

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Jan to June 2019)

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Last 6 Months Important Sports Current Affairs 2019

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January 2019 – Important Sports Current Affairs

Virat Kohli beats Sachin Tendulkar to become the fastest to reach 19000 international runs

- Indian skipper Virat Kohli failed to kickstart 2019 on an impressive note as he was dismissed by Josh Hazlewood for 23 on Day 1 of the 4th Test in Sydney against Australia.
- Before seeing his innings come to an end, however, **Kohli bagged another major record to his name as he became the fastest to reach 19000 international runs**, surpassing his idol Sachin Tendulkar in the list to claim the summit position.
- **The Indian captain broke several records in 2018 and has started off the new year with another big one.**

80th National Table Tennis Championship begins in Cuttack

- **The 80th National Table Tennis Championship began at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Cuttack on Friday.**
- Medal winners at Commonwealth Games and Asian Games **Manika Batra, Senior players like Sharath Kamal, Madhuriba Patkar, Olympian Ankita Das** are some of the key players who will be in the limelight during the event.

Sunil Chhetri strikes twice in India's first Asian Cup win since 1964

- **India kicked-off their AFC Asian Cup campaign on a high as the Blue Tigers secured a thumping 4-1 win over Thailand.** A brace from Bengaluru FC skipper Sunil Chhetri and a goal each from Anirudh Thapa and Mizo sniper Jeje Lalpekhlu rounded **India's first win in the tournament since 1964.**
- In a game which lived up to its hype, it was an evenly matched first half after which the Blue Tigers decimated their opponents in the final 45 mins and open their account with three crucial points.

India win first series on Australian soil after SCG Test ends in a draw

- **India officially win a Test series in Australia for the first time after turning the final match into a non-result.**
- India played their maiden Test series against Australia in 1947 and were handed a 4-0 drubbing
- **In total, India have toured Australia 12 times (including the 2018-19 tour)**
- India were dominant in all three departments – batting, bowling and fielding

ICC Announces USA Cricket as 105th Member

- **The International Cricket Council (ICC) on January 8, 2019 announced USA Cricket as its 105th member.**
- The development is a **historical milestone for the governing body established in 2017 to unify and develop the cricket community in the United States following the expulsion of USACA.**
- **USA Cricket's application to become the 93rd Associate Member in accordance with the ICC Constitution was approved by ICC Members** following the Membership Committee's recommendation to the ICC Board late last year and is implemented with immediate effect.

Egypt to host 2019 Africa Cup of Nations

- **Egypt will host the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations between June 15 and July 13, 2019.** Confederation of African Football (CAF) President Ahmad Ahmad made the announcement in Senegalese capital Dakar on January 8, 2019.
- **The CAF executive committee preferred Egypt to South Africa as replacement for original hosts Cameroon**, who were dropped due to delays in preparations and concerns over security.

Mary Kom becomes 'World No 1' Boxer in latest AIBA World Rankings

- **MC Mary Kom became the World No 1 Boxer in 45-48 kg category in the latest International Boxing Association's (AIBA) World Rankings released** on January 10, 2019.
- Mary Kom was placed by AIBA at top of the charts in the 45-48 kg category weight division with 1700 points.
- **'Magnificent Mary'** became the most successful boxer in world championships history when she claimed the 48kg

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category top honours in November 2018, her unprecedented sixth world title triumph.

- She is also the only woman boxer to have won a medal in each one of the seven world championships. She once won silver.

ICC offers amnesty for Sri Lankan cricketers to report match-fixing approaches

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced on January 10, 2019 that it would be giving a 15-day amnesty to participants who have previously failed to report any information concerning corrupt conduct in Sri Lankan cricket.
- The amnesty, which will run from 16-31 January, will apply to all participants under both the ICC and Sri Lankan Cricket Anti-Corruption codes.

Harendra Singh removed as head coach of Indian men's hockey team

- Indian men's hockey coach Harendra Singh was on January 9, 2019 sacked from the position and offered the task of helming the junior squad by the national federation.
- Explaining the sudden decision, Hockey India said in a statement that though the year 2018 was very disappointing for the Indian Men's Hockey Team with results not going as expected, they believe investing in the junior program will reap long-term benefits.

IWF president named as Chef de Mission for Tokyo Olympics

- President of the Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWF), Birendra Prasad Baishya, has been named Chef de Mission for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.
- IWF Secretary Sahdev Yadav said in a release that it is for the first time that the Weightlifting has been accorded with the honour of Chef de Mission for the Olympics.

Virat Kohli, Ravi Shastri receive honorary membership of Sydney Cricket Ground

- India skipper Virat Kohli and coach Ravi Shastri today received the honorary membership of the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) for their contribution to the sport of cricket.
- The only other international cricketers to be granted the honorary membership of the SCG are Sachin Tendulkar and Brian Lara of the West Indies.

8 year-old Kartik Singh becomes youngest to win Junior World title in golf

- 8-year-old Kartik Singh has won the under-8 category at the Kids' Golf World Championship organised by US kids Golf in Malaysia, which makes him the youngest Indian to win the title.
- Kartik is well known all across DLF Golf and country club for his dedication and hard work.
- Winner of US Kids World Junior Championship 2018 in an 8-year category, thereby becoming the youngest Indian ever do so.

10 year-old Abhinav Shaw becomes youngest gold medallist in Khelo games

- 10-year-old, Abhinav Shaw teamed up Mehuli Ghosh and won the gold medal in 10 m air rifle mixed team event in Khelo India Youth Games on Sunday. This makes him the youngest gold medallist at Khelo Games.
- The sixth-standard student had to bide his time to get on the range and display his talent, not being among the 16 shooters chosen to compete in the individual events in either Junior (under-21) and Youth (under-17) categories.

Khelo India: Maharashtra tops Medal tally with 177 medals

- Maharashtra is leading in the Medal tally of Khelo India Youth Games with 177 Medals including 64 Gold as on January 16, 2019.
- Delhi is on number 2 with 121 medals including 47 Gold, and Haryana is on number 3 with 110 Medals including 37 Gold.

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- In semi-finals Maharashtra beat Punjab 7 - 6 and Delhi beat Gujarat 7 - 6. League matches of Basketball.
- Rajasthan and Haryana have won their matches.

Vinesh Phogat becomes first Indian athlete to be nominated in Laureus World Comeback of Year Award

- **Indian star wrestler Vinesh Phogat** on January 17, 2019 **became the first Indian athlete to be nominated for the prestigious Laureus World Comeback of the Year Award.**
- Vinesh has been nominated in "Laureus World Sporting Comeback" category for the year 2019 and will be competing for the award with some of the world's greatest sportspersons including golfer Tiger Woods, Canadian snowboarder Mark McMorris, American alpine ski racer Lindsey Vonn, Japanese figure skater Yuzuru Manyu and Dutch para-snowboarding star Bibian Mentel-Spee.

Ankita Raina wins ITF's tournament in Singapore

- **India's Ankita Raina has won the International Tennis Federation's 25,000-dollar Women's tournament in Singapore.**
- In the final faceoff on January 20, 2019, Ankita defeated top seed and world number 122 **Arantxa Rus** of the Netherlands, 6-3, 6-2. She toppled four seeded players in the tournament to win her first title of the season and eighth overall.

Virat Kohli named ICC Test, ODI Player and Cricketer of the year 2018

- **Indian skipper Virat Kohli on January 22, 2019 became the first cricketer to win all the top three ICC individual awards including the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for ICC Cricketer of the Year, the ICC Men's Test Player of the Year and the ICC ODI Player of the Year for his performances in 2018.**
- **This is the second consecutive time that he has won the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for ICC Cricketer of the Year.** This was also his second successive ODI Player of the Year award.
- **Besides, Indian wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant claimed the ICC's Emerging Cricketer of the Year award.**

BCCI announces bonus of Rs 20 lakh each for senior selection committee members

- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced a bonus of Rs 20 lakh each for the senior selection committee members following India's maiden Test series win in Australia.
- The selection committee comprises **Chairman MSK Prasad, Devang Gandhi, Jatin Paranjpe, Gagan Khoda and Sandeep Singh.**
- Virat Kohli led India to a historic 2-1 win in the four-Test series before capping the Australian tour with a maiden 2-1 triumph in the ODI series.
- **The Chairman of the Committee Of Administrator (CoA), Vinod Rai** lauded the selectors for picking a balanced Indian squad during the Test and ODI series in Australia.

Veteran South African all-rounder Johan Botha retires from all forms of cricket

- **Veteran South African all-rounder Johan Botha has announced his immediate retirement from all forms of cricket.** The cricketer cited wear and tear on his body and sheer physical fatigue as the main reason behind the decision.
- **Johan Botha had switched nationalities in 2012, to give a shot to his talent in the Australian cricketing circuit.**

Novak Djokovic defeats Rafael Nadal to earn his seventh Australian title

- **Novak Djokovic claimed a record seventh Australian Open crown on Sunday as he demolished Rafael Nadal 6-3, 6-2, 6-3** in his most dominant Grand Slam win in his long rivalry with the Spaniard.
- The peerless Serb broke Nadal five times at a stunned Rod Laver Arena while conceding only a single break point to clinch his 15th Grand Slam title and third in succession after winning Wimbledon and the US Open.

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Naomi Osaka wins Australian Open women's singles

- **Japan's Naomi Osaka wins Australian Open 2019 Women's Singles title after defeating Petra Kvitova.**
- **Petra Kvitova tried unsuccessfully to shake Naomi Osaka.** Kvitova earned five break points in the first set, which she could not convert, and saved three championship points in the second, which she ultimately was unable to capitalize on.
- **Osaka came into this tournament last year ranked No. 72.** When the new world rankings come out Monday, Osaka, the reigning US Open champion, **will become the first singles player, male or female, from Japan to reach No. 1.**

Saina Nehwal wins Indonesia Masters 2019

- **Ace shuttler Saina Nehwal claimed her first BWF title in two years after three-time world champion Carolina Marin of Spain limped out of the Indonesia Masters final** due to a leg injury, in Jakarta on Sunday.
- The London Olympics bronze medallist was trailing 4-10 in the opening game when Marin decided to withdraw from the contest.

ICC bans Ambati Rayudu from bowling in international cricket with immediate effect

- Part-time bowler **Ambati Rayudu was banned from bowling in international cricket by the International Cricket Council (ICC)** after he failed to submit a test of his bowling action.
- He was suspended from bowling on an immediate basis by ICC.

Malaysia stripped of right to host 2019 World Para Swimming Championships over Israel stance

- **Malaysia was stripped of the right to host the 2019 World Para Swimming Championships** for threatening to refuse to allow Israeli athletes to take part in the event.
- The International Paralympic Committee announced the decision after the Malaysian authorities failed to provide the necessary guarantees that Israeli Para swimmers could participate safely in the Championships, free from discrimination.

Nagaland CM inaugurates state's first Astro Turf Football Pitch

- **Nagaland today got its first Astro Turf Football Pitch at Indira Gandhi Stadium in Kohima** on the occasion of 100th Birth Anniversary of the legendary footballer, Dr. T. Ao .
- Inaugurating the Astro Turf Football Pitch today, Nagaland Chief Minister Mr. Neiphiu Rio said it is a landmark occasion for the state to have its first Astro Turf Pitch and a dream come true.

February 2019 – Important Sports Current Affairs

Chris Gayle announces retirement from One-day Internationals

- **Veteran West Indies batsman Chris Gayle has announced that he will retire from One-day Internationals after this year's World Cup in England and Wales.** The announcement was made by West Indies Cricket on February 17, 2019.
- **The 39-year old left-hander has scored 9,727 ODI runs, second only to the legendary Brian Lara among West Indians in 284 matches.** He needs 677 more runs to surpass Lara as the West Indies' all-time record ODI run scorer, a feat he will be hoping to achieve during his fifth World Cup.
- **He is currently set to play his first international since July 2018 against England on February 20.**

Vidarbha Retain Irani Cup after Draw With Rest of India

- **Vidarbha capped off a fairytale 2018-19 season by defending their Irani Cup title at the Jamtha Stadium in**

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Nagpur on Saturday (February 16) thanks to a 95-run first innings lead after the match ended in a draw.

- The Ranji Trophy champions remained unbeaten through the season and showed plenty of heart as they chased a 280-run target on the final day.
- **The home side became the first team since Karnataka in the 2014-15 season to defend their Irani Cup title.**

Mumbai Hosts India's First-Of-Its-Kind 'Mallakhamb' World Championship

- **Mumbai hosted India's first ever Mallakhamb World Championship.**
- **India emerged as winners in the team event at the first Mallakhamb World Championship** that concluded on Sunday.
- The two-day tournament was held at Shivaji Park in central Mumbai, in which participants from 15 countries - **Spain, Germany, Czech Republic, Italy, USA, Iran, Norway, England, France, Malaysia, Singapore, Japan, Vietnam, Bahrain, and hosts India** - competed, a media release said.

Squash Queen Nicol David to Retire at End of Season

- **Eight-time world champion Nicol David has announced she will retire at the end of the 2018-19 squash season**, bringing down the curtain on the Malaysian's illustrious career.
- The 35-year-old is the most successful woman squash player of all time and spent an unprecedented **nine years as world number one between 2006-2015.**

ICC bans UAE-based coach Irfan Ansari for 10 years

- **The International Cricket Council (ICC) banned UAE-based coach Irfan Ansari for 10 years after he was found guilty of making a "corrupt approach" to Pakistan captain Sarfaraz Ahmed in 2017.**
- The ban came after the ICC Anti-Corruption Tribunal found him guilty of breaching three counts of the Anti-Corruption Code.

Nepal's Paudel Becomes Youngest Half-Centurion in International Cricket

- Aged just **16 years and 146 days**, **Nepal's Rohit Paudel became the youngest male player to record a half-century in international cricket** when he hit 55 in 58 balls in a One-Day International against the UAE on Saturday (January 26).
- **Paudel bettered the record held by Sachin Tendulkar who had made 59 in a Test against Pakistan at the age of 16 years and 213 days.** In ODI cricket the record was held by Shahid Afridi who creamed a maiden 50-over century aged 16 years and 217 days in his maiden international innings against Sri Lanka.

Nepal's Sundeep Jora becomes youngest player to hit T20I fifty

- **Nepal's Sundeep Jora became the youngest cricketer to score a half-century in T20 Internationals.** Aged 17 years and 103 days, Jora achieved the feat during a T20I match against UAE in Dubai on Thursday. The youngster scored an unbeaten 53 off 46 balls in the match.
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) took to Twitter to announce the incredible feat.

Ricky Ponting appointed Australia's assistant coach for 2019 World Cup

- Three-time World Cup-winning **former Australian captain Ricky Ponting will be part of Australia's coaching staff for the 2019 ICC World Cup.**
- The news comes a day after **David Saker** resigned as Australia's fast-bowling coach, effective immediately.

Shane Warne named brand ambassador of Rajasthan Royals

- **Australia spin legend Shane Warne has been named the brand ambassador of Rajasthan Royals for the upcoming Indian Premier League.**
- Warne, who led Rajasthan Royals to its first and only IPL title in 2008, was the mentor of the side last season.

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- But this year the Australian will be associated with the team in a new role.

Prajnesh Gunneswaran breaks into men's singles top 100

- India's **Prajnesh Gunneswaran** has made it to the top-100 of Men's Singles Tennis rankings with a jump of six places that took him to 97.
- With the feat, **Gunneswaran** has become the third Indian player to break into the top-100 barrier in the past decade after **Somdev Devvarman** and **Yuki Bhambri**.

Rajyavardhan Rathore inaugurated ISSF Shooting World Cup

- Sports Minister **Rajyavardhan Rathore** inaugurated the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup in New Delhi.
- Various events in the world cup will start from February 23 and will end on the February 27, 2019.

Apurvi Chandela wins India's first World Cup gold in Women's 10m Rifle

- **Apurvi Chandela** on Saturday broke World Record to register India's first gold medal at the ISSF World Cup 2019.
- The 26-year-old shooter shot 252.9 in a thrilling 10m Women Air Rifle finale to bag the yellow metal on Day 1 of the tournament at Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi.
- Chandela had a slow start in the final. Her first shot went 10.1.

Sanath Jayasuriya banned from cricket for two years

- Former Sri Lankan Cricket captain **Sanath Jayasuriya** has been banned from cricket for a period of two years.
- The information was shared by the International Cricket Council through a statement on February 26, 2019.
- The veteran cricketer has been banned from all forms of cricket for two years after he admitted to breaching the following two provisions of the ICC Anti-Corruption Code.

Prajnesh Gunneswaran rises to career-best 94th in Tennis

- In Tennis, India's **Prajnesh Gunneswaran** achieved his career-best ranking, rising three places to 94th in the latest list.
- **Ramkumar Ramanathan** dropped nine spots to 137, while **Yuki Bhambri** further slipped to 171.
- **Saketh Myneni** is placed at 250th and following him is **Sasi Kumar Mukund**, who has also jumped to a career-best 269th.
- In Doubles rankings, **Rohan Bopanna** remained at 38th and **Divij Sharan** at 39th, while **Leander Paes** jumped two spots to 73rd. Following them was **Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan** at 75th and **Purav Raja** at 96th.

Abhijeet Gupta lifts Cannes International Open trophy

- In Chess, Indian Grandmaster **Abhijeet Gupta** lifted the Cannes International Open trophy yesterday.
- He took an easy draw with **Pier Luigi Basso** of Italy in the ninth and final round. Having been tied for the top spot in the previous edition, **Abhijeet** won the tournament with 7.5 points.
- It was a clear point lead over nearest rivals **Nikita Maiorov** of Belarus, **Nasuta Grzegorz** of Poland and **Yuri Solodovnichecko** of Ukraine.

Manpreet Singh honoured with AHF's Player of the Year

- The Asian Hockey Federation has honoured Indian skipper **Manpreet Singh** with the 2018 Player of the Year award. Women team's striker **Lalremsiami** has bagged the Rising Player of The Year prize.
- **Manpreet** had led the Indian team to an unbeaten streak at the Asian Champions Trophy in Muscat where the team was declared joint winners with Pakistan. He also contributed to the team's silver medal win at the FIH Champions Trophy in Breda.

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India Captain Mithali Raj becomes 1st female cricketer to play 200 ODIs

- India captain Mithali Raj today became the first female cricketer to play 200 ODIs, adding another achievement to her illustrious career.
- The 36-year-old is also the highest run-getter in ODIs with 6622 runs at an average of 51.33, including seven hundreds.

Viswanathan Anand finishes joint third after drawing with Vidit Gujrathi

- In Chess, five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand had to be content with a joint third-place finish after settling for a draw with compatriot Vidit Gujrathi in the 13th and final round of the Tata Steel Masters at Wijk Aan Zee, the Netherlands.
- With three victories, a defeat against winner Magnus Carlsen of Norway and nine draws, Anand ended the event on 7.5 points and will add six points to his existing rating. He is sixth in world rankings.

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Chris Gayle first player to smash 500 sixes in international cricket

- West Indies vs England 4th ODI Chris Gayle etched his name in the record books by smashing 14 sixes to take his tally of sixes to 506 in international cricket.
- Chris Gayle smashed 162 and also completed 10,000 runs in ODIs.
- Gayle became the 2nd West Indian and 14th overall to complete 10,000 runs in ODIs
- Gayle also became the second batsman after Shahid Afridi to hit 300 or more sixes in ODIs

Deepak bags gold at Makran Cup boxing

- National champion Deepak Singh (49kg) was the lone Indian boxer to notch up a gold, while five others claimed silver medals in the Makran Cup.
- while five others claimed silver medals in the Makran Cup in Chabahar, Iran.
- Deepak defeated Jaafar Naseri in the finals However, none of the other five Indian finalists could win their final bouts.

Roger Federer claims 100th ATP Tour title with Dubai win

- Roger Federer claimed the 100th ATP title of his career by beating 20-year-old Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-4 6-4 in the final of the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships.
- The 20-times Grand Slam champion became the second man in the Open era to claim 100 titles after American Jimmy Connors who won 109

Kavinder fetches gold, 4 silver medals for India at Finland boxing tourney

- Kavinder Singh Bisht (56kg) struck gold while Shiva Thapa (60kg) and three others claimed silver medals to end a fine Indian campaign at the 38th GeeBee Boxing Tournament in Helsinki, Finland
- Signing off with silver medals were three-time Asian medallist Shiva Thapa (60kg), rookie Govind Sahani (49kg), Commonwealth Games bronze-medallist Mohammed Hussamuddin (56kg) and Dinesh Dagar (69kg).

Sailor Upamanyu Dutta clinches bronze in Asian regatta

- Young Mumbai sailor Upamanyu Dutta bagged the bronze medal in the Laser Standard race for men in the Laser Asian Sailing Championship which concluded in Singapore
- Nethra Kumanan of Chennai achieved a creditable 4th position in the Laser Radial event for women.

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- The championship saw tight racing between the top Asian Laser sailors who used the event to warm up before the Olympic sailing qualifier event for the upcoming Laser class scheduled in Japan.

Special Olympics World Games 2019 in The UAE Makes History

- Special Olympics World Games 2019 which is being held from March 14 to March 21 in the UAE has made history by welcoming a record-breaking 200 nations ahead of the Games. Of the 200 nations, 195 will compete in the Games and five will observe.
- It is being held in West Asia for the first time. 7,500 athletes will take part in 24 Olympic-style sports over seven days. With the highest number of women taking part and the largest number of Unified teammates on board, the World Games will capture the attention of the globe.
- India returned with 368 medals (85 gold, 154 Silver, and 129 Bronze) at the Special Olympics World Summer Games, held at Abu Dhabi, UAE.

SC appoints PS Narasimha as mediator to resolve disputes of cricket administration in BCCI

- The Supreme Court appointed senior advocate P S Narasimha, who is assisting the apex court as an amicus curiae in the BCCI matter, as mediator for resolving various disputes related to cricket administration in the country.
- A bench of Justices S A Bobde and A M Spare was informed by Narasimha that former apex court judge Justice (retd) D K Jain has assumed charge as the ombudsman of Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

South African JP Duminy To Retire From ODIs After World Cup 2019

- South Africa all-rounder Jean-Paul Duminy has announced that he will retire from 50-over cricket at the end of the ICC World Cup 2019, which is scheduled to commence from May 30 onwards in England and Wales.
- The 34-year-old, who made his debut back in 2004, has already retired from Tests as well as first-class cricket. He will remain available for T20Is as of now.

India to host U-17 Women's World Cup in 2020

- India will host the U-17 Women's World Cup in 2020, International Football Federation (FIFA) President Gianni Infantino announced.
- the FIFA Council meeting held at Miami, USA

Formula 1 2019: Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton clinch victory in Australian Grand Prix

- Valtteri Bottas upstaged his Mercedes world champion team-mate Lewis Hamilton to blitz the field and win the season-opening Australian Formula One Grand Prix in a sizzling performance

ISL 2018-19: Bengaluru FC score in extra time to lift maiden ISL title

- Bengaluru FC clinched their maiden Indian Super League title as Rahul Bheke found a championship-winning header in the dying minutes of the final against FC Goa, in Mumbai

Asian Youth Championship 2019 Concludes: India Finishes 2nd, China Tops

- In Asian Youth Athletics Championships in Hong Kong, boys medley relay team won a gold medal for India on the final day to help Indian youth team finish second in the overall medals tally with a total of 26 medals including 8 gold, 9 silver and 9 bronze medals.
- China topped the overall medals tally with 31 medals that included 12 gold, 11 silver and eight bronze medals and Japan finished third with 20 medals that included 6 Gold, 8 Silver and 6 bronze.

India Clinch SAFF Women's Championship For 5th Time

- India has lifted South Asian Football Federation SAFF Women's Championship fifth time in a row. Keeping its winning streak India defeated host Nepal in the final by 3-1 in Biratnagar, Nepal.

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- India's Dalmia Chhibber scored first goal of the match in 26th minute. India's Indumathi Kathiresan and Sabitra Tamang of Nepal remained top scorer of the tournament, both scored four goal each.

Suresh Raina 1st Cricketer To Score 5,000 Runs in IPL

- Chennai Super Kings' Suresh Raina has become the first ever cricketer to reach 5,000 runs in Indian Premier League. The 32-year-old left-handed batsman achieved the feat after scoring 15 runs in the IPL 2019 opener against Royal Challengers Bangalore.

Seamaster 2019 ITTF Challenge Plus Or Oman Open Table Tennis Held In Muscat

- The Seamaster 2019 ITTF Challenge Plus commonly called Oman Open table tennis held in Muscat, Oman.
- Indian players G Sathyan and Archana Kamath excelled in the tournament. G Sathyan won a bronze medal in the tournament.
- Archana Kamath bags U-21 silver with an excellent run in the Oman Open.

12th Asian Airgun Championships Concludes: India Clinches 25 Medals

- Indian shooters continued their dominance claiming five gold medals on the final day of the Asian Airgun Championships to sign off with a total of 25 medals in Taoyuan, Taipei.
- India finished with 16 gold, 5 silver, and 4 bronze medals. Yash Vardhan and Shreya Agrawal bagged three gold medals

Veselin Matic Set To Be India's Basketball Coach

- Veselin Matic, who took Iran to an Asian Games bronze medal in 2010, is set to be appointed as the new head coach of the Indian men's basketball team.
- The Serbian's name had been cleared by the sports ministry. A veteran international coach, Matic helped Iran qualify for its first ever World Championship (2010) with victory in the 2009 FIBA Asia Championship.

18-yr-old Diksha 2nd Indian Golfer To Win Ladies European Tour

- 18-year-old Diksha Dagar has become the second Indian to win an event on Ladies European Tour after clinching South African Women's Open in Cape Town.
- Aditi Ashok was the first Indian to win on the Ladies European Tour after clinching Hero Women's Indian Open in Gurugram in 2016.



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April 2019 – Important Sports Current Affairs

ISSF Rifle/Pistol World Cup 2019 Concludes: India Finishes Top:

- India ended their campaign at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup with a total of four medals, three golds and a silver.
- China was on the second position with 5 medals including 2 gold. The event was held in Beijing, China.
- Divyansh Panwar and Anjum Moudgil had won the first medal for India at the Beijing ISSF World Cup after clinching gold in 10m Air Rifle Mixed event.
- Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Choudhary won the gold medal in 10m Air Pistol Mixed event.

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	India	3	1	0	4
2	China	2	2	1	5
3	Russia	1	3	3	7

Asian Boxing Championships: India Wins 13 Medals:

- India won 13 medals, including 2 gold, 4 silver, and 7 bronze at the Asian Boxing Championships in Bangkok.
- Boxers Pooja Rani and Amit Panghal gave India 2 gold medals.
- While the men won 1 gold, 3 silver, and 3 bronze, the women bagged 1 gold, 1 silver, and 4 bronze medals.

Asian Weightlifting Championships 2019:

- The Asian Weightlifting Championships 2019 was held in Ningbo, China from April 20 to April 28, 2019.
- It was the 48th edition of men's and 29th edition of women's championship. There were 214 athletes from 27 nations participated in the tournament.
- India won 5 medals which include 3 silver and 2 bronze medals and finished at tenth place in the tournament.

Category	Event	Name	Medal
Women 49-kg	Snatch	Jhili Dalabehera	Silver
Women 49-kg	Clean and Jerk	Jhili Dalabehera	Silver
Women 49-kg	Total (Snatch + Clean and Jerk)	Jhili Dalabehera	Silver
Men 102-kg	Clean and Jerk	Pardeep Singh	Bronze
Women 49-kg	Clean and Jerk	Mirabai Chanu	Bronze

ICF Chennai wins Arjan Singh Memorial International hockey tournament:

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- Integrated Coach Factory, Chennai beat South Central Railway, Hyderabad via penalty shootout in the final to win the 2nd Marshal of the Indian Air Force Arjan Singh Memorial International hockey tournament title

Indias Nitendra Singh Rawat finishes 27th in Virgin Money London Marathon 2019:

- Indian marathon runner, Nitendra Singh Rawat finished 27th in 2 hours 15 minutes and 59 seconds in the men's Elite race of prestigious Virgin Money London Marathon 2019 at London, the UK which was won by EliudKipchoge of Kenya for record fourth time.
- This was the fourth fastest in his career and his second fastest time in this season

Australia's Claire Polosak became first female umpire to stand in men's ODI:

- The 31-year-old, Australia's Claire Polosak became the first womanumpire to stand in a men's ODI in the final match of ICC World Cricket League 2.
- Previously, she stood in 15 women's ODI matches, the first one played between Australia and South Africa in November 2016.

Ajinkya Rahane becomes 1st Indian cricketer to join Hampshire Indian cricketer:

- Ajinkya Madhukar Rahane became the first overseas player from India to represent Hampshire and he will replace Aiden Kyle Markram, who will join South Africa's World Cup Team.

Sathiyam becomes first Indian to break into top-25 of ITTF rankings:

- India's G Sathiyam on Monday scaled new heights in his rapidly rising career by becoming the first Indian to break into the top-25 of world rankings.
- Sathiyam rose four spots to be 24th in the latest ITTF rankings, following his impressive sixth place finish in the Asia Cup in Yokohama earlier this month. Last week, he was the sole Indian to reach the round of 32 in the World Championships in Hungary.

Papua New Guinea got ODI status after USA and Oman:

- Papua New Guinea, a south-western pacific country got their One Day International (ODI) status and a place in International Cricket Council (ICC) Cricket World Cup League 2 after beating Oman by 145-run.
- Now, Papua New Guinea joins Namibia, Oman, Scotland, the US, Nepal and UAE in the ICC Cricket World Cup League 2. In the next two-and-a-half-year all six team will play 36 ODIs each in the run-up to the Men's Cricket World Cup 2023.

Manu Bhaker & Saurabh Chaudhary win India's second gold at ISSF World Cup:

- Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary won their 2nd World Cup gold in the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team
- The Indian duo outclassed Jiang Ranxin and Pang Wei of China 16-6
- Anjum Moudgil and Divyansh Singh won India its first gold at the ISSF World Cup in Beijing.

Asian Wrestling Championship 2019 Concludes: India Finishes With 16 Medals, Iran Tops:

India wrapped up their campaign at the Asian Wrestling Championships on a resounding note with 16 medals after Harpreet Singh settled for a silver in 82kg on the final day of competitions. Only Bajrang Punia won the gold medal after defeating Kazakhstan's Sayatbek Okassov by 12-7 in 65kg men's freestyle. Asian Wrestling Championship 2019 was held at Xi'an, China.

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Iran	11	0	6	17
2	China	5	5	6	16
3	Japan	4	7	6	17
8	India	1	6	9	16

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Valtteri Bottas grabs Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2019:

- Valtteri Viktor Bottas (Finland) of Mercedes captured Formula 1 State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR) Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2019 by beating Mercedes team-mate Lewis Hamilton at the Baku City Circuit in Baku, Azerbaijan.
- Bottas finished the race 1.5 seconds ahead of Hamilton.

Indians win 1 silver, 2 bronze at Asian Road Para-Cycling Championships 2019:

- Asian Road Para-Cycling Championships 2019 was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from April 23 to April 28, 2019, and a total of twenty-eight countries took part.
- Indian para cyclists won a silver and two bronze medals.
- **Divij Shah** has clinched his third consecutive silver medal in the C5 category.
- **GurlalSingh**, Asian Para Games bronze medallist, became the only Indian cyclist (able-bodied or otherwise) to win a medal at the Asian Games level grabbed a bronze in the C4 section.
- **Sudhakar Marathe**, a Hand cyclist from Maharashtra has claimed bronze for India in H5 category.
- The entire team went under rigorous training at the Aditya Mehta Foundation Academy (AMF) academy in Hyderabad under the guidance of coach K. Dattatreya and physiotherapist AshaShaikh.

Services bags the 6th Santosh Trophy Football Tournament title against Punjab at Guru Nanak Stadium:

- With a second-half strike by Bikash Thapa at the Guru Nanak Stadium in Ludhiana, Services won their 6th Santosh Trophy Football Tournament title with a 1-0 victory over Punjab.
- The Services football team represents the Indian defense services in the Santosh Trophy.

Garin becomes first Chilean ATP champion title in 10 years:

- On 15th April 2019, Chilean professional tennis player Christian Garin (22) won his first ATP title in 10 years in the final of the US Men's Clay Court Championships in Houston. He beat Norway's Casper Ruud.

USA secure ODI status for the first time:

- United States Cricket Team won their first one-day international status with a third straight victory at the World Cricket League Division Two event in Namibia.
- The Americans defeated Hong Kong by 84 runs.

Fabio Fognini became the first Italian to win an ATP Masters 1000 title:

- Fognini achieved this feat at the Monte Carlo Masters by defeating Dusan Lajovic 6-3, 6-4 in one hour and 38 minutes. Fognini will rise to a career-high ranking of 12.
- Fognini had beaten Rafael Nadal in the semi-final. Fognini earns 1000 ATP Rankings points and receives €958,055 in prize money.

2019 Badminton Asia Championships Concludes: Complete List of Winners:

The 2019 Badminton Asia Championships is a badminton tournament which took place at Wuhan Sports Center Gymnasium in China and had a total purse of \$400,000. The 2019 Badminton Asia Championships was the 39th edition of the Badminton Asia Championships. This tournament was hosted by the Chinese Badminton Association.

Sl. No.	Event	Winner	Runner-Up
1.	Men's singles	Kento Momota	China Shi Yuqi
2.	Women's singles	Akane Yamaguchi (Japan)	China He Bingjiao

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3.	Men's doubles	Hiroyuki Endo and Yuta Watanabe (Japan)	Marcus Fernaldi Gideon and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo (Indonesia)
4.	Women's doubles	Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan (China)	Mayu Matsumoto and Wakana Nagahara (Japan)
5.	Mixed doubles	Wang Yilü and Huang Dongping (China)	He Jiting and Du Yue (China)

Dominic Thiem clinched 2019 67th Barcelona Open Title:

- Dominic Thiem clinched the Barcelona Open Banc Sabadell 2019 title held at Barcelona, Spain which was held from April 22 through April 28, 2019.
- The Austrian became just the fourth player in the past 15 years to lift the title in Barcelona, joining Rafael Nadal, Kei Nishikori, and Fernando Verdasco.
- He's also the first Austrian winner at this event since Thomas Muster in 1996. Thiem now has 13 ATP Tour titles, nine of which have come on clay.
- Men's Doubles: Juan Sebastian Cabal and Robert Farah, from Colombia, defeated Jamie Murray(UK) and Bruno Soares(Brazil) to clinch their 12th ATP Tour doubles title as a team

FC Goa pip Chennaiyin FC to clinch 2019 Hero Super Cup title:

- FC Goa, nicknamed as 'Gaur's', emerged as champions of the 2nd edition of Hero Super Cup 2019 after beating Chennaiyin FC 2-1 at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.
- Goa lifted their first ever Trophy. 19 year old Goa Goal keeper Mohammad Nawaz has been named as Hero of the Match.
- In six years of existence, FC Goa accounted for two Indian Super League semi-finals and two finals and then in their first Super Cup final, they conquered their first trophy.

Petra Kvitova Wins Maiden Stuttgart's Porsche Grand Prix 2019:

- World number three tennis player Petra Kvitova (Czech Republic) beat Anett Kontaveit (Estonia) to win Stuttgart's Porsche Grand Prix for her second title of the year.
- Kvitova is a two-time Wimbledon champion. The championship was held at Stuttgart, Germany.

Stephanie Frappart first woman to referee Ligue 1 match:

- Stephanie Frappart, a French football referee, will become the first female referee, who will take charge of a Ligue 1 Conforama match in French football history.
- On 28th April 2019, she will be taking charge of the match between Amiens and Strasbourg.

The 2008 Olympic 1,500m champion, Asbel Kiprop banned for 4 years for doping:

- The International Association of Athletics Federation Disciplinary Tribunal (IAAF) has banned the 2008 Olympic 1,500m champion and 3-time world champion Asbel Kiprop of Kenya for 4 years for doping until February 2022.

ICC partners with UNICEF to deliver One Day for Children at Mens Cricket World Cup 2019:

- International Cricket Council (ICC) Cricket for Good in partnership with UNICEF announced #OneDay4Children, a tournament-wide campaign focussed on bringing the world of cricket together as one team to help build a better world for every child, at the 2019 World Cup.

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- The campaign was launched by Former England batsman and #OneDay4Children ambassador Nasser Hussain along with all-rounder Chris Woakes.
- There will be #OneDay4Children (#OD4C) activity throughout all 48 matches of the event.
- England and India will sport special one-off #OD4C branded kit on June 30 at Edgbaston.
- The money raised will support UNICEF's work in cricket playing nations to help children learn to play and be healthy.

Ethiopian runners Gelete Burka and Abrha Milaw won Paris Marathon 2019:

- Ethiopian athletes Gelete Burka in women's race and Abrha Milaw in men's race have won the 43rd edition of the Paris Marathon by leading a record of 60,000 participants through the French capital, Paris.

23rd Asian Athletics Championships Concludes: Bahrain Tops, India Finishes 4th:

- The 2019 Asian Athletics Championships was the 23rd edition of the Asian Athletics Championships. The 4-day event was held from at the Khalifa International Stadium in Doha, Qatar.
- Bahrain topped the medal tally with 11 Golds followed by China (9 Gold) and Japan (5 Gold). India clinched the 4th spot with 17 total medals including 3 Gold. PU Chitra won gold in Women's 1,500 metres race.

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1.	Bahrain	11	7	4	22
2.	China	9	13	7	29
3.	Japan	5	4	9	18
4.	India	3	7	7	17

Indian Open Badminton 2019:

- The Indian Badminton Tournament 2019 was held at K. D. Jadhav Indoor Hall in New Delhi from 26 to 31 March 2019.

Champions of Indian Open Badminton 2019

Men's Singles: Viktor Axelsen (Denmark).

Women's Singles: Ratchanok Intanon (Thailand).

Men's Doubles: Lee Yang and Wang Chi-lin (Chinese Taipei).

Women's Doubles: Greysia Polii and Apriyani Rahayu (Indonesia).

Mixed Doubles: Wang Yilü and Huang Dongping (China).

Cricketing icons Inzamam-ul-Haq, Mark Boucher inducted into MCC as Honorary Life Members:

- Pakistan's Inzamam and South African Boucher have been included in recognition to their outstanding achievements in the game of cricket.

Miami Open 2019 Concludes:

- The Miami Open is an annual tennis tournament for men and women now held at the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida. Here is the complete list:

Category	Winner	Runner Up
Men's Single	Roger Federer (Switzerland)	John Isner (USA)

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Women's Single	Ashleigh Barty (Australia)	Karolina Pliskova (Czech Republic)
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Men's Double	Bob Bryan (USA) and Mike Bryan (USA)	Wasley Koolhof (Netherlands) and Stefanos Tsitsipas (Greece)
Women's Doubles	Elise Mertens (Belgium) and Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus)	Samantha Stosur (Australia) and Zhang Shuai (China)

Cologne Boxing World Cup: Meena Kumari clinches gold as Indian boxers finish with 5 medals:

- Meena Kumari Maisnam continued her fine run to win gold medal in the 54 kg at the Boxing World Cup in Cologne.
- Sakshi (57kg) and Pwilao Basumatary (64kg) lost their final bouts and had to settle for the silver while Pinki Rani (51kg) and Parveen (60kg) won bronze as India finished with five medals.

Mumbai Shuttler Dani clinches Dutch International badminton title 2019:

- India's Harsheel Dani, a former junior national champion, defeated Mads Christophersen of Denmark, world no 149, to clinch the 20th Victor Dutch International Badminton title in Wateringen,
- It was the second win for Dani opposite Christophersen.
- The 22-year-old won the Ghana international crown in 2018 second Karvy All India junior-ranking badminton tournament in 2012.

Lewis Hamilton Wins Bahrain Grand Prix 2019:

- Five times world champion Lewis Hamilton won Bahrain Grand Prix 2019 title by beating Valtteri Bottas of Finland who secured the second position.
- Charles Leclerc was finished at the third position and became Ferrari's youngest ever race winner at the age of 21.

Lewis Hamilton clinched Formula One's 1000th race title British racing driver:

- Lewis Hamilton has achieved his 75th career victory in Formula One's 1000th race at the Chinese Grand Prix on 14th April, 2019.
- He has delivered a crushing performance to win this title.
- Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes has achieved Chinese Grand Prix by defeating Valtteri Bottas, his teammate and pole sitter with a quic start from his No. 2 spot on the grid.

India finish with 16 gold medals at Asian Airgun Championship:

- Indian shooters continued their dominance claiming five gold medals on the final day of the Asian Airgun Championships to sign off with a total of 25 medals in Taoyuan, Taipei.
- India finished with 16 gold, five silver and four bronze.

India wins ICC Test Championship mace for 3rd straight year, get USD 1 million:

- India have won ICC Test Championship mace for the third year in a row after finishing at the top of ICC Test team rankings on the cut-off date.
- India have also been awarded \$1-million cash prize.
- New Zealand, who are ranked second, won \$500,000 prize money after finishing with 108 points, eight behind India.
- South Africa finished 3rd with 105 points.
- Nine Test nations will compete across 27 series and 71 Test matches to reach the ICC World Test Championship Final in 2021 where the World Test Champions will be crowned.

Golfer Tiger Woods won fifth green jacket and 15th major title:

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- Golfer Tiger Woods won fifth Masters and 15th major title at Augusta National Golf Club.
- It was the 43-year-old American golfer's first major title victory in 11 years and his first Master's win since 2005.
- All-time leader, Jack Nicklaus is just three major titles ahead of the former world No.1.

Indian Squash player Saurav Ghosal became the first Indian to move in top 10 Squash world ranking:

- On 1st April 2019, Saurav Ghosal moved up two places to become the first Indian male squash player to break into the top 10 of the latest PSA (Professional Squash Association) world ranking.
- He is ranked at 10th Place which is his career best ranking.

Malaysia Open 2019 Concludes:

- The 2019 Malaysia Open, officially the CELCOM AXIATA Malaysia Open 2019, is a badminton tournament which takes place at Axiata Arena in Malaysia.
- Lin Dan of China won in Men's Singles category after defeating Chen Long of China. Tai Tzu-ying of Chinese Taipei won in Women's singles after defeating Japan's Akane Yamaguchi.

Sl. No.	Event	Winner	Runner Up
1.	Men's Singles	Lin Dan (China)	Chen Long (China)
2.	Women's Singles	Tai Tzu-ying (Chinese Taipei)	Akane Yamaguchi (Japan)
3.	Men's Doubles	Li Junhui and Liu Yuchen (China)	Takeshi Kamura and Keigo Sonoda (Japan)
4.	Women's Doubles	Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan (China)	Du Yue and Li Yinhui (China)
5.	Mixed Doubles	Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong (China)	Wang Yilü and Huang Dongping (China)

Spain's Garbine Muguruza claimed Monterrey Open title:

- The 2019 Monterrey Open aka 2019 Abierto GNP Seguros was the 11th edition of Monterrey Open, held at Monterrey in Mexico.
- It was a women's tennis tournament played on outdoor hard courts. The prize money of the tournament was \$250,000.

International Hockey Federation imposes fine of 1,70,000 Euros on Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) for disrespecting Pro League commitments:

- The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has imposed a fine of 170,000 Euros on Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) for not honouring the Pro League commitments and has given PHF a time-limit till 20th June, on failure of which PHF would have to pay double of penalty.

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May 2019 – Important Sports Current Affairs

India retain top-spot in ICC Test rankings

- India have retained the International Cricket Council (ICC) Test Championship Mace as they secured the number one spot on the ICC Test Team Rankings while New Zealand have ensured second place
- India secured 116 points and under the captaincy of world number one Test batsman, Virat Kohli, obtaining the top position was never really a doubt. While New Zealand's consistent performance over the past year helped them climb from the third position and are just eight points behind India.

Amul to be principal sponsor of Afghanistan cricket team at ICC World Cup

- Dairy major Amul will be the principal sponsor of the Afghanistan cricket team for the upcoming ICC World Cup hosted by England.
- Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which markets dairy products under Amul brand, exports around ₹200 crore worth of products annually to the neighbouring country.

Mumbai Indians beat Chennai Super Kings by one run to win record 4th IPL title

- Mumbai Indians became IPL champions for the fourth time after defeating Chennai Super Kings by one run in a thrilling final.
- The 12th edition of Indian Premier League (IPL) was played from March 23 to May 12, 2019. Total 8 teams have participated in the event. The event last for 48 days and total 60 matches played in the whole tournament.
- Mumbai Indians won the 4th IPL title after defeating Chennai Super Kings by 1 run at Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium, Hyderabad.
- The 12th edition of Indian Premier League (IPL) was played from March 23 to May 12, 2019. A total of 8 teams had participated in the event. The event lasted for 48 days and a total of 60 matches played in the whole tournament.
- Orange Cap : David Warner from Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) won the orange cap by scoring 692 runs in 12 matches. He got Rs 10 lakh cheque as prize money.
- Purple Cap : Imran Tahir from Chennai Super Kings (CSK) have won purple cap by taking 26 wickets in the tournament. He also got Rs 10 lakh cheque as prize money.
- Most Valuable Player : Andre Russell from Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) won the most valuable player award. He got Rs 10 lakh cheque as prize money which was collected by Shubham Gill on this behalf.
- Perfect Catch of the Season: Kieron Pollard from Mumbai Indians won the perfect catch of the match award. He had taken catch of Suresh Raina (CSK). He also got Rs 10 lakh cheque as prize money.

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- Super Striker of the Season: Andre Russell from Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) won the Super Striker of the Season award. He scored 510 runs with 52 sixes at strike rate of 204.81. He got Rs 10 lakh cheque as prize money and a car.
- Stylish Player of the Season: KL Rahul from Kings XI Punjab (KXIP) won the stylish player of the season award. He scored 593 runs in 14 matches. He got Rs 10 lakh cheque as prize money.
- Emerging Player of the Season: A 19-year old Shubham Gill from Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) won emerging player of the season award. He got Rs 10 lakh cheque as prize money.
- Game Changer of the Season Award: Rahul Chahar from Mumbai Indians won the game changer of the season award. He had taken 13 wickets in 13 matches at an economy of 6.55. He also got Rs 10 lakh cheque as prize money
- Player of the Match in the Finals: Jasprit Bumrah from Mumbai Indian won the player of the match in the final against Chennai Super Kings (CSK). He bowled 4 overs with an economy rate of 3.50 and take 2 wickets. He got Rs 5 lakh cheque as prize money.
- Fairplay: Sunrisers Hyderabad has won the Fairplay award 2019. VVS Laxman had collected the trophy.
- Fastest Fifty of the Season: Hardik Pandey from Mumbai Indians has scored the fastest fifty of IPL 2019. He hammered the fifty in 17 balls against the Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR). He got Rs 10 lakh cheque as prize money.

Rank	Team	Prize Money
1	Mumbai Indians	Rs. 20 crore
2	Chennai Super Kings	Rs. 12.5 crore
3	Delhi Capitals	Rs. 8.75 crore
4	Sunrisers Hyderabad	Rs. 8.75 crore

Saray Khumalo Hailed As Strong Woman after Conquering Mount Everest

- Saray Khumalo is being hailed as a strong woman as the country celebrates her successful climb to the top of Mount Everest. Khumalo made history as she became the first African black woman to summit Mount Everest in her fourth attempt.

India's GS Lakshmi becomes first female ICC match referee

- India's GS Lakshmi becomes first woman to be appointed to ICC International Panel of Match Referees. The International Cricket Council (ICC) appointed India's GS Lakshmi as the first female to the ICC International Panel of Match Referees
- The 51-year-old's appointment comes close on the heels of Claire Polosak becoming the first ever woman umpire to stand in a men's ODI. Lakshmi first officiated in domestic women's cricket in 2008-09, and as overseen three women's ODI matches and three women's T20I matches.

Kohli Bags CEAT International Batsman & Cricketer of the Year Award

- India captain Virat Kohli bagged the International Cricketer and Batsman of the Year award during the CEAT Cricket Rating (CCR) International Awards 2019. Jasprit Bumrah was adjudged as International Bowler of the Year.
- CEAT awarded Afghanistan leg-spinner Rashid Khan for outstanding bowling and Australian batsman Aaron Finch for his exceptional performance in T20.
- Young prodigy Yashasvi Jaiswal, who performed exceptionally over the year was awarded Junior Cricketer of the Year while Kuldeep Yadav took home outstanding performance of the year award. Ashutosh Aman was awarded Domestic

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Cricketer of the Year. The legendary Mohinder Amarnath was bestowed with the 'CCR International Lifetime Achievement Award'.

ICC World Cup 2019: 'Stand by' – ICC releases official song for showpiece event in UK

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has released the official song for the upcoming World Cup 2019 which is scheduled to take place in England and Wales between May 30 and July 14.
- "Stand By" - a collaboration between new artist LORYN and one of the UK's most successful and influential acts, Rudimental – will be played in ground and city events across the tournament as the official song to this summer's showpiece event.

Mahesh Mungaonkar wins Sekisui Open title

- India's Mahesh Mungaonkar defeated Spain's Bernat Jaume, in the final to clinch the Sekisui Open title for the second time in his career in Kriens, Switzerland.
- This was Mahesh's eighth PSA title. He had won the corresponding title for the first time in 2016.

Helo becomes team sponsor of Indian Wheelchair Cricket

- Helo, India's social media platform, has announced its partnership with the Indian Wheelchair Cricket Association as the team sponsor for Team India during the Asia Cup 2019, which is scheduled from May 15 in Nepal.
- This association makes Helo the first social media app to host and promote Indian Wheelchair Cricket on its platform.

ICC launches criiiio campaign on eve of World Cup

- The ICC on Wednesday launched the criiiio campaign on the eve of the men's World Cup, bringing together 460 million people playing cricket globally to celebrate the magnificent diversity of cricket.
- The ICC asked the fans to join the social cricket tribe by sharing pictures and videos of where and how they play cricket across the world using the newly launched #criiiio and visiting criiiio.com.

Raheem Sterling awarded with Football Writers' Association Footballer of the Year

- Manchester City's forward Raheem Sterling has been named as the Football Writers' Association (FWA) Footballer of the Year 2019.
- Sterling was a clear winner in the vote of over 400 FWA members. He took 62 percent of the votes and he acquired 100 more votes than Liverpool's defender Virgil Van Dijk.
- With this win, Sterling became the first Manchester City player to win the football's oldest individual award. The player also received praise for his courageous stance against racism in the game.

Barca legend Xavi Hernandez announces his retirement

- FC Barcelona legend midfielder Xavi Hernandez has announced that he will retire at the end of the season to move into coaching. Xavi went on to win 25 titles, including the treble seasons of 2008-09 and 2014-15.
- In total he holds eight La Liga, three Copa del Rey, four UEFA Champions League, two FIFA Club World Cup, six Spanish Super Cup, and two UEFA Super Cup.
- Xavi is a six-time Copa Catalunya and one-time Catalunya Super Cup winner.

Chelsea beat Arsenal in the Europa League final

- Chelsea scored four goals in a devastating second-half display to beat Arsenal 4-1 and lift the Europa League trophy in the Baku Olympic Stadium, Azerbaijan.
- Chelsea won their fifth major Uefa European competition final, with only Liverpool winning more among eight English clubs.
- Arsenal have lost five of their six major European finals, with their only victory coming in the 1994 Cup Winners' Cup against Parma.

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Rahi Sarnobat, Saurabh Chaudhary Bag Gold Medals in ISSF world cup

- Rahi Sarnobat added a third gold medal in India's medal tally at the ISSF World Cup 2019 in Munich as she stood at the top spot in the 25m pistol event.
- Saurabh Chaudhary won the gold medal in 10m Air Pistol Event at the ISS Shooting World Cup in Munich. This is the second gold of the season for the 17 year-old sensation. The first was secured in New Delhi tournament.

Men's compound team win bronze in Archery World Cup

- The men's compound team of Rajat Chauhan, Abhishek Verma and Aman Saini earned India a solitary bronze medal in the Archery World Cup Stage III at Antalya in Turkey.
- The Women's compound team of Jyoti Surekha Vennam, Muskan Kirar and Swati Dudhwal lost to Great Britain's Layla Annison, Ella Gibson and Lucy Mason by two points in the contention for a bronze medal. Samiya, Maisnam clinch junior badminton titles
- In the Yonex-Sunrise All-India Junior Ranking Badminton Tournament held from May 21-26, 2019 in Chennai, Manipur boy Maisnam Meiraba outplayed Aakash Yadav of Delhi 21-9, 12-7 to clinch the Under-19 Boys Singles title.
- Telanganas No. 5 seed Samiya Imad Farooqui continued her meteoric rise as she clinched the U-19.

India bags 57 medals at India Open International tournament

- India bags a total of 57 medals including 12 Gold, 18 Silver and 27 Bronze at India Open International Boxing tournament in Guwahati.
- MC Mary Kom, Shiva Thapa, L Sarita Devi and Naman Tanwar won gold in their respective finals. The London Olympic bronze medallist blew away the challenge of Vanlal Duati in a facile 5-0 win.
- This was Mary's second gold in the tournament, having won in 48 kg last year in the capital. On the other hand, Deepak defeated Govind Kumar in 49 kg final while in 52 kg category - Amit Panghal defeated Sachin.

Koepka returns to world No. 1 with PGA win

- Brooks Koepka is back atop the Official World Golf Ranking.
- Koepka teed off at Bethpage ranked No. 3 in the world, but after retaining the Wanamaker Trophy he moved to the top spot even though former world No. 1 Dustin Johnson finished alone in second.
- It marks the first time Koepka has held the No. 1 ranking since the start of the year, as it has been a split between Johnson and Justin Rose for the 20 weeks of the year.

BFA launches two new formats of game - AirBadminton & Triples

- The world body governing Badminton, BFA, has launched two new formats of the game --AirBadminton and Triples with new dimensions of the court and an innovative shuttlecock called Airshuttle. Traditional competitive badminton has been an indoor game.
- In the new formats launched globally at Guangzhou last week, AirBadminton will be outdoor sports. In Triples format, the match will be played between a team of three players each with presence of at least one female.
- India's top shuttlers have endorsed AirBadminton. Saina Nehwal, Parupalli Kashyap and H.S. Prannoy said it has the potential to provide an alternate career to retired professionals. The Secretary, Badminton Association of India, Ajay Singhania hailed AirBadminton as a great initiative.

Indian para-athletes win 1 silver & 2 bronze at Asian Road Para-Cycling Championships 2019

- Indian para-athletes put up a brilliant performance to secure 1 silver and 2 bronze at the Asian Road Para-Cycling Championships 2019 that saw 28 countries vying for the podium at Tashkent, Uzbekistan from 23-28 April.
- Divij Shah continued his remarkable record at this prestigious tournament by clinching his third consecutive silver medal in the C5 category.

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- Hand cyclist Sudhakar Marathe from Maharashtra made a debut to remember when he got hold of the bronze medal in H5 category.
- Asian Para Games bronze medallist Gurlal Singh, who is the only Indian cyclist (able-bodied or otherwise) to win a medal at the Asian Games level helped swell India's medal tally further by grabbing the bronze in the C4 section.

G Sathiyam becomes first Indian to break into top-25 of table tennis world rankings

- G Sathiyam became first Indian to break into the top-25 of ITTF rankings
- Sathiyam rose four spots to be 24th in the latest ITTF rankings
- Sharath Kamal dropped 9 spots to be in 46th position

Apurvi Chandela attains world number one spot in women's 10 m air rifle event

- Indian shooting ace Apurvi Chandela today attained the world number one position in the women's 10 metres air rifle event while compatriot Anjum Moudgil rose to number two after consistent performances in recent years.
- The rifle ace from Jaipur is among the five Indian shooters to have already secured 2020 Olympics quotas for the country.
- Moudgil attained the world number two rank in 10 metres Air Rifle after her mixed team gold at the ISSF World Cup in Beijing. Manu Bhaker is the world number 10 in 25 metres pistol women category.

Bajrang Punia Wins Gold At Ali Aliev Wrestling Tournament

- star Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia pocketed another gold medal at the Ali Aliev invitational tournament in Dagestan.
- Bajrang, currently the world No. 1 in the 65kg freestyle category, made a stunning comeback in the final affair to defeat local favourite Viktor Rassadin 13-8.

Jaipur to host Asian youth Women Handball Championship

- Jaipur will host the 8th Asian Youth Women Handball Championship in which 10 teams, including defending champions South Korea, will be participating.
- The general secretary of the Handball Federation of India, Anandeshwar Pandey, said here that it is the first time that the prestigious tournament would be played in the city from August 21 to 30

Saurav Ghoshal & Joshna Chinappa win Asian Individual Squash Ch'ship titles

- Ace Indian squash players Saurav Ghoshal and Joshna Chinappa won their respective Asian Individual Squash Championship titles in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia today. Saurav Ghoshal defeated Leo Au Chun Ming of Hong Kong
- Ghoshal who had become the first Indian male player to reach top ten of the world rankings is the finalist of the previous edition.

Lewis Hamilton wins Monaco Grand Prix

- Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton won his Monaco Grand Prix title.
- Valtteri Bottas and Vettel finished with second and third respectively.

Indian boxers win six medals at 36th Feliks Stamm International Boxing

- Indian boxers finished with a rich haul of six medals, including two gold at the 36th Feliks Stamm International Boxing Tournament in Warsaw, Poland.
- Gaurav Solanki and Manish Kaushik bagged one gold each. Indian boxers also clinched a silver and three bronze
- The 22-year-old Solanki out-punched England's William Cawley 5-0 in 52 kilogram on his way to the coveted yellow metal.
- In 60 kilogram weight category, Kaushik beat Morocco's Mohamed Hamout 4-1. However, there was some disappointment for the Indian contingent on the final day of the European tournament as Mohammed Hussamuddin had to be content with yet another second-place finish following a 1-4 defeat to Russia's Mukhammad Shekhov.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Jan to June 2019)

Marc Marquez wins the Spanish Grand Prix and regains world championship lead

- World champion Marc Marquez of Honda won the Spanish motorcycling GP ahead of compatriots Alex Rins of Suzuki and maverick Vinale
- Having won two of the four MotoGPs so far this season, Marquez tops the standings with 70 points, one more than US race winner Rins on 69. Ducati's Andrea Dovizioso is third on 67

Roger Federer climbs to third in men's rankings

- Former world number one Roger Federer has returned to third in the ATP Men's ranking, replacing Alexander Zverev
- Federer has won a record 20 Grand Slams, is making his return to clay at the Madrid Open this week after three years' absence. Novak Djokovic(11160 pts) remains first ahead of Rafael Nadal (7765 pts) to mark the Serb's 250th week as world number one,
- Japan's Naomi Osaka (6151 pts) remained atop of WTA Women's rankings, ahead of Czech Petra Kvitova (5835 pts) and Romanian Simona Halep (5682 pts)

Novak Djokovic wins Madrid Open title

- Novak Djokovic of Serbia beat Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece to win his third Madrid Open title.
- He held his serve to add the 2019 Madrid Open title to those he won in 2011 and 2016.

Italian Open (Tennis) 2019

- The 76th edition of Italian Open which is also known as "Rome Masters" or "the Internazionali BNL d'Italia" held at Foro Italico in Rome, Italy.
- It was a professional tennis tournament which played on outdoor clay courts. The Italian Open was classified as an ATP World Tour Masters 1000 event on the ATP World Tour 2019 and a Premier 5 event on the WTA Tour 2019.
- The total prize money for men's tournament was €958,055 and for women's tournament was €523,858.
- A Spanish tennis player Rafael Nadal won the record 9th title this year.

Winner:

S.No.	Event	Winner	Runner-up
1.	Men's Singles	Rafael Nadal (Spain)	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
2.	Men's Doubles	Juan Sebastian Cabal (Columbia) Robert Farah (Columbia)	Raven Klaasen (South Africa) Michael Venus (New Zealand)
3.	Women's Singles	Karolina Pliskova (Czech Republic)	Johanna Konta (UK)
4.	Women's Doubles	Victoria Azarenka (Belarus) Ashleigh Barty (Australia)	Anna-Lena Gronefeld (Germany) Demi Schuurs (Netherlands)

India concludes best ever ISSF WC performance in Munich

- In Shooting, India produced their best ever show at the ISSF World Cup with a total tally of five gold medals in Munich, Germany.
- India topped the medals tally with five golds and a silver. Second-placed China bagged nine medals - two gold, two silver and five bronze medals

Hamilton beats Bottas in Spanish GP

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- British racing driver Lewis Hamilton won the Spanish Grand Prix for a third consecutive year after overtaking Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas.
- It marks the Mercedes' record-breaking win as the pair of Hamilton and Bottas has been taking the top two positions on the podium in all five races of 2019 season. Red Bull's Max Verstappen was third.

China set to host 2023 AFC Asian Cup after Korean withdrawal

- Korea withdraw from tournament bidding to focus on 2023 Women's World Cup.
- China has been all but confirmed as the hosts for the 2023 Asian Cup soccer tournament after its only bidding rival, South Korea, withdrew from the bidding process.
- Oman rules itself out of 2022 World Cup co-host role

Double Olympic biathlon champion Dahlmeier retires aged 25

- Germany's double Olympic biathlon champion Laura Dahlmeier announced her retirement at the age of just 25 after struggling with health issues.
- She has won seven world championship gold medals, and last year in Pyeongchang she became the first female biathlete to win both the sprint and the pursuit at the same Olympics.

June 2019 – Important Sports Current Affairs

IOC LIFTS SANCTIONS AGAINST INDIA TO HOST INTERNATIONAL SPORTING EVENTS

- A non-governmental sports organization based in Lausanne, Switzerland, IOC (International Olympic Committee) lifted its sanctions imposed on Indian Olympic Association (IOA) hosting international sports events.
- The decision was taken after finally receiving a letter of guarantee from the Government that it will allow all eligible athletes, sportspersons, and officials in events held in the country.

INDIAN GYMNAST, PRANATI NAYAK WON BRONZE AT 2019 ASIAN ARTISTIC GYMNASTIC CHAMPIONSHIP HELD IN ULAANBAATAR, MONGOLIA

- Indian Gymnast, Pranati Nayak aged 23 won bronze medal in vault event at the 8th edition of Senior Asian Artistic Championships in Buyant Ukhua Sport Palace, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. She hails from West Bengal, India.

CRICKET AUSTRALIA SIGNS A MULTI-YEAR PARTNERSHIP WITH HCL

- Indian multinational information technology service, HCL Technologies (Hindustan Computers Limited, HCL) has signed a multi-year deal with Cricket Australia (CA), the administrative body of Australian Cricket, which is India's third largest sports deal.

CENTRAL RAILWAY AND UNION BANK OF INDIA EMERGED AS CHAMPIONS OF YOUTH HOCKEY 2019

- In the finals of the St Peters Youth Centre Open Hockey Tournament for 2019 held in Mumbai, teams of Central Railway (Women) and Union Bank of India (Men) emerged as champions.

INDIA'S JUNIOR BOXING WOMEN'S TEAM ADJUDGED BEST IN BLACK FOREST CUP

- India's junior Boxing women's team was won best team trophy in 5th Black Forest Cup held in Villingen, Schwenningen, Germany. The team won 7 medals, including 5 gold.

ITALY TO HOST 2026 WINTER OLYMPICS

- In the final round of voting at the 134th session of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Lausanne, Switzerland, Italy's Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo won the right to host the 2026 Winter Olympics, defeating Sweden's

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Jan to June 2019)

capital Stockholm. Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo received 47 votes from the IOC members and Stockholm secured 34 votes.

MARCUS TRESCOThICK OF ENGLAND ANNOUNCED RETIREMENT FROM PROFESSIONAL CRICKET

- The former England opening batsman, Marcus Trescothick, aged 43, announced retirement from professional cricket. He will retire after the current county season ends which is Trescothick's 27th season.

IOC SUSPENDS OLYMPIC STATUS FROM AIBA

- International Olympic Committee (IOC) suspended the Olympic status from the International Boxing Association (AIBA) and took over the responsibilities of the qualifying and final tournaments for the 2020 Tokyo Games. In May 2019, IOC members had voted to support the executive board's recommendation to suspend AIBA's Olympic status.

CHRIS GAYLE OF WEST INDIES TO RETIRE FROM INTERNATIONAL CRICKET

- West Indies batsman Chris Gayle, aged 39, will retire from international cricket after the home Test series against India in August-September 2019. He was the captain of the team in the past and has won 2 T20 World Cup titles with the Windies.

GIRISH KOUSHIK OF KARNATAKA BECAME INDIA'S 63RD GRANDMASTER

- 22-year-old Girish A. Koushik of Mysore, Karnataka became India's 63rd Grandmaster (GM) at the 37th Balaton International Chess Festival in Hungary.

SOFIA KENIN WON THE MALLORCA OPEN TITLE 2019

- Sofia Kenin (20) of the United States won the Mallorca Open Title 2019 against Belinda Bencic of Switzerland with 6-7 (2), 7-6 (5), 6-4 points in the finals. The 4th edition of the tournament was held at Santa Ponsa Tennis Club in Mallorca, Spain

SPAIN'S FERNANDO TORRES RETIRED FROM FOOTBALL

- Fernando Torres, former Liverpool, Chelsea & Spain striker aged 35 retired from football. He hails from Fuenlabrada, Spain .

INDIA'S ACE CUEIST PANKAJ ADVANI CLINCHED THE 35TH MEN'S ASIAN SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIP IN DOHA

- India's ace cueist Pankaj Advani won the 35th men's Asian snooker championship in Doha, Qatar. He defeated Thai's Thanawat Tirapongpaiboon.

INDIAN WOMEN'S RUGBY TEAM SCRIPTED HISTORY IN MANILA

- The 26-member squad of Indian women's Rugby team created a historic first international 15s rugby match win at Southern Plains Sports Field in Manila, Philippines. The victory came against Singapore to finish third in the Asia Rugby Women's Division 1 Rugby XV's Championship 2019 as India won 21-19 scores.

IOC INAUGURATED ITS \$145 MILLION NEW HEADQUARTERS IN LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND

- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) inaugurated its 145 million Swiss francs (\$145 million) new headquarters named Olympic House in a ceremony held at the lakeside grounds of Olympic House in Lausanne, Switzerland. It was inaugurated on the 125th anniversary of the Olympic Games.

LEWIS HAMILTON WON FRENCH GRAND PRIX 2019

- Five-time Formula one (F1) world champion, Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes won the French Grand Prix 2019 held in Circuit Paul Ricard, Le Castellet, France with 187 points. Hailing from England, the United Kingdom, this was his sixth win from eight Grand Prix of the season 2019 and 79th of his career.

INDIAN WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM WON FIH SERIES 2019 BY BEATING JAPAN

- Indian Women's Hockey team won the FIH (Fédération Internationale de Hockey) Women's Series Finals Hiroshima 2019 after defeating the host Japan by 3-1 in the finals held at the Hiroshima Hockey Stadium, Japan.

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SWISS TENNIS STAR ROGER FEDERER DEFEATS DAVID GOFFIN TO WIN 10TH HALLE OPEN 2019 TITLE

- The 20-time Grand Slam champion, Roger Federer (37) of Switzerland defeated David Goffin (Belgium) to win the 27th edition of the Halle Open 2019 (also known as Noventi Open 2019) at the Gerry Weber Stadion in Halle, Germany

CHELSEA CRUNCHES ARSENAL TO WIN EUROPA LEAGUE TITLE

- Chealsea produced their best to win the UEFA Europa League 2019 by beating Arsenal 4-1 at the Baku Olympic Stadium, Azarbaijan. It is their fifth major UEFA European competition final.

UNDER-20 EURASIAN ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP: INDIAN JUNIORS BAGGED 5 GOLD, 3 SILVER MEDALS

- At the Under-20 Eurasian Athletics Championships held at Almaty, Kazakhstan, Indian juniors bagged 5 gold and 3 silver medals. The national teams from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Iran, India and Tajikistan participated in a 2-day event held on May 29-30, 2019.

LIVERPOOL SMASHES TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR TO WIN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TROPHY

- Liverpool football team has beaten Tottenham Hotspur by 2-0 to claim 2018–19 UEFA (Union of European Football Associations) Champions League for the sixth time in Madrid, Spain. It was the 64th season of the tournament organized by UEFA. Now, Liverpool will play against Chelsea, the winners of the 2018–19 UEFA Europa League, in the 2019 UEFA Super Cup that will be held in August 2019 in Istanbul.

SIDHARTH RAWAT WON MAIDEN ITF MEN'S FUTURES SINGLES TITLE

- Delhi based tennis player Sidharth Rawat defeated Japan's Rio Noguchi with 7-5, 6-0 scores to secure his maiden title in \$25,000 International Tennis Federation(ITF) men's Futures Tennis Tournament held in Nonthaburi, Thailand.

ANDRES PONCE RUIZ JR. BECOMES THE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION

- Mexican-American professional boxer Andres Ponce Ruiz Jr. becomes heavyweight champion after beating his opponent British professional boxer, Anthony Joshua at Madison Square Garden, New York. The win made Andres Ruiz the first Mexican heavyweight champion of the world.

INDIAN JUNIOR WOMEN HOCKEY TEAM CLINCHED CANTOR FITZGERALD U21 BY BEATING IRELAND

- Indian Junior Women Hockey team clinched Cantor Fitzgerald U21 International 4-Nations title by beating Ireland 1-0 in the final. The match was held at Dublin, Ireland.

LEWIS HAMILTON WON 2019 CANADIAN GRAND PRIX

- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) of United Kingdom won 2019 Canadian Grand Prix officially named as the Formula 1 Pirelli Grand Prix du Canada 2019. It was held in Circuit Gilles Villeneuve in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

INDIA'S ALL-ROUNDER YUVRAJ SINGH, ANNOUNCED RETIREMENT FROM ALL FORMS OF CRICKET

- Indian cricket team all-rounder, Yuvraj Singh has announced retirement from all forms of cricket. He played 40 test matches, 304 ODI's and 58 T20I's. He hails from Chandigarh. He is an awardee of 2012 Arjuna Award and 2014 Padma Shri Award.

TRACK BODY IAAF TO REBRAND AS WORLD ATHLETICS

- The international governing body for the sport of athletics, International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) is to change its name as World Athletics. The identity of the brand will be introduced in October 2019 after one last edition of the world championships in Doha, Qatar under IAAF. The decision was taken at IAAF council meeting in Monaco.

SOURAV KOTHARI WINS 2019 PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIP

- Indian billiards player Sourav Kothari won the 2019 Pacific International Snooker Championship, held in the Reventon Classic, in Melbourne, Australia. He defeated Tyson Crinis of Australia to win the title.

JEMIMAH RODRIGUES BECOMES THIRD PLAYER FROM INDIA TO FEATURE IN KIA SUPER LEAGUE

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- Young cricketer of India, Jemimah Rodrigues has become the third Indian woman cricket player to feature in Kia Super League (KSL) after Smriti Mandhana and Harmanpreet Kaur. She will play in the fourth and final edition of the KSL. She plays for Yorkshire Diamonds in Women's Super League.

MALAYSIAN BADMINTON LEGEND, LEE CHONG WEI ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

- Former World No 1, Malaysia's badminton player, Lee Chong Wei aged 36 announced retirement after 19 years of a successful career. He made his decision after doctor's advice to ease off in order to avoid a relapse of the nose cancer. He hails from Bagan Serai, Perak, Malaysia.

INDIA REMAINED AT 101ST: FIFA RANKING

- As per the latest list released by FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association) World Rankings, Indian football team remains at a 101st position and Belgium continued to top in the list.
- The top countries in the list are Belgium(1), France (2), Brazil (3), England(4) Portugal (5) Croatia (6) Spain(7)Uruguay (8), Switzerland (9) and Denmark(10).

AUSTRALIA AND QATAR TO PARTICIPATE IN COPA AMERICA 2020

- The South American Football Federation, CONMEBOL has invited Australia and Qatar to take part in 2020 COPA America. The 2020 Copa America will be held jointly by Colombia and Argentina.
- Qatar and Australia will join 10 South American nations in the 2020 tournament. Qatar and Japan are the guest teams at Copa 2019 scheduled to be held in Brazil.

SUNIL CHHETRI BECOMES MOST CAPPED INDIAN FOOTBALLER

- Indian professional footballer Sunil Chhetri has been named most capped football player. He surpassed the former Indian captain Bhaichung Bhutia's 107 international matches as he has played 108 matches for India. He currently plays club football for Bengaluru FC in the Indian Super League.

CHINA TO HOST 2023 ASIAN CUP CONFIRMED BY ASIAN FOOTBALL CONFEDERATION (AFC)

- Asian Football Confederation (AFC), confirmed that China will host the 2023 Asia Cup. This will be the second time China is hosting the quadrennial continental tournament, after the 2004 edition.
- China ranked 74th in the FIFA's rankings and is qualified for the World Cup in 2002.

2019 ITTF WORLD TOUR HONG KONG OPEN

- The 24th edition of ITTF (International Table Tennis Federation) World Tour Hong Kong Open was held from 6th to 9th June 2019 at Queen Elizabeth Stadium in Hong Kong. The prize money of the tournament was USD 175000. It comprises Men's single & doubles and Women's singles & doubles.

Men's Singles - Lin Gaoyuan (China)

Women's Singles - Wang Yidi(China)

FRENCH OPEN

The 123rd Edition of French Open 2019, a Grand Slam Tennis Tournament was held from May 26-June 9, 2019, at the Stade Roland Garros in Paris, France. The prize money of the tournament was €42,661,000 and comprised singles, doubles and mixed doubles play.

Men's Singles - Rafael Nadal (Spain)

Women's Singles - Ashleigh Barty (Australia)

PETER GILCHRIST LIFTED PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL BILLIARDS CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

- Peter Gilchrist of Singapore defeated India's Sourav Kothari (Kolkata) to win the 2019 Pacific International Billiards Championship at the Yarraville Club in Melbourne, Australia. Kothari entered into the final of Pacific International Billiards after getting the thumping win over Dhvaj Haria in Semi-Finals.

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JOSHNA CLAIMS HER 17TH NATIONAL TITLE AT THE 76TH SENIOR NATIONAL SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP, 2019.

- Indian professional squash player, Joshna Chinappa won the national squash title for the record 17th time at the 76th Senior National Squash Championship, 2019 held in Pune, Maharashtra.
- Chinappa overcame her Tamilnadu rival, Sunayna Kuruvilla. She has surpassed the record of 16 titles, which stood for 27 years held by Bhuvneshwari Kumari of Rajasthan who won the national titles from 1977 to 1992.
- Meanwhile, in the men's category, Mahesh Mangaonkar of Mumbai claimed the national crown against Abhishek Pradhan with 12-10, 11-7, 11-9 win.

INDIA BEATS SOUTH AFRICA TO WIN FIH SERIES FINALS 2019

- In the FIH (Federation Internationale de Hockey) Men's Series Finals hockey tournament 2019, India thrashed South Africa with 5-1 in a summit clash at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- The goals were scored in the 2nd, 11th, 25th, 36th and 50th minutes. Manpreet Singh won the Best Player of the Tournament Award, while Vivek Sagar wins the Best Junior Player Award.

NIHAL SARIN WINS BLITZ EVENT AT 2019 ASIAN CONTINENTAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP HELD IN XINGTAI, CHINA

- Nihal Sarin, a 14-year-old Indian Chess Grandmaster has secured a win at the 2019 Asian Continental Chess Championship in Xingtai, China in the blitz event.
- He scored eight points from nine rounds of the event which meant that he ended the tournament with a lead of a full point.

PUNJAB POLICE (MEN) AND EASTERN RAILWAY (WOMEN) WON 2019 FEDERATION CUP TROPHIES IN GREATER NOIDA

- The 33rd Federation Cup Basketball Championship for Men and Women for the year 2019 was held at the Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
- The Punjab Police (Men) and Eastern Railway (Women) won the prestigious gold medals in the tournament.
- The tournament was held from June 12-16, 2019 and was organised by the Basketball Federation of India (BFI) and the Uttar Pradesh Basketball Association (UPBA).

GARY WOODLAND WINS 119TH US OPEN 2019 BY BEATING BROOKS KOEPKA

- American professional golfer Gary Woodland (35) has won the 119th United States (US) open 2019 held at the at Pebble Beach Golf Links, California.
- He secured his first major career title after defeating two-time defending champion Brooks Koepka(US).

NOVAK DJOKOVIC, NAOMI OSAKA REMAIN AS WORLD NO. 1 IN THE TENNIS RANKINGS

- According to recently released "Women's Tennis Association (WTA)" and "Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP)" rankings, Naomi Osaka (Japan) and Novak Djokovic(Serbia) continued as world number ones.
- Novak Djokovic tops the chart in men's ATP rankings ahead of Rafael Nadal of Spain, and Naomi Osaka is just 252 points ahead of world number two Ashleigh Barty of Australia in the top 20 WTA rankings.

PU CHITRA AND SREESHANKAR STRIKES GOLD & JOHNSON WINS SILVER AT FOLKSAM GRAND PRIX 2019

- Asian champion PU Chitra (Palakkeezhil Unnikrishnan Chithra) of India won a gold medal in women's 1500m at Folksam Grand Prix 2019 held in Sollentuna, Sweden.
- She ran her season best by clocking 4 minutes 12.65 seconds (4:12.65s). While in men's 1500m, Jinson Johnson from India won a silver medal.

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