-maker in women's international cricket, moving to 18 centuries and surpassing former Australia captain Meg Lanning's tally of 17. Mandhana also became the leading run-scorer in women's international cricket, moving to 10,880 runs and surpassing former India captain Mithali Raj's tally of 10,868. She also became the first Indian woman to register two T20I centuries, going past India skipper Harmanpreet Kaur. (ANI)