

# India blank Timor-Leste 4-0

**PTI, CHIANG MAI (Thailand):** The Indian senior women's team continued their impressive run in the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers with a commanding 4-0 victory over Timor-Leste, here, on Sunday.

Winger Manisha Kalyan (12', 80') scored a brilliant brace, while Anju Tamang (58') and Lynda Kom Serto (86') added their names to the scoresheet in a one-sided contest that saw India dominate from start to finish at the 700th Anniversary Stadium.

The Blue Tigresses led 1-0 at half-time.

With the win, India now sit atop Group B with six points from two games, ahead of Iraq and Thailand, who are set to face each other later in the day.

The top spot in the five-team group remains up for grabs, but India have certainly staked a strong claim with back-to-back dominant displays.

Fresh from the record-breaking 13-0 triumph over Mongolia in their opening fixture, India entered the match brimming with confidence.

Right from kick-off, India picked up from where they left off against Mongolia, applying pressure high up the pitch and creating opportunities with slick passing and energetic wing play.



The India senior women's team celebrates victory against Timor-Leste at the 700th Anniversary Stadium in Chiang Mai on Sunday

## AFC WOMEN'S ASIAN CUP 2026 QUALIFIERS

The first chance came as early as the sixth minute when Tamang latched onto a through ball, but Timor-Leste goalkeeper Gorette Da Costa did well to deny her at the near post.

However, the breakthrough came soon after. A neat one-two between Manisha and Tamang unlocked the left side of Timor-Leste's defence. Tamang released Manisha with a perfectly weighted pass, and the forward showed blistering pace to beat her marker before cutting inside and rifling a powerful left-footed strike into the back of the net.

The early goal gave India

a firm grip on the contest. The Blue Tigresses dictated the tempo with ease, dominating possession and probing constantly for openings.

Pyari Xaxa nearly made it 2-0, but her curling shot rattled the woodwork. Moments later, Soumya Guguloth tested Da Costa again, who stood firm despite the relentless Indian pressure.

Timor-Leste offered very little going forward and opted to sit deep in an attempt to absorb India's attacking threat.

Their conservative approach did little to disrupt India's rhythm, and the first half ended with them

in complete control, albeit with only one goal to show for it.

India resumed the second half with renewed intent. The reward for their persistence came in the 58th minute when Sanju's teasing cross from the left caused chaos in the Timor-Leste box.

Goalkeeper Da Costa misjudged the flight, and Tamang capitalised, tapping in from close range to double India's lead.

Manisha then produced a moment of sheer class.

Tamang, who had been involved in much of India's attacking play, slipped in a clever pass to the edge of the box. Manisha took one touch before blasting a thunderous shot past Da Costa to make it 3-0 and all but sealed full points.

India's fourth goal was a textbook example of fluid team play. Substitutes Lynda Kom and Grace Dangmei combined beautifully in midfield to split the Timor-Leste defence.

Grace drove into the box, drew defenders towards her, and unselfishly squared the ball to Lynda, who calmly slotted home with time and space to spare.

## RESULT

**India 4 (Manisha Kalyan 12', 80', Anju Tamang 59', Lynda Kom Serto 86') Timor-Leste 0**

# Pralhad makes Goa proud, defends IBC West Zone Featherweight title

Another Goan boxer Kailas wins against Mumbai opponent; Susegado Strike Fight Night 3 featured 12 boxers including four women pugilists

HERALD PIC



IBC West Zone Featherweight Champion Pralhad Panda (second from left) with Susegado Strike co-founders Clyde Lobo (extreme left), Prathamesh Naik (third from left) and Luigson Fernandes (extreme right) after he successfully defended his title at the Susegado Strike Fight Night 3 held at Clube Tennis de Gaspar Dias, Miramar, on Sunday

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**PANJIM:** Goa's very own professional boxer Pralhad Panda successfully defended his Indian Boxing Council (IBC) West Zone featherweight title becoming the first Goan to retain the prestigious belt in the professional circuit.

Another Goan boxer, Kailas Gauns from Chimbel, also secured the second victory of the night for Goa, winning against his opponent Prasad Katnoor.

In the much-awaited title fight, the 29-year-old from Bastora, Panda, outboxed his challenger Amit Kumar (27) from Pune over eight tough rounds, before winning by a unanimous decision from a panel of three judges, in a gripping eight-round contest held at the Clube Tennis de Gaspar Dias, Miramar,

The official weigh-in ceremony for the event was held at the Fitness Bar, here. All bouts, including Panda's title clash, took place at Miramar, where Bharatiya Janata Party State President Damodar Naik was the chief guest.

One of the early fixtures of Fight Night 3 was a stunning, but brisk affair involving 22-year-old Mander Singh from Barnala in Punjab, who took 2:56 minutes in the opening round itself to win by technical knockout against his eight-years-older opponent Bharany Velmurugan (30) from Pondicherry, in the men's welterweight category.

In the men's heavyweight bout, Ashish Ahlawat faced off against Taher Khuram (26) from Mumbai. The latter, a boxer of Afghan origin, had a blistering start, knocking down his oppo-

## SUSEGADO STRIKE FIGHT NIGHT 3

during Susegado Strike Fight Night 3, which also featured five other competitive bouts with male and female boxers from across the country.

"Defending my title at home was special. I've trained here for years and to come back into the ring and win in front of a Goan crowd made it all the more meaningful," said Panda after his victory, crediting his team and coach for keeping him grounded and focused throughout the build-up.

Twelve professional boxers participated in the third edition of the Fight Night, including local lad Kailas Gauns (30), who faced off against Prasad Katnoor (22) from Virar in Mumbai, in the men's super flyweight category. Both boxers jostled for victory over six rounds, before Kailas was declared the winner by a split decision over his higher ranked opponent.

nent. However, Ashish held his own despite the early setback, landing some key blows on Taher in the course of the four-round contest. Ashish was eventually declared the winner by a split decision.

In the two bouts featuring women boxers, Amruta Kale (25) from Pune won through a unanimous decision in her six-round slugfest against 19-year-old Saanvi Gandhi from Chennai in the women's light flyweight category, while Ramandeep Kaur (28) from Bengaluru, took six rounds to be announced a winner through a unanimous decision of the panel of judges, in her battle against teenager Rupika Rani of Abohar in Punjab in the same division. All participating boxers were registered professionals with prior national-level experience and were matched across recog-

## PY Nuvem in quarters

INACIO NORONHA



The man-of-the-match award is presented to Ivo Colaco of Parish Youth Nuvem by Mario De Souza, former Raia sarpanch

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**RAIA:** Parish Youth Nuvem secured a place in the quarter-finals defeating Sao Jose de Areal 5-3 via tie-breaker of 52nd Custodio memorial football tournament organised by Raia Sporting Club at Raia panchayat ground, on Sunday.

Parish Youth Nuvem were on attacking mode from the word go and were eager to get their names on the scoresheet and also the Sao Jose de Areal but PY Nuvem stuck the first goal in the 31st minute through Jonas Colaco and were ahead 1-0 on lemon break.

## CUSTODIO FOOTBALL

After resumption of second half, Sao Jose de Areal changed the tempo of the game and were in control of the game and found the equaliser in the 41st minute through Stalen Oliveira. Both teams remained 1-1 draw till full time.

In the resultant tie-breaker that followed PY Nuvem scored through Jonas Colaco, Nigel Colaco, Shenoy Colaco and Alvaro Dias, while for Sao Jose de Areal Aryan Carvalho and Ashnoy Gomes found the net.

# Sporting Club Davorlim take home 19th Super Soccer Cup

INACIO NORONHA



The champions along with chief guest Benaulim MLA Venzy Viegas, guests of honour St John de Baptist Church, Benaulim, Parish Priest Fr Xavier Estibeiro, Assistant Parish Priest Fr Malcolm Monteiro, Holy Trinity Church, Benaulim, Parish Priest Fr Ligorinho D'Costa, Assistant Parish Priest Fr Clifford Fernandes, Benaulim Zilla Panchayat member Joseph Pimenta, Cana Benaulim Village Panchayat Sarpanch Xavier Pereira, Deputy Sarpanch Glyda Rodrigues and panch members; Goa Football Association Vice-President Anthony Pango, All India Football Federation Match Commissioner, GFA Match Commissioner and Referee Assessor Franky Fernandes, Andrew Ferrao, Anthony Leo Fernandes, club officials and other dignitaries at the St John de Baptista ground, Benaulim, on Sunday

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**RAIA:** Dominating the entire match, Sporting Club Davorlim thumped St Anthony's Sports Club, Assolda, 4-1, in the final to emerge champions in the 19th Super Soccer inter-village football tournament organised by United Club of Benaulim at the St John de Baptista ground, Benaulim, on Sunday.

Sporting Club Davorlim gained the lead in the 15th minute of the match on an own goal from Samuel Peixoto of St Anthony's SC when he tried to clear a shot from SC Davorlim's Milton Colaco. Just after this goal, St Anthony's SC had a golden opportunity to cancel the lead

but Mark Revlon Fernandes missed.

SC Davorlim increased their lead through Royston Colaco in the 25th minute. SC Davorlim's domination continued in the second session and they scored two more goals. Prince Figueredo scored the third and M Ajay Raj also added

his name on the score list by netting the fourth goal in the 50th minute. St Anthony's SC pulled a goal back through Richard Fernandes at the fag end of the match.

Chief guest Benaulim MLA Venzy Viegas handed over the prizes in the presence of guests of honour St John de Baptist Church, Be-

naulim, Parish Priest Fr Xavier Estibeiro, Assistant Parish Priest Fr Malcolm Monteiro, Holy Trinity Church, Benaulim, Parish Priest Fr Ligorinho D'Costa, Assistant Parish Priest Fr Clifford Fernandes, Benaulim Zilla Panchayat member Joseph Pimenta, Cana Benaulim Village Panchayat Sarpanch Xavier Pereira, Deputy Sarpanch Glyda Rodrigues and panch members; Goa Football Association Vice-President Anthony Pango, All India Football Federation Match Commissioner, GFA Match Commissioner and Referee Assessor Franky Fernandes, Andrew Ferrao, Anthony Leo Fernandes, club officials and other dignitaries.

## INDIVIDUAL PRIZES

- Best defender of tournament:** William Niasso (SC Davorlim)
- Best midfielder of tournament:** Richard Fernandes (St Anthony SC)
- Best goalkeeper of tournament:** Oswin Rodrigues (St Anthony SC)
- Best player of tournament:** Alent Colaco (SC Davorlim)
- Best disciplined team:** USC Seraulim
- Best striker of final:** M Ajay Raj (SC Davorlim)
- Best midfielder of final:** Cajetan Fernandes (St Anthony SC)
- Best goalkeeper of final:** Francis Colaco (SC Davorlim)
- Best defender of final:** Aron Figueredo (SC Davorlim)
- Best goal of final:** Prince Figueredo (SC Davorlim)
- Best player of final:** Royson Colaco (SC Davorlim)

## TODAY'S SPORTS

**1st Siolim Villagers Cup:** FC Tuem vs Assonora United FC, at Siolim ground, 4.45 pm

**1st Vedanta Trophy:** Calangute Association SC vs Nerul SC, at Sinquerim ground, 4.30 pm

**Assonora United Super Soccer Cup:** Dunes SC vs BAFF, at Assonora ground, 4.30 pm

**Anil Kamat Trophy inter-village football:** Ambelim SC vs Navelim SC, at Our Lady of Hope Church Ground, Chinchinim, 4.30 pm

**2nd Caniza Peixoto memorial football:** United Club of Unjirim vs Novovado Sports Club, at St Alex Church ground, Curtorim, 5 pm

## GOA DIARY

**Benaulim Villagers Cup to kick-off on Tuesday**

**RAIA:** The 24th edition of Benaulim Villagers Cup will kick-off July 1, at St John de Baptist ground, Benaulim, at 4.30 pm. Participating teams are Cuncolim Union, Navelim Sporting Club, UBD Colva, Dando Boys Club, Benaulim; CAC Cansaulim, Sporting Club Davorlim, Guardian Angel Sports Club, Varca Sports Club, Betalbatim Sports Club, UC Verna, Maina Sports Club and Sao Jose de Areal.

## Cumborda SC in last 8

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**RAIA:** Cumborda Sports Club moved past Eklate Football Club 5-4 via tie-breaker to enter into the quarter-finals of 2nd Caniza Peixoto memorial football tournament organised by Black Arrow Boys Aggem Sports Club at St Alex Church ground, Curtorim, on Sunday.

Both teams played fast and attacking football keeping crowd on their toes but couldn't break the deadlock and

remained 0-0 till the full time.

In the resultant tie-breaker, Cumborda SC scored through Valzino Fernandes, Marcus Fernandes, Myrick Hilario, Rio Fernandes and Mackson Fernandes, while for Eklate FC, Nezy Hilario, Fredy Hilario, Joeburn Hilario and Killinson Cardozo found the net.

Marcus Fernandes of Cumborda Sports Club was awarded the man-of-the-match by Jovito Peixoto, club member.

nised weight categories.

During the event, Damodar also felicitated Lloyd Fernandes for his achievements in para sports.

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