

VOLLEYBALL FEDERATION OF INDIA

65th Senior National Volleyball Championship for Men and Women
 VENUE: SDAT Multipurpose Indoor Stadium, J.N. Stadium
 (Jeppiar Engineering College Outdoor Courts) - Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
 24th to 30th December, 2016

Press Cutting Day 3

JEPPIAAR 65TH SENIOR NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL

Vinith steals the thunder for Kerala

T.N. RAGHU
 CHENNAI, DEC. 24

C. Jerome Vinith defeated Tamil Nadu 20-25, 21-25, 25-22, 25-16, 20-18 in the 65th senior national volleyball championship here on Monday. Yes, volleyball is a team sport but it was Vinith's sensational smashes from the minus position that helped Kerala finish first in Group A. Appropriately, the strapping all-rounder hit the knock-out punch to end the pulsating match on Boxing Day.

Vinith, a diamond unearthed from Pudukottai in Tamil Nadu, was polished under the supervision of coach S. Dasishinathoury at SDAT Hostel of Excellence and SRM University here. After taking up a job with BFLC in Kochi two-and-a-half years ago, he is now a glimmering jewel for Kerala. In other words, a son of the soil came back to haunt Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu, who would face Rajasthan in the quarter-finals on Wednesday after finishing third in the group behind Services, played their third succes-



C. Jerome Vinith of Kerala attempts to beat a triple block put up by Tamil Nadu.

sive five-setter in the league. Unlike their previous two matches, however, the hosts set the tone against Kerala by racing ahead to a two-set lead. But then, Vinith had different ideas for the next three.

Kerala coach K. Abdul Nazeer is a man of high standards indeed. "I expected more from Vinith," he said. "He was much better in the previous two games." One can only feel sorry for the team that will have the misfor-

tune of facing Vinith's bombardment in the quarter-finals. They are likely to be Uttar Pradesh, who finished fourth in the other group.

Vinith, who was also in a class of his own in serving, is determined to prove a point here. "I haven't won the national championship with Kerala. I hope this time everything will fall in place," said the universal, who was a losing finalist last year.

He wasn't in the league of Vinith. Libero S. Aswin also gave a good account of himself as Tamil Nadu's reception improved dramatically if the hosts have to go all the way in the tournament. Tallman M. Nannan Raja Jacob must regain at least 70 per cent of his original game. He has been a pale shadow of his stellar self here.

RESULTS

Men: Group 'A': Rajasthan bt UP 14-25, 20-25, 25-23, 25-16, 15-8. Railways bt Punjab 25-23, 25-13, 25-21. Final standings: 1. Railways (8 points), 2. Rajasthan (7), 3. Punjab (3), 4. UP (2). Group 'B': Services bt Andhra Pradesh 25-14, 22-25, 19-25, 25-21, 16-14. Kerala bt Tamil Nadu 20-25, 21-25, 25-22, 25-16, 20-18. Final standings: 1. Kerala (8 points), 2. Services (4), 3. Tamil Nadu (4), 4. Andhra Pradesh (2).

Women: Group 'A': Maharashtra bt AP 17-25, 25-16, 25-21, 25-18. Railways bt West Bengal 25-10, 25-13, 25-7. Group 'B': Telangana bt Punjab 25-12, 25-17, 25-20. Kerala bt Tamil Nadu 25-14, 25-11, 25-9.

Kerala come back from two sets down to beat TN and top group

Vivek.Krishnan@timesgroup.com

Chennai: Hosts Tamil Nadu squandered a 2-0 lead to go down to Kerala 25-20, 25-21, 22-25, 16-25, 18-20 in a nail-biting encounter at the Nehru Indoor Stadium here on Monday. While both teams have qualified for the quarter-finals from Group B (top three teams from each group get a direct entry into the quarters), Tamil Nadu haven't made it easy for themselves going forward having finished third in Group B with four points. Kerala, meanwhile, finished on top of Group B with eight points under their belt.

In contrast to their previous two matches, TN actually started on the front foot on this occasion and didn't give Kerala any breathing space as they won the first two sets 25-20, 25-21 in quick succession. Allrounder K. Praveen Kumar, who had played a pivotal role in TN's victory against Andhra Pradesh on Sunday, was once again at the forefront, winning crucial points for the team with his robust play. M. Naveen Raja Jacob, too, showed signs of getting back to his best, which is a good sign for TN if they are to add to their nine national titles this year.

Facing a 0-2 deficit, Kerala sudden-



SLANTING IT: Action during TN and Kerala match in Chennai on Monday

ly seemed to come to life. Perhaps ironically, it was C. Jerome Vinith, originally from Tamil Nadu, who was at the heart of Kerala's comeback. The 25-year-old produced a scintillating display replete with smashes and ferocious serves, helping Kerala make it 2-2 in the process. Even when there was a drop in the level of TN's play after the second set, Praveen didn't let it spill over to his game and kept TN in the hunt all the way through.

As was to be expected between sides as closely matched as these two, the fifth set went right down to the

wire. Eventually it was the brilliance of Jerome that sealed the match in Kerala's favour, coming up with a smash that the hosts had no answer to.

Interestingly however, Kerala head coach K. Abdul Nazeer felt Jerome was a notch or two below his usual best. "Jerome is actually capable of much more. He had played much better in the first two games. If he can produce his best in the coming days, it will be great for the team's chances," Nazeer said. Asked whether he had given up hopes of his team staging a comeback when they were 0-2 down, Nazeer added: "Not at all. There was no question of giving up. With this team, we can win from anywhere."

Meanwhile, the Tamil Nadu women's team also suffered a defeat at the hands of Kerala on Monday losing comprehensively 14-25, 11-25, 9-25.

Results (Day 3): Men: Rajasthan bt UP 14-25, 20-25, 25-23, 25-16, 15-8. Indian Railways bt Punjab 25-23, 25-13, 25-21. Services bt AP 25-14, 22-25, 19-25, 25-21, 16-14. Kerala bt TN 20-25, 21-25, 25-22, 25-16, 20-18. Women: Telangana bt Punjab 25-12, 25-17, 25-20. Maharashtra bt AP 17-25, 25-16, 25-21, 25-18. Railways bt West Bengal 25-10, 25-13, 25-7. Kerala bt TN 25-14, 25-11, 25-9.

THE HINDU • TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2016

Kerala makes short work of Tamil Nadu

VOLLEYBALL / Demolishes a disconcerted host in straight sets

S. PRASANNA VENKATESAN

CHENNAI: Kerala made light work of Tamil Nadu with a 25-14, 25-11, 25-9 straight-set win in the women's group B match of the senior National volleyball championship on Monday at the Nehru indoor stadium here.

Tamil Nadu was insipid throughout. Its play was frantic for the most part with the players playing in disconcert, and thus undecided as to how to approach the ball, set it up, and strike. There were shabby plays aplenty to show for it.

In the first set, M. Sandhiya, unsure whether to spike or tap, applied a meek touch on the ball for it to hit the net. This, after she had jumped and had the facility for a full-blown spike. Kerala was 10-3 ahead at that stage.

Tamil Nadu struggled with its positioning, leaving court space uncovered, especially back-court. And Kerala exploited it. Sensing that Tamil Nadu's D. Ratha, stationed at the back wasn't in fine touch, Kerala's P.P. Reshma and S. Rekha hit the ball at and around her repeatedly.

So much so, that Ratha was replaced by K.P. Anusree, who did marginally better. Indecision showed prominently when, at 6-15 down, the players gathered round the falling ball and let it ground with each expecting the other to take it.

Much effort was expended, and focus fine-tuned, on keep-



FRANTIC: Tamil Nadu's insipid performance and indecision on court was taken advantage of by the Kerala women.

— PHOTO: B. JOTHIRAMALINGAM

Tamil Nadu men have a good start, winning the first two sets before losing the next three

ing the ball in play, that no better could be done to attack as it managed 11 points in the second set.

In the third, out of desperation to save itself from a straight-sets defeat, it looked to muster a better attack. But it didn't help that Kerala combined well in pairs to block at the net.

Tamil Nadu men had a good start versus Kerala, winning

the first two sets 25-20, 25-21 — Naveen Raja Jacob, Shelton Moses, and K. Praveen Kumar played well at the net — but it went down in the last three sets 22-25, 16-25, and 18-20.

The results (day three): Men: Group A: Rajasthan bt Uttar Pradesh 14-25, 20-25, 25-23, 25-16, 15-8; Indian Railways bt Punjab 25-23, 25-13, 25-21; Group B: Kerala bt Tamil Nadu 20-25, 21-25, 25-22, 25-16, 20-18; Services bt Andhra Pradesh 25-14, 22-25, 19-25, 25-21, 16-14.

Women: Group A: Maharashtra bt Andhra Pradesh 17-25, 25-16, 25-21, 25-18; Indian Railways bt West Bengal 25-10, 25-13, 25-7; Group B: Telangana bt Punjab 25-12, 25-17, 25-20; Kerala bt Tamil Nadu 25-14, 25-11, 25-9.

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Press Cutting Day 2

Tamil Nadu triumph after five-set struggle

Vivek Krishnan
 @timesgroup.com

Chennai: For the second time in as many days, hosts Tamil Nadu had to go through the grind of a five-set match, but they ended up on the winning side this time around. After their loss to Services in opening tie on Saturday, the nine-time champions got their campaign back on track as they beat Andhra Pradesh 19-25, 22-25, 25-22, 25-18, 15-13 at the Nehru Indoor Stadium here on Sunday.



UP & ABOVE: Praveen Kumar (extreme right) wins a point for TN

NAT'L VOLLEYBALL

The TN players looked cagey in initial stages yet again, with the seniors struggling to find their groove. Andhra Pradesh, on the other hand, were on the money right from the outset and ready to pounce on any opening they got. It came as little surprise then that the visitors raced to a 25-19 victory in the opening set. In the second set, AP raced to a 7-2 lead in quick time and it seemed like there was no way back for the home side. However, an injury to Andhra player P. Prasanth while trying to retrieve a ball that had gone out of court led to a break in play and halted their momentum. On resumption, TN seemed to gather some composure and won four points in a row to make it 6-7. It was all too brief for their lik-

ing, though, as Andhra regained the upper hand to eventually close the set 25-22.

Much like their game against Services on Saturday, it was only after they went 0-2 down that TN started showing why they were being considered among one of the favourites coming into the tournament. The exuberance of youngsters T. Sathiyaran and N. Gokulnath, who weren't included from the start once again, came to the fore as they made it 2-2 to take the game in to the fifth set. Sathiyaran, in particular, was lethal in attack and did not let go of any opportunity that came his way.

In the deciding fifth set, it was neck and neck at 12-12 when a crucial umpiring call went TN's way. The ball had gone out of court after a smash from a TN player, but the refer-

ee ruled the point in the home side's favour thinking that the ball had touched one of the Andhra players when it clearly hadn't. It proved to be a decisive moment in the match as TN went on to win the fifth set 15-13 to notch up a come-from-behind victory. Andhra coach M. Thulasi Reddy was understandably frustrated after the match and felt the referee might have been trying to make up for an earlier decision which had wrongly gone against TN.

"It was a very important moment in the match. I understand that referees are also human beings and are prone to mistakes, but I just felt he was trying to balance out the wrong calls. If that point had gone in our favour, it could have been a different story," he said.

IOB shoots down players' plea

► From P1

Naveen, who works at IOB's Gemini Circle branch, said: "Before demonetization, I would only have to work till 1.30 or 2 pm. In the evenings, we could focus entirely on our game. Now, I have to be at the office till 8pm. I was never used to such a schedule and that has taken a toll."

The player even requested one of the senior bank officials to allow more time for practice, but it was shot down. "The officer turned it down, saying that all the employees will have to cooperate and help out at this difficult time," Naveen added. His colleague and teammate, Vaishnav, too echoed similar senti-

ments. "We are just not getting enough practice. It has been made compulsory for everybody to work late in office and it's taking a toll on our practice schedule," Vaishnav said.

In the two games that TN have played so far in the tournament, it has been noticeable how the senior players have struggled to get going. The fringe players, on the other hand, who are not associated with any bank, seem a lot sharper and have made the difference.

"We have been preparing for this tournament since December 8. Ideally, all the players would have been training regularly by the time we came together for this tournament but that wasn't to be," added Sundaram, who has been TN's coach for the last four years.

Tamil Nadu men roar back

VOLLEYBALL / The host rallies from two sets down to beat AP

S. PRASANNA VENKATESAN

CHENNAI: Host Tamil Nadu beat Andhra Pradesh 19-25, 22-25, 25-22, 25-18, 15-13 in a Group-B match on day two of the senior National volleyball championship at the Nehru indoor stadium here on Sunday.

After it lost the first set, and let Andhra Pradesh take the lead early on in the second as well, Tamil Nadu, desperate not to lose, held on, and narrowed the gap from 4-7 to 6-7.

But Andhra shrugged off the surge, and advanced to 10-7, R. Rajasekar spiking successfully twice in the three points it won.

It laid claim to three more points from there, with Tamil Nadu stranded on seven - P. Prasanth blocked Tamil Nadu captain S. Karthik's drive for the first point. Rajasekar's serve tripped off the top of the net, deceiving the opposition, for the second, and R. Krishnam Raju blocked again for the third.

At this point, it was fairly evident that the Andhra Pradesh blockers P. Prasanth, Krishnam Raju, and P. Ameer Khan were in fine form.

Tamil Nadu rallied to 12-15 from there, but there was no getting close, let alone getting past Andhra as it went ahead to 20-16. A combined block by Prasanth and T. Naresh - they kept up, close to each other -



RIISING TO THE OCCASION: TN's K. Praveen Kumar (left) smashes past the AP blockers. - PHOTO: B. KOTHARABALINGAM

Jacob was a highlight of the phase. The longest rally of the set, when Andhra was 20-19 up, ended in Tamil Nadu's favour, courtesy a Naveen Raja spike.

There were two striking plays in the rally - Tamil Nadu's D. Selva Prabha swiftly went to the ground to dig a Krishnam Raju spike, and Andhra's V. Murali Mohan dived in reflex to dig Naveen Raja's spike one-handed.

Tamil Nadu got lucky when it was down 21-23 as Andhra's Ameer Khan hit his service out of the court. It didn't get any lucky from there as Andhra claimed the set 25-22 from thereon.

Luck again favoured Tamil Nadu in the third set, as it

when the score was 6-11, from 3-11, as Andhra captain V. Subba Rao netted his serve, and again, when the scoreline had further been dragged to 9-11, Naresh jumped and spiked the ball out of the court. Tamil Nadu managed to take the set 25-22.

There were two moments of note in the fourth set that Tamil Nadu won 25-18. First was when Subba Rao's spike was too good for Tamil Nadu's S. Aswin, who went to the ground and rolled over in his failed attempt at a dig.

Second was when Tamil Nadu's K. Praveen Kumar, set up by Aswin, spiked the ball for it to sneak in amid three jump-

slight gap between Andhra's Prasanth and Ameer Khan on one side, and K. Rajesh on the other.

In the all-resolving fifth set, when the score was level at 12-12, Andhra's Naresh spike the ball out of the court for Tamil Nadu to go one-up.

But then, Tamil Nadu's Shelton Moses blocked Prasanth's drive soon after for it to spill out of the court as Andhra drew level 13-13. Tamil Nadu was the first to get to 15 points from there and wrap the match up.

Andhra Pradesh coach M. Thulasi Reddy said it hurt to lose the match from two sets up. "It does hurt to lose like this, but then, we have an inexperienced side and our plan has been to go all out and play aggressively all the time irrespective of the situation. That, I believe, is the only way we can win," he said.

The results:

Men: Group A: Indian Railways bt Uttar Pradesh 25-16, 25-17, 21-25, 25-20; Rajasthan bt Punjab 17-25, 25-21, 25-21, 25-18; Kerala bt Services 25-19, 25-21, 29-27. **Group B:** Tamil Nadu bt Andhra Pradesh 19-25, 22-25, 25-22, 25-18, 15-13.

Women: Group A: Indian Railways bt Andhra Pradesh 25-16, 25-16, 25-8; Maharashtra bt West Bengal 25-21, 29-27, 25-15; Kerala bt Telangana 25-13, 25-13, 25-12; Tamil Nadu bt Punjab 18-25, 20-25, 25-18, 25-9, 16-11.

TN spikers down Andhra

Tamil Nadu beat Andhra Pradesh in the Jeppiaaar Engineering College - 65th Senior National volleyball championship.

Men: Indian Railways bt UP 25-16, 25-17, 21-25, 25-20; Tamil Nadu bt AP 19-25, 22-25, 25-22, 25-18, 15-13;

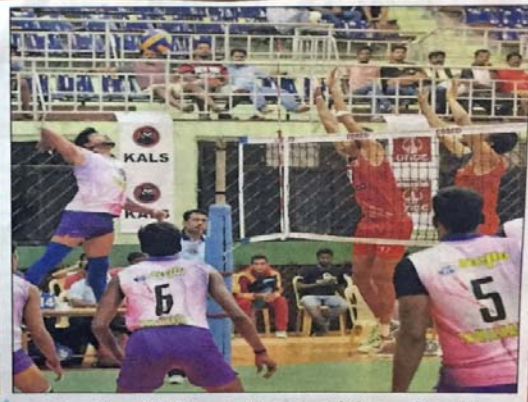
Women: Indian Railways bt AP 25-16, 25-16, 25-8; Maharashtra bt West Bengal 25-21, 29-27, 25-15.

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தமிழ்நாடு-பஞ்சாப் வீராங்கனைகள் உற்சாகமாக மோதி கொள்கிறார்கள்.



ஆண்கள் பிரிவில் தமிழ்நாடு-ஆந்திரா இடையிலான ஆட்டத்தில் விரிவிறுப்பான ஒரு காட்சி.

தேசிய கைப்பந்து போட்டி:

சென்னை, டி.ச. 26-
 சென்னைவில் நடந்து வரும் தேசிய கைப்பந்து போட்டியில் தமிழக அணி முதல் வெற்றியை பெற்றது.

தேசிய கைப்பந்து

65-வது தேசிய சீனியர் கைப்பந்து சாம்பியன்ஷிப் போட்டி சென்னை நேரு உள் விளையாட்டு அரங்கில் நடந்து வருகிறது. இதில் ஆண்கள் பிரிவில் 25 அணி கூறும், பெண்கள் பிரிவில் 23 அணிகளும் பங்கேற்றுள்ளன. 2-வது நாளான நேற்று

தமிழக அணிக்கு முதல் வெற்றி

ஆண்களில் 'பி' பிரிவில் நடந்த ஒரு ஆட்டத்தில் தமிழக அணி, ஆந்திராவை எதிர் கொண்டது. முதல் இரு செட்டுகளை பற்கொடுத்த தமிழக அணி அதன் பிறகு ஆக்ரோஷமாக விளையாடி சரிவில் இருந்து எழுச்சி பெற்றது. 5 செட் வரை நீடித்த பரபரப்பான இந்த மோதலில் தமிழக அணி 19-25, 22-25, 25-22, 25-18, 15-13 என்ற செட் கணக்கில் ஆந்திராவை வீழ்த்தி முதலாவது வெற்றியை பதிவு செய்தது. தமிழக அணி தொடக்க ஆட்டத்தில் சர்வீஸ் அணியிடம் தோற்று இருந்தது. தமிழக அணி

அடுத்த லீக்கில் கோலாவை இன்று (மாலை 6 மணி) எதிர் கொண்டது.

இன்னொரு ஆட்டத்தில் இந்நியன் ரெயில்வே அணி 25-16, 25-17, 21-25, 25-20 என்ற செட் கணக்கில் உத்தர பிரதேசத்தை வென்றது. இதே போல் பஞ்சாப் அணி, ராஜஸ்தானையும், கேரள அணி, சர்வீசையும் வீழ்த்தின.

தமிழக அணி வெற்றி

பெண்கள் பிரிவில் தனது முதல் லீக்கில் தெலுங்கானா விடம் தோல்வி கண்டு இருந்த தமிழக அணி நேற்று 2-வது ஆட்டத்தில் பஞ்சாப்படை

மோதியது. முதல் செட்-லை இழந்தாலும் சுதாரித்து மீண்ட தமிழக அணி 18-25, 20-25, 25-18, 25-9, 15-10 என்ற செட் கணக்கில் பஞ்சாப்படை வீழ்த்தி முதல் வெற்றியை குறித்தது.

மற்ற ஆட்டங்களில் இந்நியன் ரெயில்வே 25-16, 25-16, 25-8 என்ற நேர் செட்டில் ஆந்திராவையும், மராட்டிய அணி 25-21, 29-27, 25-15 என்ற செட் கணக்கில் மேற்கு வங்காளத்தை, கேரள அணி 25-13, 25-13, 25-12 என்ற நேர் செட்டில் தெலுங்கானாவையும் தோற்கடித்தன.



S. Karthik of Tamil Nadu smashes the ball against Andhra Pradesh in a Group 'B' match at the Nehru Stadium on Sunday. Tamil Nadu beat Andhra 19-25, 22-25, 25-18, 15-13. — E.K. Sanjay

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Press Cutting of Day 1

JEPPIAAR-65TH SENIOR NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL

Tamil Nadu eye perfect 10

T.N. RAGHU
CHENNAI, DEC. 23

Tamil Nadu have set unshakable positions in the 65th senior national volleyball championship, which is taking place on Saturday. Two years ago, Tamil Nadu established a record by being the first team to lift the title away to Hyderabad and the fourth victory since 1981. In the final, Chennai on December 30 would help the team complete 10 titles in the country's premier tournament.

The national championship begins in Chennai for the third time in seven years since the team is being torn apart by a heavy schedule at the national level. While professional leagues have transformed the fortunes of some states in India, volleyball has remained a niche sport in the administrative capital. Although the newspaper has spent enough ink on the subject.

S. Saratharaj has been at the helm of Tamil Nadu for the last four years and he has the challenging task of making a team of 20 players unshakable in the world edition. Yes, that may seem like a tall order, but he has done it. He has not only won the title but also set a record of 10 titles. He has done it by building a team that is not only strong but also resilient. He has done it by building a team that is not only strong but also resilient.

The information in the Volleyball Federation of India has kept Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh, both potential title contenders, away from the competition. Saratharaj said Railways (two-time defending champions, Kerala and Punjab would be strong for the title prize have along with his



...the... ..

National volleyball meet from today

S. PRASANNA VENKATESAN

CHENNAI: The senior National volleyball championship starts, amidst and despite the in-fighting between two factions in the Volleyball Federation of India, here on Saturday. VFI president Chaudhary Avadhesh Kumar leads one group and its secretary-general Ramavtar Singh Jakhar the other.

As the international governing body Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) has provisionally suspended the VFI, the authority of the secretary-led faction to conduct the tournament was impugned at the press conference on Thursday.

"We are absolutely confident of our right to conduct the tournament, and that it will be a success devoid of any issues," said VFI joint secretary J. Nadarajan, the organising secretary of the event.

The FIVB has commissioned an ad hoc committee to address and resolve the dispute. This, apart from an arbitrator appointed by the Madras High Court to guide both factions in reference to the case between Chaudhary Avadhesh Kumar and the VFI.



...the... ..

SPORT

Railwaymen start with a win

VOLLEYBALL / Services downs host Tamil Nadu in five sets

S. PRASANNA VENKATESAN

CHENNAI: Defending men's champion Indian Railways defeated Karnataka 21-25, 20-25, 25-10, 25-22, 17-25 in Group A match on the first day of the senior National volleyball championship at the Nehru Indoor stadium on Saturday.

In Group B, host Tamil Nadu lost to Services 25-27, 20-25, 25-22, 25-22, 17-25.

Coach Avadhesh was happy with the way Railways rallied from two sets down.

"Two of our blockers and an attacker from the squad that won the title last year were injured before the tournament and had to be replaced by relatively inexperienced players. I felt that blocker Sathish, one of the newcomers, was not in good touch in the sets we lost. It was only when I replaced him with Sanjay Malik, another newcomer, that we started playing well."

He picked Malik, attacker S. Prasadharan, and universal Manoj Joseph as the standard performers, and added that Pragas was the name to watch.

Incidentally, Pragas had 4 sets in Group B as it posted 25-18, 25-11, 25-20 victory over Uttar Pradesh.



...the... ..

ஆண்கள் மற்றும் பெண்களுக்கான ஜேப்பியா 65வது தேசிய கைப்பந்து போட்டி சென்னையில் 24ந் தேதி தொடங்கியது

65வது தேசிய சீனியர் கைப்பந்து போட்டி 24ந் தேதி சென்னை நேரு உள்விளையாட்டரங்கில் தொடங்கியது. இந்திய கைப்பந்து சம்மேளனம் மற்றும் தமிழ்நாடு மாநில கைப்பந்து கழகத்தில் கல்லூரி மற்றும் சென்னை ஸ்பைக்காள் கிளப் இணைந்து நடத்தும் இந்தப் போட்டியில் ரமில்வே மற்றும் சர்வீஸ் உட்பட 26 ஆண்கள் மற்றும் 23 பெண்கள் அணிகள் கலந்து கொள்கின்றன. இது குறித்து, சர்வதேச கைப்பந்து வீரரும் இந்திய கைப்பந்து சம்மேளனத்தின் இணை செயலாளரும் போட்டி அமைப்பு செயலாளருமான ஜே.நடராஜன் திருபுகளுக்கு அளித்த போட்டியில் கூறியதாவது.

சம்மேளனத்தின் விழிமுறைகளின்படி நடத்தப்படுகிறது. வெற்றி பெறும் அணிகளுக்கு ஜேப்பியார் கோப்பை மற்றும் சில்பந்தி கோப்பை வழங்கப்படுகிறது. இறுதிப்போட்டி 30ந் தேதி மாலை நடைபெறும் என்றும் கால் இறுதிக்கு தகுதி பெறும் 8 ஆண்கள் அணிகளும் அரை இறுதிப் போட்டியில் தகுதி பெறும் 4 பெண்கள் அணிகளும், 2017 பிப்ரவரி 5 முதல் 12 வரை ஊரணாசிரியல் நடைபெறவிருக்கும் டெட்ரோஷன் கோப்பைக்கான கைப்பந்து போட்டியில் பங்கேற்ற தகுதி பெறுகின்றன. போட்டியில் கால்சோ கைப்பந்துகள் மற்றும் வலைகள் பயன்படுத்தப்படுகிறது. இவ்வாறு நடராஜன் தெரிவித்தார்.

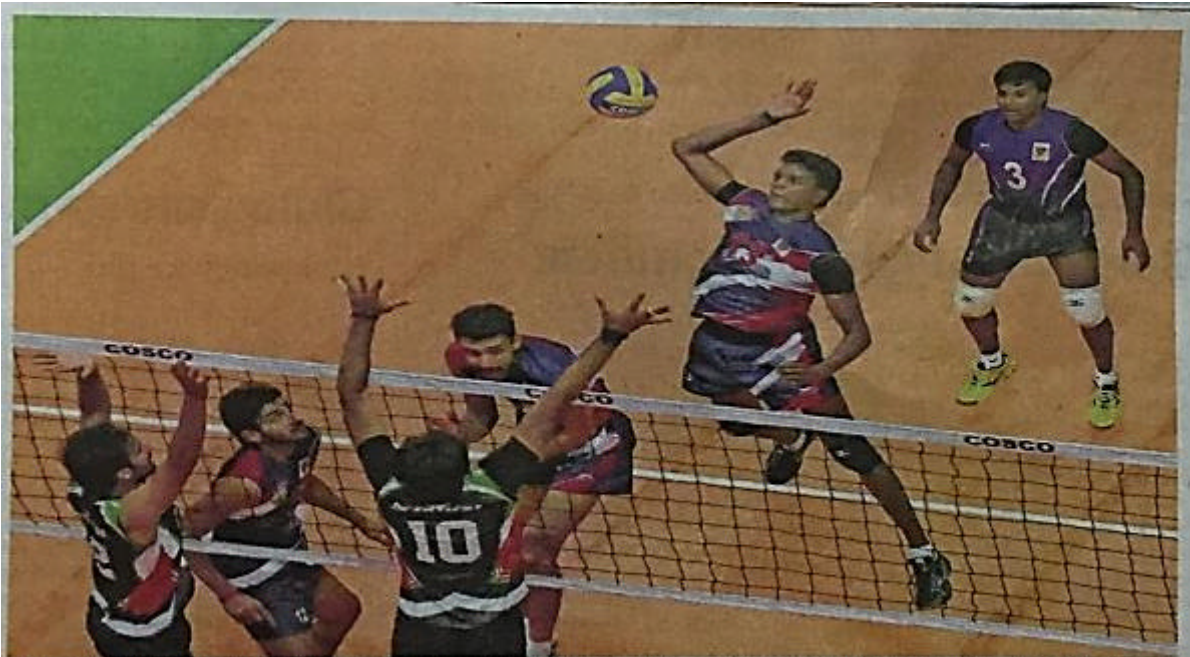
24ந் தேதி தொடங்கிய இப்போட்டிய வகுகிற 20ந் தேதி வரை சென்னை நேரு உள் விளையாட்டரங்கிலும் ஜேப்பியார் பொறியியல் கல்லூரி விளையாட்டு அமையத்திலும் காலை 7 மணி முதல் நடைபெற்று வருகிறது. போட்டி லீக் கம் நாட் அடிப்படையில் இந்திய கைப்பந்து

...the... ..

VOLLEYBALL FEDERATION OF INDIA

65th Senior National Volleyball Championship for Men and Women
 VENUE: SDAT Multipurpose Indoor Stadium, J.N. Stadium
 (Jeppiar Engineering College Outdoor Courts) - Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
 24th to 30th December, 2016

Press Cutting of Day 1



▲ தேசிய சீனியர் கைப்பந்து போட்டி சென்னையில் நேற்று தொடங்கியது. ஏ பிரிவு ஆட்டத்தில் ரயில்வேஸ் அணி ராஜஸ்தான் அணியை வென்றது. படம்: வி.க.சேனா



தேசிய கைப்பந்து போட்டியை தொடங்கி வைத்த சென்னை மாநகர ஆணையர் அணிபுலகம் செந்துரை ஸ்வாமிநாதன்.

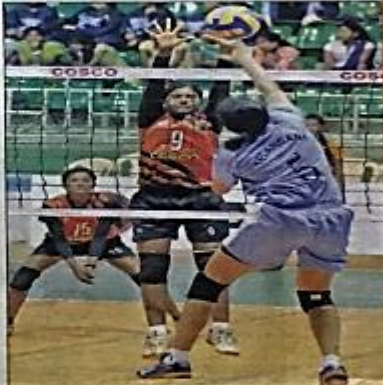
தேசிய சீனியர் கைப்பந்து

தமிழக அணிகள் தோல்வி

சென்னை, 24-12-16: சென்னை மாநகர ஆணையர் அணிபுலகம் செந்துரை ஸ்வாமிநாதன் தலைமையில் தேசிய சீனியர் கைப்பந்து போட்டி சென்னையில் நேற்று தொடங்கியது. இந்திய வால்லிபால் கூட்டமைப்பு இந்திய வால்லிபால் கூட்டமைப்பு தலைமையில் தேசிய சீனியர் கைப்பந்து போட்டி சென்னையில் நேற்று தொடங்கியது.

தேசிய கைப்பந்து

இந்திய வால்லிபால் கூட்டமைப்பு தலைமையில் தேசிய சீனியர் கைப்பந்து போட்டி சென்னையில் நேற்று தொடங்கியது. இந்திய வால்லிபால் கூட்டமைப்பு தலைமையில் தேசிய சீனியர் கைப்பந்து போட்டி சென்னையில் நேற்று தொடங்கியது.



தமிழ்நாடு - சென்னைவரை அணிபுலகம் செந்துரை ஸ்வாமிநாதன் தலைமையில் தேசிய சீனியர் கைப்பந்து போட்டி சென்னையில் நேற்று தொடங்கியது.

நிந்தியன் வாஸிடால் வீடு

நிந்தியன் வாஸிடால் வீடு... (Text is partially obscured and difficult to read due to image quality and small font size.)

இந்தியன் வாஸிடால் வீடு

இந்தியன் வாஸிடால் வீடு... (Text is partially obscured and difficult to read due to image quality and small font size.)

TN put up fight before going down to Services

Vivek.Krishnan@timesgroup.com

Chennai: Hosts Tamil Nadu went down to Services 25-27, 29-33, 25-22, 25-22, 17-19 in a hard-fought Group B encounter of the 65th senior national volleyball championship at Nehru Indoor Stadium here on Saturday.

In the opening game, TN seemed to have the better of the initial exchanges, but Services didn't let them run away with it. They stayed within touching distance right through and their perseverance paid off as they clinched the first game by a slender margin of 27-25. Services player Navayon Kumar, in particular, stood out for his smashes and nimble movement across the court.

NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL

The second game played out in similar fashion, with TN taking a comfortable four-point lead at one stage only to squander it and go 0-2 down. Staring at a comprehensive defeat at the hands of the less-fancied Services, TN coach P Sundaram decided to ring in the changes and give his younger players a chance. M Utkrapandian and M Navayon Raja Jacob, both of whom have represented India, made way for N Gokulnath and T Sathriyan.

The move paid rich dividends with the likes of Gokulnath and Sathriyan impressing soon after coming on and making a case to be included right from the start in the coming games. Trailing 18-20 at one stage in the third game, it seemed like Services' victory would be a mere formality. However, the home side, who had given the local crowd little to cheer about up until that point, came back all of a sudden and won seven of the last nine points to win in the third game 25-22. With TN's fringe players continuing to impress, they dominated much of the play in the fourth game before eventually clinching it by the same scoreline as the third and make it 3-2 going into the fifth game.

Having come back from 0-2 down, TN must have felt that they had the measure of their opponents by then, but Services had



SMASH-HIT: TN's Shelton Moses in action against Services at Nehru Stadium on Saturday

other plans. While there wasn't much between the two sides in the decider, Services just held their nerve a tad bit better to come out on top. Coach Sundaram would have ideally liked TN to start their campaign with a win, but he wasn't too disheartened by the team's display. "I saw a lot of positives in the team's performance. Obviously, it would have been great if the result went our way. But at 0-2 down, I didn't expect us to fight back the way he did, and the boys deserve credit for that," Sundaram, who has been TN's head coach for the last four years, said.

Meanwhile, the TN women's team also succumbed to a 25-27, 25-14, 8-25, 17-25 defeat against Telangana on Saturday. Results: Men's event: Group A: Railways beat Rajasthan 21-25, 20-25, 25-20, 25-22, 17-15; Punjab beat UP 25-19, 25-21, 25-20; Group B: Services beat TN 27-25, 31-29, 22-25, 22-25, 19-17; Kerala beat AP 25-20, 26-24, 27-29, 25-21. Women's event: Group A: AP beat West Bengal 14-25, 25-14, 25-22, 25-11; Group B: Kerala beat Punjab 25-17, 25-8, 25-9; Telangana beat TN 27-25, 14-25, 25-8, 25-17.