

# India can't wait to rectify mistakes committed during contest against Bangladesh: Chhetri

**PTI, KOLKATA:** Talismanic India striker Sunil Chhetri on Sunday said that his side cannot wait to make amends for the mistakes they had committed in the goal-less draw against Bangladesh in the 2027 Asian Cup qualifying round contest in March.

India were held to a 0-0 draw by lower-ranked Bangladesh in their opening Group C match of the Asian Cup qualifying third round match on March 25 in Shillong, which left head coach Manolo Marquez fuming.

India are up against Hong Kong in their second match

-- an away game -- on June 10 in Kowloon. Chhetri said the match against Hong Kong will be a chance for the team to redeem itself.

"The initial feeling after the Bangladesh game was that we let ourselves down, let the country down. After I saw the replays, I thought we, as a team, could have done so much more. It was a huge opportunity to take the lead in the table, playing Bangladesh at home. We should have done so many things better," Chhetri said.

"Ending up with just a point, I think we players have no one else but ourselves to blame. We didn't



India striker Sunil Chhetri during a training session

turn up the way we should have. We've talked about it, we've seen the videos, and we can't wait to rectify it," the 40-year-old said in a release from the All India

Football Federation (AIFF). The Indian team is currently training here and will depart for Pathum Thani on May 28 for an away friendly international match against

Thailand on June 4.

Angry and disappointed at the result against Bangladesh, Marquez had made it clear that his team needs a lot of improvement if they are to qualify for the continental showpiece.

"We need to improve a lot because I felt that the team was going forward in every FIFA window except the last," Marquez said, alluding to the match against Bangladesh.

"It's true that for the game against Bangladesh, we lost very important starting players. But it's not an excuse for our poor performance in that game," he said.

"We need to be aware that we have a difficult game in Hong Kong. We have to be competitive and try to win and get the three points."

India are placed in Group C of the 2027 Asian Cup qualifying third round along with Bangladesh, Hong Kong and Singapore, and only the top team after six home and away matches qualifies for the continental showpiece.

The national camp here began on May 19 and Chhetri, who had come out of international retirement to help India qualify for 2027 Asian Cup, said the head coach has got a bit of time to formulate a plan.

# Real 'legend' Alonso returns as coach from June



**AFP, MADRID:** Real Madrid appointed Xabi Alonso to replace Carlo Ancelotti as coach on Sunday, with the Spaniard to take over from June 1 and lead the team at the Club World Cup.

"Xabi Alonso will be the Real Madrid coach for the next three seasons, from June 1, 2025 until June 30, 2028," said Real Madrid in a statement.

With veteran Italian coach Ancelotti taking the reins of the Brazilian national team, Madrid secured a deal with former midfielder Alonso, whom they have been linked with for months.

Alonso, 43, leaves German side Bayer Leverkusen at the end of the Bundesliga season after finishing second.

"Alonso is one of the biggest legends at Real Madrid and in world football," continued Los Blancos' statement.

"He wore our shirt in 236 games between 2009 and 2014. During that time he won six trophies."

Alonso will be officially presented on Monday at 1030 GMT.

The Spaniard coached Leverkusen to a league and German Cup double in the 2023-2024 campaign, with his team unbeaten in the top flight, making him a target for Europe's top clubs.

Basque coach Alonso had an agreement with Leverkusen to allow him to depart if one of his former sides, including Madrid, Liverpool and Bayern Munich, wanted to hire him.

Ancelotti's Madrid endured a disappointing campaign, winning the European Super Cup and Intercontinental Cup but suffering Champions League quarter-final elimination by Arsenal.

Barcelona beat Real Madrid in the Spanish Super Cup and Copa del Rey finals and then reclaimed the Liga throne from their arch-rivals, meaning they failed to win a major trophy.

Madrid added French superstar Kylian Mbappe last summer but Ancelotti found it hard to include him in the team alongside Vinicius Junior without destabilising it.

# PSG claim French Cup ahead of CL final

**AFP, PARIS:** Paris Saint-Germain warmed up for their Champions League final showdown with Inter Milan by winning the French Cup on Saturday as Bradley Barcola scored twice in a comfortable 3-0 win against Reims.

Barcola netted twice in the space of four minutes early on to quickly extinguish whatever hopes Reims had of causing an upset at the Stade de France, and Achraf Hakimi added another goal before half-time.

It was exactly the kind of smooth preparation coach Luis Enrique would have been hoping for ahead of

the season-defining game against Inter in Munich on May 31, when PSG will be hoping to win the Champions League for the first time.

One minor issue to come out of the evening was the late withdrawal from the team of Khvicha Kvaratskhelia.

The Georgian winger was replaced in the starting line-up by Desire Doue and returned home early.

PSG's victory, watched over 77,000 at the national stadium, allowed them to complete a clean sweep of the domestic honours for the second time in as many seasons since Luis Enrique

became coach in 2023.

They added the French Cup to the Ligue 1 title as well as the Champions Trophy, France's equivalent of a Super Cup.

PSG have now won the French Cup a record 16 times, including eight times in the last decade. The next most successful club in the history of the competition are Marseille, who won the last of their 10 titles in 1989.

Reims were appearing in their first French Cup final since 1977 and were looking to win the trophy for the third time, with their last success coming in the 1950s.

# Norris wins maiden Monaco Grand Prix

**AFP, MONACO:** Lando Norris beamed with satisfaction on Sunday after he trimmed McLaren team-mate Oscar Piastri's lead in the drivers' world championship to three points with a controlled maiden triumph at a chaotic and tactical Monaco Grand Prix.



In a race heavily influenced by the introduction of a mandatory requirement for two pit stops by each driver, Norris managed to focus on his task and turn his 11th pole position into the sixth win of his career.

Norris resisted intense pressure to claim his deserved victory, his first since Australia's season-opening race, to finish 3.131 seconds ahead of Ferrari's local hero Leclerc

with championship leading McLaren team-mate Oscar Piastri third. Max Verstappen finished fourth.

After eight of this year's 24 races, Piastri has 161 points, Norris 158 and Verstappen 136. Mercedes' George Russell is fourth on 99 after finishing 11th. In the teams' competition, McLaren lead with 319 ahead of Mercedes on 147, Red Bull on 143 and Ferrari on 142.

Norris became the first McLaren winner in Monaco since Hamilton, in his first title-winning season of 2008.

Lewis Hamilton was fifth in the second Ferrari after starting seventh.

As a result of Albon's slow pace, both Mercedes drivers George Russell and Kimi Antonelli felt forced to cut the chicane to avoid a collision. Russell declined to give the place back and was hit with a drive-through penalty.

# Raia Sports Club take home Calangute Association Cup

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**CALANGUTE:** In a nail-biting final that kept fans on the edge of their seats, Raia Sports Club emerged victorious in the Calangute Association tournament, defeating St Sebastian Sports Club, Mapusa, 5-4, in a dramatic penalty shootout following a goalless draw in regulation time.

The intense finale, played before an energetic and enthusiastic crowd, was a true showcase of grit, discipline and footballing spirit. From the very first whistle, both sides demonstrated strategic prowess and defensive resilience. Although both teams created several goal-scoring opportunities, neither could find the breakthrough, resulting in a tense deadlock at the end of regulation time. With the title hanging in the balance, the match proceeded to penalties, where nerves of steel were required.

Ultimately, it was Raia Sports Club who held their better, converting all five of their spot-kicks with precision. St Sebastian SC, despite a valiant effort, missed a crucial penalty, handing Raia SC a hard-fought and well-deserved championship victory. Chief guest SP ANC Sunita Sawant praised both teams for their skill,



- INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**
- Man of the Match: Archie Fernandes Raia SC
  - Best Player of T'ment: Shaveez Pathan (St Sebastian)
  - Best Goalkeeper of Final: Manuel Vigas (St Sebastian)
  - Best Defender: Danish (St Sebastian SC)
  - Best Forward: Lloyd Cardozo
  - Best Half of the Final: Velroy Borges (Raia Sports Club)
  - Best Goal Scorer: Velito Cruz (Raia Sports Club)

spirit, and sportsmanship before presenting the championship trophy to the triumphant Raia Sports Club. The runners-up trophy was awarded to St Sebastian SC by Padmakumar Nair, president of the Calangute Association.

Among the dignitaries present were Alex Coutinho (local panch member),

Sapnesh Vaigankar, Mathias Paulo D'Souza and Savio Gonsalves.

The event was organised by the Calangute Association, under the leadership of President Padmakumar Nair, Vice President Gajanan S Kerkar, general secretary Ryan J de F Mascarenhas, joint secretary Shaunak S P Valawalkar, treasurer Gabriel

Lester Fernandes, assistant treasurer Bento LG de Souza, entertainment secretary Anthony Ambrose D'Souza, assistant entertainment secretary Agnelo Andrew Fernandes, sports secretary Marcelino Fernandes and assistant sports secretary Adv Edward Carvalho. Executive members included Agnelo Rosario D'Souza, Alirio B Lobo and Edward Vincent Pinto.

The tournament was graced by legendary figures from Goan football, including Bruno Coutinho, Alex Miranda, Anthony D'Souza, Dominic D'Souza, Eddie Fernandes, Agustin Rodrigues, Seby Noronha, Digamber Haldankar, Dominic Pereira, Marcelin Fernandes, and Alirio Lobo.

# St Savio's edge past Peddem Bomm

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**MAPUSA:** St Savio's Sports Club, Calangute, clinched a thrilling, 5-4, victory over Peddem Bomm SC via a tie-breaker in the Calangute Panchayat Cup 2025, held in memory of Late Rev Fr Conceicao D'Silva. The tournament, organised by St Savio's SC, took place at the Poriat ground on Sunday.

Both teams began the match with aggressive intent, displaying attacking football from the outset. St Savio's SC created several chances in the first half but failed to convert, keeping the scores level at the break.

Shortly after the restart, in the very second minute of the second half, Gauresh Desai put the hosts ahead, slotting

## CALANGUTE PANCHAYAT CUP

home after a well-delivered free kick from Jovito Fernandes. However, Peddem Bomm SC responded strongly, with Kripal Dhargalkar netting the equaliser in the 39th minute through a neat placement, bringing the score to 1-1.

Despite further chances for St Savio's to regain the lead, they were unable to find the back of the net in regulation time, pushing the contest to a penalty shootout. In the ensuing shootout, St Savio's SC held their nerve, emerging victorious with a 4-3 margin.

Gauresh Desai of St Savio's SC was named man-of-the-match for his impactful performance.

# United Club of Verna clinch Arlem Rolling Trophy

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**RAIA:** United Club of Verna were crowned champions of the 33rd Arlem Rolling Trophy football tournament after a 2-0 victory over Shiroda Youth Club in the final, held at the Raia Panchayat ground on Sunday. The tournament was organised by the Arlem Youth Association.

In a fast-paced encounter, both sides had opportunities in the opening session, with Jesloy Moniz (United Club of Verna) and Elton Cruz (Shiroda Youth Club) unable to convert their chances.

The deadlock was broken in the 51st minute when Clifton Rebello found the net for United Club of Verna. Their advantage was doubled just nine minutes later, with Fulganco Cardozo adding a second goal to seal the win.

United Club of Verna received a cash prize of Rs



- INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**
- Best Goalkeeper of the Final: Pearson Vaz (Shiroda YC)
  - Best Player of the Final: Clifton Rebello (UC Verna)
  - Best Forward of the Final: Vaibhav Naik (Shiroda YC)
  - Best Defender of the Final: Desmon Gama (UC Verna)
  - Best Midfielder of Final: Climax Fernandes (Shiroda)
  - First Scorer of the Final: Clifton Rebello (UC Verna)
  - Best Disciplined Team: Carmona SC
  - Best Player of T'ment: Stephen Satarkar (UC Verna)

D'Souza (sarpanch, VP Raia), Anthony Pango (vice-president, GFA South Goa), Andrew Ferrao (GFA executive member), Cosme Oliveira (GFA executive member), Luis Caetano Quadros (president, Raia Sporting Club), Shrikant Sawant (president, Youth Club Manora), Jerome Colaco, other dignitaries, and club officials.

## TODAY'S SPORTS

**GFA U-17 Division II all-Goa 2024-2025 (semifinals):** Snobs Football Academy vs FC Tuem, at Raia panchayat ground, at 4.15 pm

**1st late Antonio Colaco memorial football tournament:** CAC sports and Cultural club Cansaulim vs Maina Sports Club, at Rosary Church ground, at 4.30 pm

**Fondegal Youth Club 9 a-side inter-ward football tournament (1st semi-final):** Fondegal Youth Club vs Piedadigal Football Club, at St Alex Church ground, Curtorim-Salcete, at 5 pm

**5th all-Goa 8-a-side football tournament:** Our Lady of Fatima SC Baida vs Dragon FC Margao, at Layamati ground, Davorlim, at 4.30 pm

**TIATR WITH SPECIAL SOUND**

28<sup>TH</sup> MAY - 7.30 PM  
KALA ACADEMY A/C HALL PANJIM  
PANJIM ONLINE TICKETS CONTACT: +91930905421

31<sup>ST</sup> MAY - 7.30 PM  
RAVINDRABHAVAN CANACONA  
CANACONA ONLINE TICKETS CONTACT: +91779444101

1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE - 3.30 PM  
RAVINDRABHAVAN SANVORDEM  
SANVORDEM ONLINE TICKETS CONTACT: 907320919

4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE - 7.30 PM  
RAVINDRABHAVAN MARGAO  
TICKETS OF 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY SHOW IS VALID FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

**YESTERDAY'S PANJIM SHOW WAS HOUSEFUL**

3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE - 7.30 PM PAI HALL MARGAO

17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE - 7.30 PM K.A. PANJIM

**NEVIA PRODUCTION PRESENTS 8<sup>TH</sup> TIATR**

**SASUMAIM, DHUV VS SUN?**

WILL G'DIR SAMMY TAVARES  
MUSIC: NORLMAN  
CONT: 7020793815 / 9923284147

**2 SHOWS IN MARGAO**

29<sup>TH</sup> MAY 3.30 & 7.30 PM G.V.N  
AC HALL MARGAO

TICKETS BOOKED FOR 29<sup>TH</sup> SHOW AT PAI HALL MARGAO ARE VALID FOR 29<sup>TH</sup> SHOW AT GVN MARGAO

**AIR.M.ASA. Production**

TIATR

Fondegal Youth Club 9 a-side inter-ward football tournament (1st semi-final): Fondegal Youth Club vs Piedadigal Football Club, at St Alex Church ground, Curtorim-Salcete, at 5 pm

5th all-Goa 8-a-side football tournament: Our Lady of Fatima SC Baida vs Dragon FC Margao, at Layamati ground, Davorlim, at 4.30 pm

Tiatr by Comedian **Anita**

**SMILE PLEASE**