

NATIONAL GAMES ROUND UP: MALLAKHAMBH HEROES TAKE MAHARASHTRA TO SECOND PLACE ON MEDAL TABLE BEHIND SERVICES

Relevant for: Developmental Issues | Topic: Human resources, Youth, Sports and related issues

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Significantly, with a total of 126 medals, including 36 silver and 56 bronze, Maharashtra have the largest haul in the Games. Services continue to lead with 53 gold, 33 silver and 29 bronze but have a lower aggregate of 115 medals. Haryana's 32 gold, 30 silver and 38 bronze made them the third to touch the 100-medal mark.

In the final rush for medals, Gujarat's boy wonder, 10-year-old Shauryajit Khaire, created history, becoming the youngest medallist of the Games when he clinched the bronze medal in Pole Mallakhambh.

The hosts had another good day, with Pooja Patel teaming up with Komal Makwana to clinch her second Yogasana gold medal. They also picked up the Men's and Women's singles bronze medals in Soft Tennis to take their own medal tally to an impressive 43, including 13 gold, 12 silver and 18 bronze with two more days of competition left.



Maha's Rupali Gangawane dished out a clinical performance to claim her third gold medal at the stunning Sanskardham Sports Academy facility in Godhavi. She took top honours in the Women's Rope competition (9.25 points) today, to add to the Individual All-Around gold and Team gold she had won on Sunday.

She also won a bronze in the Pole competition to be among the handful of multiple medal winners in the Games. Madhya Pradesh's Sidhi Gupta took the Pole with 9.10 points.

Akshay Prakash Taral, the men's All-Around champion, added a second gold to his collection by winning the Rope competition with 8.95 points. His team-mate Shubhankar Vinay Khawle scored 9.20 points on the Pole to win the other gold for Maharashtra, preventing a Madhya Pradesh sweep.

There was massive disappointment for the Maharashtra Men's Hockey team who were unable to make the most of their pre-match favourites tag against Uttar Pradesh in the semifinals at the Maj. Dhyan Chand Stadium in Rajkot. Maharashtra rallied from three goals down to take the match into the penalty shootout but ran out of luck there.



Karnataka will take on Uttar Pradesh in the final. They struck in the first and the fourth quarters to pull off a convincing 3-1 win over Haryana in the other semifinal.

Abharan Sudev converted Karnataka's first penalty corner in the fourth minute but Haryana hit back through Kohinoor Preet Singh in the 17th minute. After a barren third quarter, Karnataka scored through Nikkin Thimmaiah (47th minute) and Harish Mutagar (51st) to seal their place in the summit clash.

The Softball competition at the IIT Gandhinagar is also heading for a climax, with the Maharashtra Men's and Punjab Women's teams booking their place in the respective Grand Finals by beating squads from Chhattisgarh in the play-off games.

The Chhattisgarh teams will now feature in the qualifiers against second-placed finishers in the pools.

Andhra Pradesh who beat Delhi 4-0 in the men's eliminator and Kerala, who edged out Maharashtra 4-3 in the women's match will both hope to stun Chhattisgarh and earn themselves a crack at the gold medal in the respective Grand Finals.

Back on the Sabarmati, it was heartening to watch the experienced Rajina Kiro hold her own in the Women's K1 500m sprint against Kaushal Nandini Thakur (Chhattisgarh) and Pooja (Haryana).

Ragasri Manogar Babu (Tamil Nadu) won the Soft Tennis Women's singles gold with an easy win over Aadhya Tiwari (Madhya Pradesh). The Tamil Nadu player had to put her best foot forward in beating the home State's Hetvee Chaudhari 1-4, 2-4, 4-1, 4-1, 1-4, 9-7, 7-0 in the semifinals. The Men's singles crown went to Jay Meena (Madhya Pradesh).

Reigning National champion Sumit Kundu, former world championship medalist Jamuna Boro and Asian champion Sanjeet earned berths in the Boxing medal rounds as the quarterfinal stage was completed this evening at the Mahatma Mandir complex in Gandhinagar.

Sumit, a quarterfinalist at the World championships, beat Haryana's Ankit Khatana in the Men's 75kg bout while Sanjeet used his long reach in the 92kg category to make short work of Delhi's Harsh Kaushik.

Assam's Jamuna Boro registered dominant victory against Sapna Sharma (Rajasthan) in the 57kg class. Battling high fever for the past three days, Jamuna did not show any signs of fatigue in the ring as she registered a 5-0 win.



The results (finals):

Canoeing and Kayaking

Men

K4 1000m Sprint: 1. Ajatasatru Sharma, S Albert Raj, Bhumjit Singh and Gyanjit Arambam (Services) 1:34.495; 2. Vishal Dangi, Akshit Baroi, Himanshu Tandon and Rimson Mairembam (Madhya Pradesh) 1:36.422; 3. Harsh Kumar, Mahendra Singh, Kunal and Ningthoujam Nivash Singh (Telangana) 1:389.168.

Women

C2 500m Sprint: 1. Meghna Pradeep and Akshaya Sunil (Kerala) 2:16.816; 2. Kaveri Dimar and Shivani Verma (Madhya Pradesh) 2:16.896; 2. Rashmita Sahoo and Sachima Kerketta (Odisha) 2:33.506.

K1 500m Sprint: 1. Rajina Kiro (Andaman & Nicobar) 2:08.652; 2. Kaushal Nandini Thakur (Chhattisgarh) 2:09.186; 3. Pooja (Haryana) 2:12.926.

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Football:

Women: Manipur beat Odisha 2-0 (Half-time 2-0). Bronze medal play-off: Tamil Nadu beat Assam 5-1 (Half-time: 3-1).

Judo

Men

Over 100kg class: Yash Ghanghas (Haryana) beat Sunil (Chandigarh). Bronze medals: Deepak Sharma (Haryana) and Dhyan Singh (Rajasthan).

Women

48kg class: Swaita Tokas (Delhi) beat L Sanatombi Devi (Manipur). Bronze medals: Taivitha Tariyal (Uttarakhand) and Malaprabha Jadhav (Karnataka).

Mallakhambh

Men

All-Around (Sunday's result): 1. Akshay Prakash Taral (Maharashtra) 26.85 points; 2. Shubhankar Vinay Khawale (Maharashtra) 26.70; 3. Chandrashekhar Chauhan (Madhya Pradesh) 26.35.

Hanging: 1. Pranav Kori (Madhya Pradesh) and M Hemachandran (Tamil Nadu) 8.90 points; 3. Aditya Raje Kundariya (Uttar Pradesh) 8.75.

Pole: 1. Shubhankar Vinay Khawle (Maharashtra) 9.20 points; 2. Deepak Waman Shinde (Maharashtra) 9.15; 3. Shauryajit Khaire (Gujarat) 9.10.

Rope: 1. Akshay Prakash Taral (Maharashtra) 8.95 points; 2. Rajveer Pawar (Madhya Pradesh) 8.90; 3. Chandrashekhar Chauhan (Madhya Pradesh) 8.85.

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Team: 1. Maharashtra 88.75 points; 2. Madhya Pradesh 83.10; 3. Chhattisgarh 80.10.

All-Around: 1. Rupali Sunil Gangawane (Maharashtra) 17.80 points; 2. Janhavi Suresh Jadhav (Maharashtra) 17.30; 3. Sidhi Gupta (Madhya Pradesh) 17.20.

Rope: 1. Rupali Sunil Gangawane (Maharashtra) 9.25 points; 2. Sidhi Gupta (Madhya Pradesh) 9.20; 3. Neha Sunil Kshirasagar (Maharashtra) 9.05.

Pole: 1. Sidhi Gupta (Madhya Pradesh) 9.10 points; 2. Janhavi Suresh Jadhav (Maharashtra) 9.00; 3. Rupali Sunil Gangawane (Maharashtra) 8.60.

Soft Tennis

Men's Singles: Jay Meena (Madhya Pradesh) beat Jitender Mehlda (Delhi) 4-0, 4-2, 4-0, 1-4, 4-2. Bronze medals: Rohit Dhiman (Chandigarh) and Aniket Chirag Patel (Gujarat).

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Men Daoshu and Gunshu: 1. Shashi Tamang (Services); 2. Rohit Jadhav (Madhya Pradesh); 3. Balwant Singh (Rajasthan).

Women Daoshu and Gunshu: 1. Mercy Ngaimong (Arunachal Pradesh); 2. Wangkheirakpam Ningthibi Devi (Manipur); 3. Bhooraksha Dubey (Madhya Pradesh).

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Rhythmic Pair: 1. Aditya Prakash Jangam and Mohammed Firoz Sheik (Karnataka) 127.48 points; 2. Manan Narendra Kasliwal and Om Prakash Varadai (Maharashtra) 125.28; 3. Harshal Vilas Chute and Vaibhav Waman Shrirame (Maharashtra) 124.10.

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