

CRICKET FOR PEACE

CHEMPLAST COMBINED XI

VS

KASHMIR XI

10 & 11 January 2012

IIT CHEMPLAST GROUNDS

NEWS ITEMS

Sanmar XI posts win

Sanmar XI defeated Srinagar Shah Jahans by 51 runs to sweep the two-match T20 series at the IIT-Chemplast ground on Wednesday.

K.H. Gopinath (79 not out, 58b, 11x4) and Francis Rokins (55 not out, 38b 7x4) shone as the host made 167 for two in 20 overs. Shah Jahans finished at 116 for six in 20 overs with off-spinner M. Prabhu taking three for 15.

Bhaskar Ramamurthy, Director, IIT, and Vijay Sankar, Deputy Chairman, Sanmar Group, took part in the final day's proceedings.

The scores: Sanmar XI 167 for two in 20 overs (K.H. Gopinath 79 not out, Francis Ronkins 55 not out) bt Srinagar Shah Jahans 116 for six in 20 overs (Aamer Aziz 27, M. Prabhu three for 15).

Cinema, sun and sand: Kashmir team's tryst with Chennai

Susan Ninan | TNN

Chennai: The bus broke into loud claps and cheers. A Tamil movie teaser played on the TV, not quite at a comfortable distance from where the driver was seated. No, it wasn't a group of local college boys heading from an excursion. The boys are members of the Kashmir youth cricket team, Srinagar Shah Jahans, in the city to play friendly matches as part of the peace initiative 'Operation Sadbhavana'.

It did not matter whether they understood the local language as they cheered every

punch that the hero landed on the bearded villain. The excitement was palpable. "Back home, we don't get to watch movies in theatres. We only have the options of watching films on cable television or DVDs," says the skipper Arshad Bhat. "Hindi movies have a huge following there. We are awaiting the day when theatres will be thrown open for civilians in downtown Srinagar."

Though the side lost the friendly against Chempplast XI by 51 runs, they surely won't be leaving with a bitter taste in their mouth when they head home on Thursday

morning. Coming from freezing temperatures to a warm Chennai didn't get the players complaining either.

"Sports initiatives like these play a crucial role in keeping the youth of the valley away from the path of militancy. Football and cricket are hugely popular among the youth in the state," says 35-year-old Bhat, a mainstay of the J&K Ranji Trophy side, barring this year when a ligament injury cost him his berth.

'Operation Sadhbhavana', a movement organised by the Centre and the Indian army, to promote education

and developmental projects with the aim of promoting peace in the strife-torn region, has met with resounding success. The team from Srinagar, in fact, has army representatives accompanying them on their trip.

The side, a motley bunch of entrepreneurs, government servants and students, unified by a common passion for cricket, were runners-up in the Kashmir Premier League last summer. The youngest member of the

squad, 16-year old Momin Bhat, a class 12 student, introduces himself with boyish awkwardness before scurrying away.

Feroz Ahmed, another member, who likes to be called "Azhar", after his favourite cricketer, runs a sports goods shop by the same name in Srinagar. He admits he is taken by the sights and sounds of the city and is savouring every bit of it. "We visited Mahabalipuram and Pondicherry and thoroughly enjoyed it. We are looking forward to a shopping trip this evening," he says, before asking what would make for good buys in the city.



HAVING A BALL: Skipper of Srinagar Shah Jahans Arshad Bhat after the day's match

TAMIL NADU DIGEST

**Gopinath shines in
Chemplast win**

Chemplast Combined XI beat Kashmir XI by 51 runs in the second T20 friendly at the IIT Grounds here on Wednesday. Batting first, the hosts ran an impressive 167 in their allotted overs thanks to unbeaten half-centuries from KH Gopinath (79, 58b, 11x4) and Francis Rokins (55, 38b, 8x4). In reply the visitors managed only 116 for six with Aamir Aziz scoring 27. Spinners M. Prabhu and D. Giripal picked three and two wickets respectively. Chemplast Combined XI

167/2 in 20 overs (KH Gopinath 79*, Francis Rokins 55*) bt Kashmir XI 116/6 in 20 overs (Aamir Aziz 27, M. Prabhu 3/15).

Chemplast Win

Chennai: Gopinath's sterling 79 not out helped Chemplast post a 51-run win over Kashmir Eleven in the PC Sekhar Memorial State Level Inter-school Cricket Tournament for Junior Boys (Under-14) on Wednesday. Batting first, Chemplast piled a 167 for two in 20 overs, with contributions from Gopinath (79 not out) and Francis (55 not out). In reply, the visitors could only make 116 for six in the allotted 20 overs.

Brief scores: Chemplast XI 167/2 in 20 overs (Gopinath 79 no, Francis 55 no) **bt Kashmir XI 116/6 in 20 overs** (Aamir Aziz 27, Varma 3/15).

NANDHA CRACKS TON

Sports

11 / JAN / 2012

NEWS TODAY
CHENNAI

FOR PEACE



IIT Director Bhaskar Ramamurthi, vice-president of Sanmar Vijay Sankar along with members of the cricket team from Kashmir Valley, handpicked to promote peace in the valley by Indian Army, in Chennai.

Photo: B ANAND

CHEMPLAST XI BEAT KASHMIR XI IN T20 FRIENDLY

Chennai: Chemplast Combined XI beat Kashmir XI by 34 runs in the first T20 friendly played at the IIT Grounds here on Tuesday. Batting first Chemplast made 149 thanks to R. Sathish and C. Hemanth Kumar contributing 31 and 43 respectively. KH Gopinath made 20. Kashmir XI were restricted to 115 with Waseem top scoring with an unbeaten 36. Prasanth K Verma picked two wickets while M. Prabhu and R. Jesuraj finished with two wickets each.

Chemplast Sanmar is hosting the young team selected by the Indian army to support the laudable cause of promoting peace and communal harmony in the Kashmir Valley. Bhaskar Ramamurthi, director, IIT-Madras will inaugurate the match on Wednesday at 8am.

Brief Scores: Chemplast Combined XI 149/8 in 20 overs (R. Sathish 31, C. Hemanth Kumar 43) bt Kashmir XI 115/8 in 20 overs (Waseem 36*, Prasanth K Verma 3/30).

CHEMPLAST PREVAIL

Chemplast XI beat Kashmir XI by 33 runs at IIT-Chemplast on Tuesday. Batting first, Chemplast made 149-8 in 20 overs, with Hemant Kumar top scoring with 43. In reply, Kashmir XI were 116-8 in 20 overs.

Brief scores: Chemplast XI 149 for 8 in 20 overs (R Sathish 31, Hemanth Kumar 43, Gopinath 20) **bt Kashmir XI 116 for 8 in 20 overs** (Waseem 36 n.o., Prashant K Verma 3 wkts; Jesuraj, Prabhu 2 wkts each). **Man of the Match: Waseem.**

DINAKARAN

11/01/12

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சென்னை வீரர்கள் காலமீர் மாற்றல் இளைஞர் திரிபுக் கேட் அணி, செம்பிளாஸ்ட் அணி
யுடன் நேற்று நடப்புறு போட்டியில் விளையாடியது - திண்டிவூர், மதுரை, திருச்சூர், சைமதா
ளத்தில் நடந்த இப்போட்டியில் ஒரு விறுவிறுப்பான காட்சி. ப.ம. பரணிகுமார்

CRICKET FOR PEACE

Responding to the request from the Indian army, the Sanmar Group will play host

to a youth cricket team from Kashmir in two friendly games at the IIT-Chemplast cricket ground on Jan 10 and 11, as part of a peace initiative titled Operation Sadbhavana. The matches will be played from 7 am to 12 noon on Tuesday and from 8 am to 1 pm on Wednesday. The team is 'Srinagar Shah Jahans'—runner-up in the Kashmir Premier League (KPL). The team has so far played three matches against some of Chennai's Rotary Clubs.

J&K team in Chennai

Srinagar Shah Jahans (SSJ), a well-known cricket team from Jammu and Kashmir, will play a two-match series with the Sanmar group here on January 10 and 11 at the IIT-Chemplast ground.

The side, on a seven-day tour of the city to gain experience, had earlier figured in two games against the Rotary Club of Madras. SSJ is the runner-up in the Kashmir Premier League.

The SSJ captain, Arshad Bhatt, was confident that his side would put up a good show against the Sanmar group.

The visit of the side from Jammu and Kashmir is part of the National integration cum sports programme organised by the Indian Army.

Press Release

9 January 2012

Sanmar to host cricket team from Kashmir as part of peace initiative

The Sanmar Group has responded to a request from the Indian army to host a Youth cricket team from Kashmir in two friendly games at the IIT Chemplast cricket ground on 10 and 11 January 2012, as part of a major peace initiative titled Operation Sadbhavana. The matches will be played from 7 am to 12 noon on Tuesday and from 8 am to 1 pm on Wednesday.

The team, on a national integration cum sports tour for the youth of Kashmir from Srinagar to Chennai, is 'Srinagar Shah Jahans'—runner-up in the recently concluded Kashmir Premier League (KPL), one of the several positive steps of integration announced by Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain, soon after taking over in December 2010 as general of the Srinagar-based 15 Corps, which controls all military operations in the Valley.

Gen Hasnain declared 2011 to be the 'Year of the Kashmiri Awam', when the army would devote itself to the welfare of the people and be more humane.

Among several measures to win the confidence of Kashmiri youth, the army held 300 matches between 193 teams of the first Kashmir Premier League T20 tournament last summer.

The Sadbhavana initiative is an integral part of measures to win the hearts and minds of people of Kashmir in order to achieve and maintain peace in the valley.

The tour from Srinagar to Chennai started on 6 January and will conclude on 12 January 2012. The team has so far played three matches against some of Chennai's Rotary Clubs.

The Sanmar Group is happy to host this young team handpicked by the Indian army to support the laudable cause of promoting peace and communal harmony in the Kashmir Valley. Besides offering the team two matches, the group will also introduce the players to some of the highlights of the cultural heritage of the city.

Mr Bhaskar Ramamurthi, Director, IIT-Madras has kindly agreed to inaugurate the match on Wednesday (11/Jan/12) at 8 am.