

Goa's Sakshi to represent India at World Para Athletics GP

Vedanta Sesa strengthens Kale's resolve to win at the international stage

Team Herald
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PANJIM: Sakshi Kale, international silver medalist and Khelo India gold medalist has made Goa proud on being the only Goan to form part of the Indian contingent representing the nation at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix (WPAGP) 2025 scheduled from June 2 to 4, in Paris, France.

Sakshi's selection comes on the back of her strong performances at the 2nd Khelo India Para National and the World Para Athlete Grand Prix 2025 at Delhi where she won a Gold and Silver respectively in the 100m.

During the interaction organised at Sesa Ghor, Vedanta Sesa Goa CEO Navin Jaju congratulated Sakshi on her selection to the Indian contingent for the prestigious World Para Athletics Grand Prix.

He said, "I wish Sakshi the very best for the World Para Athlete Grand Prix 2025. She is a role model and Iron Lady and inspires us all with her spirit and enthusiasm. We, at Vedanta Sesa Goa, are extremely proud of her selection and at being the only Goan as part of the Indian contingent for the prestigious competition."

"It is our privilege to be

HERALD PIC



Vedanta Sesa Goa CEO Navin Jaju congratulates Sakshi on her selection to the Indian contingent for the World Para Athletics Grand Prix to be held in Paris, France

able to be a part of her endeavours, as part of our #IronLadies25 initiative, to bring greater athletics glory to India. Vedanta believes in 'giving back' meaningfully and we pursue this by empowering sportspersons and bridging the gap between opportunities and aspirations," Navin said.

Goa Paralympic Association Secretary Sudesh Thakur said, "We wish Sakshi the very best for the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2025 and are confident of her abilities and potential to perform at the top level. I am also thankful

to Vedanta Sesa Goa for extending support to Sakshi, which will further encourage her. Vedanta Sesa Goa have been traditionally involved with supporting sportspersons and of nurturing many sporting careers through the Sesa Football Academy."

Overall 23 para-athletes have been selected to represent India at the WPAGP 2025, with Sakshi being the only one from Goa. A versatile para-athlete she will be competing in the 400m and the 1500m events. She has previously won.

Sakshi said that "I am ex-

tremely happy at having got the opportunity to represent India at the world stage and am thankful to the Government of India for supporting and facilitating the efforts of the para-athletes."

"I also thank the Goa Paralympic Association for their support and guidance at every stage of my career. Vedanta Sesa Goa has been extremely supportive of my requirements and their assistance is a matter of tremendous support, and I am thankful to them for wholeheartedly backing me and strengthening my resolve to bring glory to India," she added.

Sakshi, a resident of Us-gao, and a student of Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Khandola, is a role model for all and has demonstrated 'iron will' and determination in overcoming visual impairment to create a mark for herself at the international level.

It is a matter of great pride for Goa that she is now representing India at the international stage. A multi discipline winner at both the senior and junior para nationals, Sakshi has also been regularly participating in middle distance runs and events, stated a press release.

Sao Jose de Areal take home Cavelossim Villagers UK Cup

INACIO NORONHA



The champions along with chief guest India U-19 football team Head Coach Bibiano Fernandes, guests of honour Cavelossim Villagers in UK and their family members, Fr Ubaldo Fernandes, Fr Saude Pereira of Holy Cross Parish, Cavelossim; special invitees Goa Football Association South Vice-President Antonio Pango, GFA Referees And Assistant Referees Chairman and President of All Goa Referee Association Constancio Rodrigues, GFA Referees Head Melwin D'Costa, Cavelossim Sarpanch Dixon Vaz, former sarpanch Laju Miranda, Fr Tony and other dignitaries at the Fr Druston and Wellington ground, Cavelossim, recently

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INDIVIDUAL PRIZES

Best defender: Leroy Colaco (Parish Youth Nuvem)

Best half: Ashnoy Gomes (Sao Jose de Areal SC)

Best keeper: Desi Oliveira (Sao Jose de Areal SC)

First scorer: Meinsly Barreto (Parish Youth Nuvem)

Man-of-the-match: Bersal Viegas (Sao Jose de Areal SC)

Best disciplined team: CAC Cansaulim

RAIA: Sao Jose de Areal SC scored a hard-fought 3-2 victory over Parish Youth Nuvem in the final to clinch the Cavelossim Villagers UK Cup 2025 - football tournament organised by the Santa Cruz Club of Cavelossim at the Fr Druston and Wellington ground, Cavelossim, on Saturday.

In an exciting match under clear sky, Parish Youth Nuvem took the lead against the run of play when Alvitto Dias gave a clever pass to Meinsley Barreto, who ran into the penalty area, firing a grounder which entered the goal beating Desi Oliveira under Sao Jose de Areal SC crossbar to take lead, 1-0.

Sao Jose de Areal fought back with veteran Rayman Fernandes and Clifford Soares controlling the midfield.

In a move initiated by Alvitto, who floated a ball to David Colaco, whose first time shot hit Leroy Colaco on the hand and Referee

Mario Pereira had no hesitation in awarding a spot-kick which Bersal Viegas stepped up to convert into a goal and level the score, 1-1.

On resumption of play, Sao Jose de Areal SC were a better side and Bersal who had a great game gave his team the lead when his power-packed drive from outside the box beat goalkeeper Melwin Fernandes to make it, 2-1.

Sao Jose de Areal SC maintained the pressure and in the 50th minute Inacio Colaco tripped Tyson Carvalho in the box and the resulting spot kick was easily converted by Bersal Viegas to complete his hat-trick and give 3-1 lead.

However, the match came

alive when Jonas Colaco pulled one back for Parish Youth Nuvem, 2-3. Thereafter, Sao Jose de Areal SC defenders stood firm in the last five minutes to maintain the lead and inscribe their maiden name on the III Cavelossim Villagers UK Cup 2025 and take home a cash prize of Rs 60,000.

India U-19 football team, who were recently crowned SAFF champions, Head Coach Bibiano Fernandes and former coach-cum-player of SCC Cavelossim was the chief guest while guests of honour were Cavelossim Villagers in UK and their family members, Fr Ubaldo Fernandes and Fr Saude Pereira of Holy Cross Parish, Cavelossim.

Special invitees were Goa Football Association South Vice-President Antonio Pango, GFA Referees And Assistant Referees Chairman and President of All Goa Referee Association Constancio Paul Rodrigues, GFA Referees Head Melwin D'Costa, Cavelossim Sarpanch Dixon Vaz, former sarpanch Laju Miranda and Fr Tony.

Journalists Charles D'Souza, Inacio Noronha, Ganadeep Sheldekar and Sandeep Redkar and Bibiano were felicitated for their services in the field of sports.

Bibiano in his speech acknowledged and thanked Santa Cruz Club of Cavelossim for giving him a chance to start his coaching career with the club in the Goa Professional League.

Earlier, an one minute silence was observed as a mark of respect to the departed soul of Lawrence Pereira, GFA office incharge in South Goa.

Later, club member John Fernandes, proposed a vote of thanks and compered.

HERALD PIC



CB Mapusa by DT were crowned champions in the 2nd Verna Champions Cup 2025, for the second consecutive year, organised by Verna Football Club (Dubai), at UAE, recently. SS Marna-Siolim finished as the runners-up. Salcete Boys FC secured third place, followed by Vanxim Divar in the fourth. Sirilm SC were awarded the promising team, with Sherwin Abranches of SS Marna-Siolim named as the promising player. Other accolades included - Best defender Melvan Furtado (CB Mapusa by DT), best midfielder Sahil Gosavi (CB Mapusa by DT), best goalkeeper Wasim Shaikh (CB Mapusa by DT) and best player Shivanand Nalatwad (SS Marna-Siolim). A total of 16 Goan teams competed, uniting the Goan community in a thrilling display of football and sportsmanship

Wayne nets hat-trick, Snow's FA emerge GFA U-17 Div II League champions

INACIO NORONHA



Snow's Football Academy team along with the club officials and other dignitaries at the Raia panchayat ground, recently

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RAIA: Dominating the entire match, Snow's Football Academy, Raia, thumped United Sports Club of Seraulim, 7-0, to emerge champions in the Goa Football Association U-17 Division II League match played at the Raia panchayat ground, recently.

Snow's FA were leading

by two goals at the breather. Wayne Colaco and Samuel Colaco scored a hat-trick each, while Shaun Colaco was the other scorer for the Snow's FA.

Snow FA's missed scoring chances at the start of the match. It was Messi Rebello, who missed to score in two occasions in the 6th and 8th minute of the match.

The only dangerous move made in the first

session of the play by USC Seraulim was through Soham Fernandes but he failed to score. Mohit Tete, goalkeeper of USC Seraulim excelled under the crossbar and saved at least three scoring chances of Snow's FA.

Wayne Colaco gave the lead to Snow's FA in the 23rd minute of a header. Later, Samuel Colaco doubled the lead in the 27th

minute. Snow FA dominated the second session of the match and scored three more goals.

First, Wayne scored his brace and the team's third goal in the 47th minute. Later, Samuel completed his hat-trick by scoring two goals within a span of two minutes. In the injury time Wayne scored Snow FA's seventh goal and completed his hat-trick.

Sinquerim SC move into next round

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MAPUSA: Sinquerim Sports Club emerged victorious with a 4-2 win over Don Bosco Oratory, Fatorda, in the inaugural match of 24th Vagator Soccer Cup organised by Vagator Parish Youth Sports Club at Vagator ground, on Sunday.

VAGATOR SOCCER CUP

The match began with an early attempt from Sinquerim SC's Saimesh Gaonkar in the 5th minute, only to be thwarted by DBO Fatorda's goalkeeper Glen Fernandes. However, Saimesh made amends in the 13th minute, darting down the left flank and slotted in a low shot past Glen to open his team's account, 1-0.



The man-of-the-match was awarded to Pratik Tirodkar of Sinquerim SC

DBO Fatorda equalised in the 19th minute when Velito calmly converted a penalty into the bottom left corner

after a foul by Aiyen Shaikh.

But Sinquerim SC quickly regained the lead in the 28th minute when Pratik Tirodkar latched onto a lobbed pass from Zaid Khan to make it, 2-1.

Francis Andrade nearly added to the tally with a long-range shot in the 32nd minute, but Sinquerim SC goalkeeper Aniketh Naik produced a brilliant save. On crossing over, in the 48th minute, Pratik doubled his tally with a composed finish to give Sinquerim SC a 3-1 cushion.

DBO Fatorda pulled one back in the 68th minute through Richie Vaz, making it 3-2. They had a golden opportunity to equalise in the 71st minute, but Alfred Noronha missed from a close range. Finally, substitute Krish Naroji sealed the win with a tap-in in the stoppage time, ending the match 4-2 in Sinquerim SC's favour.

Xetrapal Cup: Nerul SC sail into semi-finals

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MAPUSA: Nerul SC registered a hard-fought 7-6 win via tie-breaker over St Anthony's SC, Marna, to enter the semi-finals of Xetrapal Cup organised by Xetrapal SC, Oxel, at Oxel ground, on Sunday.

In an exciting match, six goals were scored where St Anthony SC netted three goals through

Dalesh Pednekar, Saideep Pomburphekhar and Mayuresh Naik but before half time Nerul SC managed to reduce the margin through Chaitan Dabholkar, 3-1.

On crossing ends, Nerul SC's Chaitan Dabholkar scored two more goals who completed his hat-trick and ended the match, 3-3.

In the resultant tie-breaker, Nerul SC won by 4-3 margin.

TODAY'S SPORTS

24th Vagator Soccer Cup: Assonora United Football Club vs Guardian Angel Sports Club, at Vagator ground, 4.30 pm

Silver Jubilee Cup 9-a-side inter-ward football: Bhati SC vs Corjem YC, at St Alex Church ground, Cur-torim, 4.30 pm

Man Utd stars Maguire, Onana & Dalot launch United We Play

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PANJIM: Leading tyre maker Apollo Tyres launch the fifth edition of its flagship grassroots football programme, United We Play (UWP), in the presence of Manchester United players Harry Maguire, André Onana and Diogo Dalot in Mumbai, recently.

Supported by Manchester United, United We Play is a pan-India initiative to support young footballers in India by giving them a platform to showcase their skills with the objective of motivating aspiring footballers to continue playing, by engaging with them, and introducing them to global training methods.

Harry Maguire, André

Onana and Diogo Dalot, who are on their maiden visit to India, officially launched and kicked off the activities for the fifth season of the United We Play programme. Over the past four seasons, the United We Play programme has reached out to over 30,000 aspiring footballers across 25 cities in India.

Speaking at the launch,

Harry Maguire said, "It has been a privilege to launch the new season of 'United We Play'. Manchester United have fans around the world and we can feel the passion that exists for the team and for the sport here in India. The work of the club and Apollo Tyres is ensuring the next generation of talent has the opportunity play football

in excellent facilities, with the infrastructure around them to nurture talent. We have seen first-hand how impactful the United We Play programme is and the positive effect it has at the grassroots level."

The fourth season was an overwhelming success last year which concluded with the visit of Manchester United legend Gary Neville,

wherein more than 15,000 young footballers from across the country participated. It reached out to 18 cities pan-India and over 100 coaches were engaged through virtual Manchester United Soccer Schools training sessions, ensuring that the teachings and training methods reached every footballer involved in the programme.

3RD JUNE 3.30 P.M

MARGAO GVN

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