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“Ghee Must Be Derived Exclusively From Milk or Milk Products”: FDA

J&K Food and Drugs Administration bans 10 adulterated ghee batches across the Union Territory

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 30: The Jammu and Kashmir Food and Drugs Administration has imposed an immediate ban on the sale, storage and distribution of 10 batches of ghee after laboratory tests detected markers of vegetable-fat adulteration and other quality violations, directing food business operators, wholesalers, distributors and retailers to withdraw the affected stocks within 48 hours and declare remaining inventory to the concerned authorities.

The Jammu and Kashmir Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) on Sunday imposed a complete ban on the sale, storage, and distribution of 10 ghee batches found adulterated with foreign vegetable fat, terming them “sub-standard, unsafe, and misbranded” for public consumption.

The action, taken under Section 30 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, came after the Notified Food Analyst at the National Food Laboratory, Ghaziabad, and the Food Testing Laboratory, Kashmir, confirmed serious quality violations in samples collected from nine districts across the Union Territory.

Among the banned products are popular household brands — Dairy Mohan, Apna Dairy Milk, Milk Bite, Nandini, Shahi Taj, Daawat Fresh, Nand Krishna, Vandu, Dairy Milk, and

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“The Seerah of the Prophet (SAW) Is a Universal Message of Peace and Unity”: AJKSA

Thousands participate in grand Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW) rally in Srinagar

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 30: Thousands of devotees, religious scholars, Zakireen, students and members of the Shia community participated in a grand Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW) procession organised by the All J&K Shia Association from Imamia Park, Doonipora, to Imam Bargah Zadibal via Hawal, with speakers highlighting the life and teachings of Prophet Muhammad and calling for Muslim unity, peace, brotherhood and communal harmony.

The All J&K Shia Association (AJKSA) organised a grand Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi rally today to commemorate the blessed birth anniversary of the Holy Prophet Muhammad Mustafa, with thousands of devotees, religious scholars, Zakireen, students and members of the community participating in the procession.

The grand procession commenced from Imamia Park, Doonipora, and proceeded towards Imam Bargah Zadibal via Hawal, creating an atmosphere of devotion, brotherhood and spiritual celebration. Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi holds profound significance for Muslims across the

“Curiosity Is the First Lamp of Knowledge”: LG Sinha

Calls for blending traditional values with science, AI and ethical technology at SMVD Gurukul

HT NEWS NETWORK

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 30: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today addressed the Foundation Day celebrations of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and the Annual Day of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Gurukul, emphasising the importance of curiosity, values and scientific temper in education; he said science gives speed while values provide direction and called for a harmonious journey of artificial intelligence and spirituality, while proposing initiatives focused on values and science, community service, environmental protection and ethical technology.

The Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha today addressed the Foundation Day Celebrations of



Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and Annual Day of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Gurukul. The Lieutenant Governor appreciated the initiatives undertaken by the Shrine Board to enhance convenience, safety, and facilities for devotees. He noted that these achievements reflect dedication, discipline, and the spirit of service,

the intrinsic qualities to Sanatan culture.

Addressing the students of the Gurukul, the Lieutenant Governor emphasized the importance of curiosity in learning. “Curiosity is the first lamp of knowledge. In our tradition, asking questions has never

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“Creativity, Innovation and Excellence Will Shape the Future”: NIFT

President Droupadi Murmu to grace NIFT Combined Convocation 2026 in New Delhi today

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30: President Droupadi Murmu, Visitor of the National Institute of Fashion Technology, will grace the NIFT Combined Convocation 2026 as Chief Guest in New Delhi on August 31, where graduating students from 18 NIFT campuses will come together to mark the culmination of their academic journey, with outstanding students set to be honoured with gold medals for academic

The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, the official Visitor of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), will grace the NIFT Combined Convocation 2026 as the Chief Guest on 31 August in New Delhi, where graduating students from 18 NIFT



campuses across the country will come together to celebrate the conferment of their degrees and

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“The Conspiracy Was Aimed at Provoking Communal Riots”: NIA

NIA court sentences man to seven years' rigorous imprisonment in ISIS-linked terror conspiracy case

HT NEWS DESK / AGENCIES

BENGALURU, AUGUST 30 : An NIA court has sentenced Syed Fasiur Rehman alias Syed Faseeh Ur Rehman to seven years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of 48,000 for his involvement in an ISIS-linked terror conspiracy allegedly aimed at carrying out targeted killings to provoke communal riots, with the National Investigation Agency stating that the accused participated in conspiracy meetings and procured equipment for jungle-camp training of members of the Al-Hind group.

An NIA court sentenced a man to seven years of rigorous imprisonment for his involvement in an ISIS-linked terror conspiracy aimed at carrying out targeted killings to provoke communal riots,



an official statement issued on Sunday said.

According to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) investigation, the conspiracy was masterminded by Mehaboob Pasha, the prime

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HT BOTTOM NEWS

Kruhen Cultural Forum Kreeri Sets Out to Reclaim Its Literary Legacy

Milad-un-Nabi programme, Felicitation Ceremony and Book Launch Among Key Events; Monthly Kashmiri Literary Programmes For Schools Announced

HT CULTURAL DESK

KREERI, Aug 30: The General Body of the Kruhen Cultural Forum Kreeri on Sunday approved an ambitious programme of literary and cultural activities, including a special Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW) function, a felicitation ceremony and a book launch on September 14, besides deciding to dedicate one day every month to Kashmiri language and literature in collaboration with educational institutions.

The important meeting, held at the Forum's headquarters under the chairmanship of President Syed Shamim Ahmad Shamim, discussed in detail the organisation's forthcoming programmes, administrative affairs, publication of its literary magazine



Anhaar, members' responsibilities and measures to further strengthen the Forum's literary and cultural activities.

As per the decisions taken at the meeting, a special Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAW)

programme will be held at Higher Secondary School Kreeri on September 14. On the occasion, noted journalist, writer and literary and social personality Dr Syed Jahangir Bukhari will be felicitated for his academic,

literary, journalistic and social contributions, including his recent conferment with an honorary doctorate.

A book authored by veteran researcher, writer and poet Noor-ud-Din Hosh Waniagami will also be formally released during the programme.

In what the members described as an important initiative for safeguarding and promoting the Kashmiri language, the Forum decided to collaborate with schools in the area to organise a dedicated Kashmiri literary day every month. The proposed activities will include debates, speeches, literary competitions, examinations, reading sessions and other educational and creative programmes aimed at encouraging

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HT EDITORIAL

J&K's Healthcare Leap: Innovation Must Now Reach the Last Mile

From AI-powered diagnostics to telemedicine and drone-delivered blood, the Union Territory has the ingredients for a healthcare revolution, but technology must translate into affordable, equitable and timely care

The inauguration of the 3rd CII J&K Health Conclave by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha comes at a crucial juncture for the healthcare sector in Jammu and Kashmir. His vision of "Health Services Anytime, Anywhere" captures one of the most important challenges facing the region: ensuring that modern healthcare is not confined to cities and major hospitals but reaches people living in remote, mountainous and underserved areas.

Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing a significant transformation in its healthcare ecosystem.

The expansion of medical colleges and institutions such as AIIMS, coupled with digital health initiatives, telemedicine, artificial intelligence and emerging technologies, is creating new possibilities for faster

and more efficient healthcare delivery. Innovations ranging from AI-assisted diagnostics and drone transportation of blood units to solar-powered cold chains demonstrate how technology can overcome some of the geographical and logistical barriers that have traditionally constrained healthcare access in the region.

Yet, the real test of this transformation lies beyond infrastructure and technology. A healthcare system becomes truly successful only when its benefits reach the ordinary citizen. For a resident of a remote village, the availability of a sophisticated hospital hundreds of kilometres away may offer little comfort if timely transportation, emergency services, specialist consultation or affordable treatment remain inaccessible.

This is why the concept of "Health Services Anytime, Anywhere" must be translated into a strong last-mile healthcare strategy. Telemedicine should become a dependable bridge between specialists and patients in remote areas. AI-enabled diagnostic tools should support healthcare workers where specialist expertise is scarce. Drone technology should be deployed wherever difficult terrain makes conventional emergency supply chains unreliable. Similarly, solar-powered infrastructure can help healthcare facilities maintain essential services in areas affected by power shortages.

However, technology alone cannot transform healthcare. Doctors, nurses, technicians, pharmacists and other frontline workers remain the backbone of the system. Greater investment in human resources, specialised training, rural postings, professional development and retention of skilled personnel is equally essential. A technologically advanced healthcare facility without adequate trained manpower cannot deliver the desired results.

Affordability must also remain at the heart of this transformation. Medical innovation should not create a system in which advanced treatment is available only to those who can afford it. Public healthcare institutions must continue to provide quality services to economically weaker sections while partnerships with the private sector are carefully aligned with broader public-health objectives.

The CII Health Conclave is therefore more than another industry gathering. It provides an opportunity for government, healthcare professionals, technology companies, policymakers and investors to develop a coordinated roadmap for the future of healthcare in J&K. The emphasis should be on solutions that are practical, scalable and capable of addressing the region's unique geographical and demographic challenges.

Jammu and Kashmir has the potential to become a model for technology-driven healthcare in difficult terrain. But the ambition should not merely be to build world-class facilities; it should be to ensure that world-class healthcare becomes accessible to the person living in the remotest hamlet.

The next phase of J&K's healthcare journey must therefore be measured not by the sophistication of its technology, but by the distance between that technology and the patient who needs it. If innovation can genuinely bridge that distance, the vision of

"Health Services Anytime, Anywhere" can become not just a policy aspiration, but a transformative reality.



BY AFREEN JAN

In the historic heart of Srinagar, in the old city area of Nowhatta, stands Jamia Masjid, one of Kashmir's most important religious and architectural landmarks. The mosque has been an important part of Srinagar's cultural landscape for centuries, and its traditional wooden architecture, spacious courtyard, sloping roofs and four distinctive towers give it a unique Kashmiri character. Jamia Masjid was built during the reign of Sultan Sikandar, a ruler of the Shah Mir dynasty, at the beginning of the fifteenth century. Historical accounts traditionally associate its construction with the period 1398-1402, while Sultan Zain-ul-Abidin, the son and successor of Sultan Sikandar, is associated with its later development and improvement. The mosque subsequently became an important centre of congregational worship and religious life in Srinagar. Its architecture reflects a combination of local Kashmiri craftsmanship and influences from wider Islamic architectural traditions. The extensive use of timber, particularly in its numerous wooden pillars, is one of its most remarkable features. The mosque's history, however, is also a story of destruction and rebuilding. A major fire severely damaged Jamia Masjid in 1479, after which reconstruction was undertaken during the reign of Sultan Hasan Shah. The work continued after his death and was completed under Ibrahim Magre. The mosque suffered further damage during a major fire in Srinagar in 1620, during the reign of Mughal Emperor Jahangir, and was subsequently reconstructed. Later, during the reign of Aurangzeb, the mosque again suffered major damage from fire and was restored. These repeated episodes of destruction and reconstruction demonstrate the remarkable resilience of Jamia Masjid and the importance attached to it by successive generations. For centuries, the mosque has served as a place of congregational prayer and religious gathering, particularly for

Built, Burnt and Reborn

The Story of Jamia Masjid Srinagar

Friday prayers and important religious occasions. Its location in the old city also connects it closely with the historic streets, markets and neighbourhoods of Srinagar. Beyond its religious importance, Jamia Masjid represents the traditional craftsmanship

wooden pillars, traditional architecture, courtyard and enduring presence. As Srinagar continues to develop and modernise, preserving historic landmarks such as Jamia Masjid becomes increasingly important. Protecting such places does not mean



of Kashmir, preserving architectural techniques and artistic traditions passed down through generations. Its wooden structure is a reminder of the skills of the craftsmen who built and maintained it over the centuries.

Today, Jamia Masjid remains an important part of Kashmir's architectural and cultural heritage. Its survival reminds us that historic monuments are not merely old buildings; they are links between generations and physical records of the societies that created them. For young Kashmiris, the mosque offers an opportunity to experience history beyond textbooks—in its

preventing a city from moving forward; it means ensuring that development does not erase the history that gives the city its identity. Built during the medieval period, developed under successive rulers, damaged by devastating fires and repeatedly restored, Jamia Masjid has continued to remain an important part of Srinagar's religious and cultural landscape. Its story is ultimately one of continuity and resilience. Built, burnt and reborn, Jamia Masjid Srinagar remains not merely a monument of Kashmir's past, but a living symbol of its enduring heritage and historic identity.

Yuvacharya Mahavir Kumar

Heralding a New Era of Spiritual Consciousness



Lalit Gargg

Some events are merely recorded in history, while others possess the power to change the course of history itself.

The decision of Acharya Shri Mahashramanji, the present Acharya of the Terapanth Dharma Sangh, to nominate Muni Mahavir Kumarji, its Chief Muni, as his successor and Yuvacharya is one such historic event. The announcement, made on July 27, 2026, on the auspicious occasion of Ashadha Shukla Trayodashi at the Sudharma Sabha complex of Jain Vishva Bharati in Ladnun, marks a significant new chapter in the nearly two-and-a-half-century-old Acharya tradition of Terapanth. Yet, to view this development merely as the appointment of a future leader of a religious organization would be to underestimate its deeper significance. This nomination represents the recognition of a rare synthesis of profound spiritual discipline, expansive knowledge, human warmth and exceptional leadership. It carries the potential to give spirituality a new language, a new perspective and a wider global dimension in the years ahead.

In Terapanth, the position of Yuvacharya is not comparable to political or administrative succession. Leadership here is earned through self-discipline, not authority; respect emerges from spiritual practice, not position; and succession is not a matter of lineage, but of preserving and advancing a living tradition of values, discipline, austerity and spiritual culture. By nominating Muni Mahavir Kumarji as his successor, Acharya Shri Mahashramanji has upheld this distinctive and healthy tradition. Therefore, the more significant question is: Who is Muni Mahavir Kumarji, and what possibilities

for the future of spirituality can be envisioned through his Yuvacharya-va?

The life of Muni Mahavir Kumarji itself provides an answer. From embracing monkhood at a young age to shouldering the highly significant responsibility of Chief Muni, his journey has never been merely a journey through positions and responsibilities. It has been a journey of self-restraint, scriptural

assumes profound significance in the present age. The world is struggling with climate change, ecological imbalance, violence, psychological stress and a culture of limitless consumption. In such circumstances, the Jain principles of non-possession, restraint, non-violence and coexistence cease to be merely religious doctrines; they become essential questions concerning the very survival and well-

diminished. Means of communication have expanded, yet genuine human connection has weakened. Individual freedom has grown, while self-discipline has declined. Economic development has accelerated the pace of life, but the direction of that race increasingly demands scrutiny. In such an age, the need for spirituality is greater than ever. But what is required is not a spirituality that teaches us to withdraw from life; rather, it must teach us to live life with greater awareness, restraint, compassion and responsibility.

The spiritual orientation of Yuvacharya Mahavir Kumarji points towards such a living and engaged spirituality. Another defining quality of his personality is the warmth of human consciousness. Spirituality becomes truly powerful when it is rooted in compassion for humanity. Knowledge can make a person a great scholar, but compassion makes one a truly great human being. Discipline can create order, but empathy and warmth create social cohesion. The simplicity, humility, naturalness and warmth reflected in Yuvacharya Mahavir Kumarji's personality give his spirituality a distinctly human dimension. In such a vision, religion need not become a wall separating people; it can become a bridge connecting one human being with another. This is precisely the kind of spiritual vision the divided world of today urgently needs.

Societies across the world are increasingly experiencing divisions based on caste, language, region, ideology and economic inequality. In such circumstances, the Jain principles of Anekantavada and coexistence are not merely philosophical concepts; they can become practical instruments for social harmony and peace.

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study, austerity, discipline, reflection and continuous self-transformation. His personality combines the depth of a spiritual seeker with the intellectual vision of a thinker who understands the complexities of the modern age. This synthesis is perhaps one of his greatest strengths.

A particularly significant dimension of his personality is that he has never regarded spiritual practice and knowledge as separate domains. His research on environmental thought and his study of the ecological perspective embedded in Jain Agamas indicate that his vision is not confined merely to preserving tradition. Rather, he seeks to connect the timeless values inherent in that tradition with the pressing challenges of contemporary society. According to available accounts, he has also been awarded a Ph.D. for his research on environmental thought in the Jain Agamas. This

being of humanity.

Spirituality becomes truly relevant and transformative only when it engages with the problems of life and offers a meaningful direction for resolving them. It is in this context that the potential role of Yuvacharya Mahavir Kumarji becomes particularly important. His personality inspires the belief that the spirituality of tomorrow need not remain confined to temples, upashrayas and discourses. It can reach into the human mind, family values, social character, environmental responsibility and the larger question of global coexistence. The greatest crisis confronting human civilization today is not a shortage of external resources, but a crisis of inner balance. Humanity possesses enormous knowledge, but increasingly struggles with wisdom and discernment. Material comforts have multiplied, while contentment has

The bitterness of inflation on the sweetness of sugar



- Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

The festive season in India is not only a special time of year, but also an important part of life. Sweets, traditional food, religious rituals, hospitality, and increased consumption are the hallmarks. This is why it's crucial to take a closer look at the recent increase in sugar prices. Retail sugar prices have risen from 42-45 to 62-65 in some cities, while wholesale and mill sugar prices remain high. It would be too simplistic to attribute this to a mere seasonal phenomenon. There's a larger policy issue here: Is India striking the right balance between sugar as a food grain, raw material, and part of its energy policy?

The rise in costs is due to several factors. The first reason is seasonal demand—that is, the excess demand during summer. Sugar consumption increases significantly during festivals, putting significant pressure on supply. On the other hand, at the end of the sugar production season, sugar mills begin to deplete stocks, narrowing the supply-demand gap. Global sugar prices can also impact sugar prices and market sentiment.



However, a crucial aspect of this entire story is the country's mandatory ethanol rule. Blending ethanol in petrol in India has been a gradual process, with three objectives: reducing dependence on imported crude oil, providing another market for farmers, and providing another source of income to sugar mills. Therefore, ethanol should not be considered the sole reason for the increase in sugar prices. However, it would be a mistake to ignore its impact on domestic sugar availability.

If available sugar is used for ethanol production, sugar prices could be further pressured, impacting domestic sugar stocks. Now is the real test of the government's policy decisions. Food inflation will directly impact households, and energy security is a long-term goal. The call is not to discontinue the ethanol program, but to make it more flexible to adapt to market conditions. Once domestic sugar stocks stabilize, more

scope can be allocated for ethanol production. However, given the limited food supply and the potential for price increases, there should be room for short-term adaptation measures to ensure domestic food availability.

The government's announcement of imports of 1 million tonnes of sugar and other measures, such as stock limits, will provide temporary relief and stabilize the market ahead of the festive season. However, a question arises: should intervention be made only after prices have risen? One indicator of the effectiveness of policies related to agricultural products is the ability to anticipate shortages. If the government has reliable estimates of production, domestic consumption, and the potential shift to ethanol, potential stock shortages can be easily identified. Therefore, sugar imports should not be viewed merely as a reaction, but as a policy approach that is predictable and timely. Unnecessary imports can be detrimental to farmers and mills and should be avoided when there is a shortage of the product; however, not importing when needed can lead to higher prices for consumers.

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Sydney Marathon: Gobena & Jepchirchir crowned champions

United News Of India

SYDNEY, AUG 30: Ethiopia's Addisu Gobena upgraded his silver from a year ago to gold, claiming the men's elite crown at the 2026 Sydney Marathon in a course record on Sunday.

The 21-year-old Gobena crossed the finish in style in two hours, four minutes and 42 seconds (2:04:42), smashing the previous course record by nearly a minute and a half. Compatriot Chimdesa Debele followed three seconds behind him, with Lesotho's Tebello Ramakongoana (2:04:57) taking third place, with all three podium finishers dipping under the previous course record.

Meanwhile, reigning world champion Peres Jepchirchir won the women's race in a time of 2:18:31, stopping the clock just nine seconds short of the course record held by Sifan Hasan, according to olympics.com.

In the men's race, the large lead group went through the first five kilometres in a blistering 14 minutes and 30 seconds, with defending champion Hailemariam Kiros and



reigning world champion Alphonse Simbu among the leaders. Going through the halfway mark, the leaders were running more than 30 seconds under the course record Kiros set a year ago.

Defending bronze-medallist Ramakongoana produced the first break of the men's elite

race with just over 15km to go, with the pack catching him again a few paces later.

Gobena, the 2025 Sydney Marathon silver medallist, made his move soon after but, like Ramakongoana, he was also eventually caught.

However, Gobena and Ramakongoana's moves ultimately whittled the field down to just under nine runners, with world champion Simbu looking comfortable among the leaders.

With six men still in the hunt with just over seven kilometres to go, Debele put his head down, with defending champion Kiros hanging onto his heels.

Gobena and Debele then went toe-to-toe over the final few kilometres of the race before the former went clear to cross the finish at the Sydney Opera House in first place.

In the women's race, Jepchirchir ran a measured race to outsmart Kenyan compatriots Priscah Cherono and Irine Cheptai for her fourth Marathon Major crown, adding to her victories in New York in 2021, Boston in 2022 and London in 2024.

For the Tokyo 2020 Olympic marathon champion, it was an impressive comeback following stress fracture which resulted in her withdrawal from this year's London Marathon.

Earlier in the race, it was Cherono who threw down the gauntlet, opening a gap on some of the favourites, including Jepchirchir.

The 46-year-old raced with reckless abandon, streaking ahead in the early stages and going through the first five kilometres with a 13-second lead on the chasers.

Cherono's early roll of the dice appeared to pay off as she opened nearly half a minute's advantage on the rest of the field through the first 10km.

The chasing group started to reel in Cherono after the 15km split, getting within 15 seconds of the ambitious 2007 world 5000m bronze medallist.

World Test Championship run home: Race on for the top two

United News Of India

SYDNEY, AUG 30: Five teams remain a realistic chance of featuring in next June's WTC decider in London

With just over six months remaining in the round-robin phase of the World Test Championship cycle, the race is heating up to secure the two spots in the 2027 final.

Reigning champions South Africa and 2025 runners-up Australia again occupy the top of the table with 33 Tests to come to decide who will play off for the WTC mace at The Oval in London from June 9-13 next year.

Three of the past four WTC finalists have qualified with a points percentage of 66.67 or higher, with India's 58.8 to reach the 2023 decider the lowest of the tournament's three editions to date.

With ladder-leaders Australia out in front

with a points percentage of 80, and the Proteas second on 75, it appears a percentage in the mid-60s will again be required to reach the final.

Pat Cummins' side are sitting pretty at the top of the standings with just two losses from their 10 matches so far, however, they have their two toughest series to come - away to both South Africa and India.

To maintain a points percentage above 65, Australia will need to reach a total of 172 points in this cycle, which requires at least another six wins and a draw from their remaining 12 Tests.

Series victories against the Proteas and New Zealand would likely give them five of those six wins, leaving an easier task for their five-match tour of India early next year where Australia have only won two of their past 18 Tests.

Kaverappa turns pitch frustration into four-wicket haul, says injury layoff helped add to arsenal



United News Of India

BENGALURU, AUG 30: South Zone pacer Vidwath Kaverappa turned an ineffective opening spell into a match-changing four-wicket haul by adapting to a slow Bengaluru surface, helping his side bowl North Zone out for 195 in the Duleep Trophy semifinal here on Sunday.

Kaverappa, who returned strongly in his second spell after conceding boundaries early on, said he quickly realised that the pitch would not continue offering the same assistance and changed his approach accordingly.

I knew I wouldn't get the same purchase off the wicket coming back in the second spell. So, I knew I had to do something about it. I kept it tight, mixed it up, and it paid off," Kaverappa said after the day's play. His spell assumed greater significance

as North, after reaching 128 for four, appeared set for a sizeable first-innings total. South's bowlers, however, maintained their discipline and North suffered a dramatic collapse, losing their last six wickets for just 34 runs.

Kaverappa said South did not resort to anything drastic when North began rebuilding.

"We didn't do anything extra; we did what we did in the first session," he said, attributing the turnaround to the batsmen beginning to apply pressure and the bowling unit sticking to its plans.

The pacer was unusually restrained about his four-wicket haul, insisting that he still had room for improvement.

"I could have bowled a lot better, I could have bowled a lot clearer," he said, adding that at the higher level the priority was to keep performing consistently.

Badminton: Ishita Negi, Dev Ruparelia win singles titles at India Junior International Grand Prix

United News Of India

PUNE, AUG 30: Ishita Negi and Dev Ruparelia won the women's and men's singles titles, respectively, at the India Junior International Grand Prix 2026 badminton here on Sunday, while Pavan Suresh-Punith Suresh added the men's doubles crown.

The 17-year-old Ishita, seeded second, defeated compatriot Gatha Suryawanshi 21-19, 21-18, while top seed Dev beat 16th seed Nishchal Chand 21-16, 21-16 in another all-Indian final.

Pavan and Punith added to India's title haul at the junior badminton meet with a 25-23, 21-19 victory over Indonesia's Arybka Okta Disabian and Muhammad Zakaria

Ishita did not drop a game throughout her five-match title-winning campaign. The Indian badminton player began with a closely fought 22-20, 21-



19 victory over Nakshatraa Jairaj in the round of 32 before beating Evanna Tyagi 21-13, 21-15

in the pre-quarterfinals. She then overcame Dheeshitha Singha Gopinath 22-20, 21-14 in the quarter-finals and accounted for

Rishika Nandi 21-14, 22-20 in the semis to set up the title clash against

the unseeded Gatha.

Ishita maintained her straight-game run in the final, holding her nerve in two closely fought games to beat Gatha in 36 minutes and seal the women's singles crown.

Dev, fifth in junior badminton rankings, was stretched to three games by seventh seed Pranav Manjunath in

the semi-finals, recovering from a game down to prevail 15-21, 21-17, 21-13.

Pavan and Punith had also produced an impressive run through the men's doubles draw, beating third seeds Yogansh Singh and Aathish Sreenivas PV in the quarter-finals.

India also had finalists in the other two doubles events. In the mixed doubles, Punith Suresh and Deepak Raj Aditi finished runners-up after a three-game defeat to Indonesia's Muhammad Zakaria and Afizah Rahmadhani.

The unseeded Indian combination edged a tight opening game but eventually went down 26-24, 17-21, 16-21 in 46 minutes. In the women's doubles, fourth seeds Diya Bheemaiah and Keerthy Manchala also settled for runners-up. The Indian pair lost 21-15, 21-11 to Thailand's Chantharat Marnakul and Pearploy Suttiwarayanon in 34 minutes.

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