

## Odia bags AIIMS rank

**Bhubaneswar (K-CN):** The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) on Thursday declared the results of the entrance exam for its MBBS course at AIIMS, New Delhi, Patna, Bhopal, Jodhpur, Bhubaneswar, Rishikesh and Raipur.

While Nishita Purohit (18) of Surat (Gujarat) is the All India topper, Odia boy Nipun Chandra secured 4th rank in the prestigious Medical Entrance Examination.

Earlier, Nipun Chandra, a student of DAV Public School, Chandrasekharpur, had topped the medical entrance examination conducted by the Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research (JIPMER), Puducherry, by securing 99.9987 percentile.

For his astounding achievement in JIPMER entrance exam, Odisha Chief



Minister Naveen Patnaik had felicitated Nipun recently.

Nipun, who is a National Talent Search Examination (NTSE) and Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KYPY) scholar; had also come out with flying colours by clearing his Class XII examination with 95 per cent marks.

The results are available on [www.aiimsexams.org](http://www.aiimsexams.org) and official websites of all the seven AIIMS.

Student roll numbers, name of the candidates, all-India ranks and percentile of those who have qualified for the first phase counselling scheduled from July 3 have been published on the website.

Sources said even though women candidates giving the AIIMS 2017 MBBS exam outnumbered men, the latter put in a better performance with 2,077 successfully clearing the exam as against 1,828 women.

Out of the 3, 64, 242 eligible candidates, 2, 84, 737 candidates gave the exam, with 1, 50, 793 women candidates outnumbering 1, 33, 933 men and 11 third-gender candidates, an AIIMS release said.

## Central Team Reviews IGH Demand for BMpur airport

**Bhubaneswar (K-CN):** A seven-member team of experts sent by the Centre on Thursday reviewed the infrastructure at the Ispat General Hospital (IGH) to consider its demand of Medical College status as demanded by the Rourkela BJP Legislator Dilip Ray.

Sources said that after the Prime Minister's intervention, the central team has been dispatched to take stock of infrastructure for upgrading it to Medical College and a Super Specialty Hospital.

The team's visit comes after Rourkela BJP legislator and former Union Minister Dilip Ray in March met Prime Minister Narendra



Modi and apprised him about the inordinate delay in upgrading IGH Hospital to medical college and a super specialty hospital despite the latter's announcement about the project in April 2015.

"Narendra Modi asked Union Labour and Employment Minister Bandaru

Dattatreya to expedite the upgradation of RSP-run Ispat General Hospital (IGH) of SAIL into Super Specialty Hospital and Medical College." Mr Ray had said after meeting the Prime Minister. Similarly, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had also written a letter to the Prime Minister

urging him to speed up the upgradation of the IGH to Medical College.

Services in IGH are dwindling day by day as vacancies are galore and those are not filled up by the authorities. Sources said though 107 doctor posts were approved for the IGH, several positions are still lying vacant.

While a full-fledged Medical College and Hospital is underway, a super specialty clinic was already inaugurated on April 9 at IGH for which an MOU had been signed with Apollo Hospitals, Hyderabad. As per the MOU, Apollo Hospitals, Hyderabad will be deputing super specialists in nephrology and oncology every second Saturday of the month and specialists in cardiology and neurology every fourth Saturday of the month.

**Berhampur (KCN):** Odisha Government fails to expand the runway of Berhampur Airport at Rangailunda even after 17 years of its rule. The Greenfield Domestic Airport project proposed near Berhampur city also makes no headway.

Ram Prasad Tripathy, President Odisha Development Forum has written a letter to Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik in this regard, where he said that given this delay, Berhampur fails to make it to the list of airports under UDAN scheme of the Central Government for air connectivity to Tier-II cities.

Union Civil Aviation Minister makes repeated appeals to Odisha to submit a proposal for the establishment of a Domestic Airport in Berhampur, and only for the negligence of Odisha Government, it fails to do that.

State Govern-

ment says it will extend Rangailunda Airstrip, which is already rejected by the AAI for technical reasons. However, Berhampur wants a green field Domestic Airport, not the extension of Rangailunda Airstrip as proposed by the State Government; which is inside the Berhampur University Campus. An expansion of airstrip will destroy the educational environment & will be the biggest obstacle for future expansion of the University.

Noteworthy, Berhampur city with its urban agglomeration is the second biggest city of Odisha and is a commercial nerve centre. It also serves as the gateway to the entire South Odisha.

This city has the Army Air Defence College, TATA Industrial Park, IRE, SARAFF & Birla like big industries,

the Gopalpur Sea Port, major tourist destinations like the Second Most popular Sea Beach of India-Gopalpur, Chilika Lake, Tara Tarini Shakti Peetha, IISER, Two Universities, Several Professional Colleges, Engineering Colleges, Medical Colleges and is also the gateway to the tribal hinterland of South Odisha.

Therefore, maximum tourists are coming to this place and people coming for business and going out of this area for business depend on Air travel for quick communication.

Secondly, this area is always affected by tropical storms and historically this area is prone to cyclones. 1999 Super Cyclone, Phailin- 2013, Hudhud- 2014 are examples of it.

During Cyclone time this area is cut-off for several days from See page -7

## ODISHA ASKS FOOD VARSITY

**Bhubaneswar (K-CN):** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has urged Union Minister Food Processing Industries, Harsimrat Kaur Badal to sanction a National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) in the State.

NIFTEM is a Deemed University under the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) set up at Sonapat, Haryana, which provides excellent Research and Education to meet the shortfall in Food Processing Sector.

NIFTEM has no other Campus opened in other States. However considering the immense potential of growth and employment in the food processing sector, the State Government has approached MoFPI for setting up the University.

While Odisha has 10 Agro Climatic Zones, has a huge potential for Food Processing Sector. The State is not only surplus in production of rice, but also substantial output of Maize, ginger, turmeric and sea food items.

State is scaling up its sea food sector by exporting prawns, crabs and other items.

In order to promote Food Processing Sector, the State Government has recently unveiled Odisha Food

which is operational with popular food Processing Units like Britannia, Indo-Nissan, ITC, Parle Agro, Coca



Processing Policy, 2016 with an objective to provide required infrastructural support and fiscal incentives to MSMEs to enable them value addition and minimize wastage in the sector.

In order to provide ready-to-use infrastructure, the Odisha Food Processing Policy 2016, proposes to set up Mega / State Food Parks at strategic locations in the districts of Deogarh, Bhadrak, Bargarh, Nawarangpur, Sam-balpur, Ganjam, Bolangir, Kandhamal and Kalahandi.

Odisha has one Food Park at Khurda,

Cola and others are operating in the Park.

And MITS Food Park at Rayagada has opened recently and soon will commence commercial operations.

A Sea Food Park at Deras near Capital City is at an advanced stage of execution.

Eastern Nutri-ments Limited is also in the process of development of another Food park at Ramdaspur near Cuttack. Under this backdrop, Mr.Patnaik has urged Ms.Badal to set up NIFTEM in Odisha to meet the requirement of Skill Forces in these Food Processing Sector.



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**Rakul Preet Singh dons a nerdy avatar**



spy-thriller. Interestingly, the director isn't quite known for his portrayal of actresses in his films. Except for Akira and Ghajini, rarely have the heroines in his films had anything important to do except to play the love interest of the lead character, dance

and look glamorous. "Rakul's role too won't be of key importance in the plot of the film. However, this film could mark a great leap for her as it would mean a large audience in both the Tamil and Telugu lands. Actresses in the director's films may

not win awards, but their career takes a great commercial turn post the release. It will likely be the same scenario for the actress too," shares a source. Meanwhile, the film's shoot is nearing completion with just two songs left to be shot in the ongoing final schedule.

**Taapsee calls Judwaa 2 a challenge, wants to meet original star Salman**

She wants to look her glamorous best in the film and says that she has not yet met the stars of the original 'Judwaa.'

Taapsee Pannu has said that her role is neither based on

the most that I am expecting out of the film. I have experimented a lot with my acting bit, so I want to get into the commercial heroine space," she says.

"It (commercial

dress says it is not easy to make people laugh.

"Comedy is a difficult genre, it is not easy to make people laugh. I am keeping myself prepared to have fun. But as it's a new genre



Karisma's or Rambha's characters from the original film starring Salman Khan.

Taapsee Pannu has said that her role is neither based on Karisma's or Rambha's characters from the original film starring Salman Khan.

Mumbai: Actress Taapsee Pannu wants to explore the commercial film space with 'Judwaa 2' and says she wants to look her glamorous best in the sequel.

Known for her hard-hitting performances in films like 'Baby' and 'Pink', Taapsee set off on her Bollywood journey with David Dhawan's 'Chashme Baddoor' in 2013.

Four years later, she is now set to collaborate with him again for 'Judwaa 2'.

"I will work on my part by making sure I look my glamorous best in the film. The change of look is

films) may be cliched for everyone, but not for me as I haven't done that. 'Judwaa 2' is a new zone for me and this is also a challenge for me," Taapsee told PTI.

In the movie, Varun Dhawan would be stepping into the shoes of Salman Khan. Varun met the superstar a couple of times to understand the nitty gritty of both the characters - Prem and Raja - from the 1997 hit comedy film. Taapsee says she has never met Salman in person and would like to meet him and other stars of 'Judwaa'. "I have been a huge fan of Karisma, she is a live wire on screen. I would love to meet her, Rambha and Salman. I haven't met Salman before. I am not that social, I don't go for outings and so I have not met many actors," she says.

'Judwaa 2' will be her first attempt at comedy and the ac-

for me to explore I am not going to be over smart in saying that I will be only relaxing," she says.

"Comedy as a genre is difficult and people do not realise its potential. It is the most underrated genre. We get critical acclaim for films like 'Pink', 'Naam Shabana'. But critical acclaim does not give you money," she says. The actress is open to doing slapstick comedies. "I don't enjoy watching sex comedies be it in Bollywood or Hollywood, so no point in doing it if I don't enjoy it. I don't mind doing slapstick comedies," she says.

Taapsee is now looking forward to the release of 'Naam Shabana' a spin-off from the 2015 hit film 'Baby'.

Produced by Neeraj Pandey and directed by Shivam Nair, the action spy thriller is set to release on March 31.

**Just Go To Hell Dil: Dear Zindagi's breakup song**



Gentle, soft and relatable, Dear Zindagi's new song is out!

Sung by Sunidhi Chauhan, the second single track features Alia Bhatt, who is trying to do away with her emotions. Beautifully written by Kausar Munir and composed by Amit Trivedi, the song has a unique melody that gets you hooked to it. Just Go To Hell Dil is a feeling we all have gone through in our lives and it is very well portrayed by Alia. A budding cinema-

tographer, Alia plays Kaira, who is in search of a perfect life. A chance encounter with Jug, an unconventional thinker, helps her gain new perspective about life. She discovers that happiness is all about finding comfort in life's imperfections.

Dear Zindagi has been helmed by Gauri Shinde, the director of the critically acclaimed English Vinglish, Gauri Shinde and has been jointly produced by her along with Gauri Khan, Karan Johar.

**Did Kareena just take a sensational dig at Mira Rajput's housewife comments?**

Mumbai: Kareena Kapoor Khan has been basking in the bliss of motherhood, putting her career on a temporary backseat. The actress, however, will soon commence work on 'Veere Di Wedding'.

Kareena, who has been a hands on mother ever since Taimur came into her life, however believes that every maternal journey is different from the other.

"What kind of a mother I am is something that will unfold with time. I will not scream from rooftops about experiencing

days? If I'm spoken about like that, what would it be like for other women?" DNA quoted her as saying.

One can't help but notice how much the statement seems like a fitting comeback to the comments on housewives by Mira Rajput, wife of Kareena's ex Shahid Kapoor.

"I had a tough pregnancy, I went to those 5 months of difficult times to bring my daughter into this world. So now I want to spend every moment that I can with her and I think there is a set of responsi-

ture ahead of me, so I can finish all of my responsibility and I have nothing in my way. I can raise my daughter, I can be a good wife. Nothing will stop me after that. I love being at home, I love being a mother to my child, I wouldn't want to spend one hour a day with my child and rush off to work, why did I have her? She is not a puppy; I want to be there for her as a mother," Mira had said, earlier.

Mira had received a lot of flak for her infamou



motherhood or how much I love Taimur. There's always the pressure of being judged, no matter what you do. It's about how you deal with it. Every pregnancy and every mother's journey with her child during those nine months and afterwards is different. You can't draw parallels. No one out there really knows me or what I am feeling at a given time. How can anyone decide on my behalf whether I am supposed to feel depressed or if I can step out before 45

bilities around my plate and I feel at my age I have a lot more energy, I have my fu-

generalisation of housewives. Well, one can only read between the lines.



No break for the 'Breakup Song'

## Bhushan, Essar Steel among 12 firms being moved by RBI to insolvency courts: Sources

**MUMBAI(KCN):** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has asked lenders to initiate

taken to insolvency courts by the RBI, said the sources, who asked not to be

official comment.

A spokesman for Essar Steel declined to comment, while a

international capital standards.

The filings could have far reaching im-



bankruptcy proceedings against a dozen companies, including Essar Steel, Bhushan Steel Ltd, Monnet Ispat and Energy Ltd, sources with direct knowledge of the matter said.

This follows a change enacted in laws last month that gives the Reserve Bank of India greater power to address the \$150 billion stressed loan problem plaguing growth in Asia's third-largest economy. This week, the RBI said it had identified 12 of the country's biggest loan defaulters.

Jaypee Infratech, Electrosteel Steels, unlisted Bhushan Power & Steel, textiles maker Alok Industries, ABG Shipyard and Jyoti Structures are also among the firms that will be

named as the list was not public.

The RBI has yet to officially name any of the 12 companies, which account for about 2 trillion rupees (\$31 billion) of India's non-performing loans, or roughly 25 percent of all the country's bad loans.

CNBC TV18, which reported the 12 names earlier on Friday, also said Lanco Infratech, Amtek Auto and Era Infra Engineering were on the list. Reuters could not immediately verify these three names.

According to the television station, RBI has asked banks to initiate bankruptcy proceedings against six of the firms within 15 days and to file petitions for the others within 30 days.

The RBI had no

spokesman for Electrosteel said they had heard from their main lender that creditors wanted to initiate resolution of the unpaid loans through the National Company Law Tribunal. The NCLT has been appointed as the nodal court for insolvency and bankruptcy proceedings in India. A bankruptcy filing would result in recovering some funds owed through a debt restructuring, or ultimately through liquidation of the company.

Such action means banks would no longer have bad debt on their books and it could force them to put more money aside to cover losses - at a time when funds are already short as banks seek to comply with

lications, as India's new insolvency code sets out a tight deadline for restructuring resolutions to be struck, failing which the defaulters would be moved into forced liquidation, potentially leading to further value erosion and jeopardizing tens of thousands of jobs at the heavy industry companies on the list.

Indian banks typically lend larger sums in groups. Lead banks plan to call meetings of the groups over the next two weeks to decide the next course of action, one source said. Jaypee Infratech, Lanco, Bhushan Steel, Monnet, Bhushan Power & Steel, Jyoti, Era, Amtek, Alok and ABG were not immediately reachable for comments.

## Hero MotoCorp chairman Pawan Munjal takes home Rs 59.66-crore salary in FY17

**NEW DELHI (KCN):** RBI Deputy Governor S S Mundra today said public sector banks may require more than the budgeted Rs 10,000 crore capital infusion from the government in the current fiscal on account of higher provisioning for bad loans and haircut on stressed assets.

"I think the Finance Minister has always been mentioning that if there is a need, we will find resources," he said on the sidelines of an event organised by ASSOCHAM.

The process of NPA resolution and capitalisation are closely associated, Mundra said, adding that, it appears banks may need additional capitalisation post the exercise.

Asked about the quantum of haircut to be taken by banks for resolution of stressed assets, Mundra said: "There is no question of maximum or minimum haircut. Haircuts have to be taken depending on need and requirement (for resolution)."

Various solutions may emerge as part of insolvency process, he said. It could be merger, restructuring and haircut, or provisioning may be required depending on the structure which is finally adopted under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), he said.

Mundra also said the balancesheet cleaning exercise could lead to increase in provision. "Quite possible. To believe that all this (cleaning)

can happen without additional provisioning would be too optimistic. I would strongly say we should



be realistic rather than pessimistic or optimistic," he said.

Earlier this week, the RBI identified 12 stressed accounts each having more than Rs 5,000 crore of outstanding loans and accounting for 25 per cent of total NPAs for immediate referral for resolution under the bankruptcy law. When asked about the names of the 12 accounts, he said, Internal Advisory Committee (IAC), comprising a majority of its independent board members, will come out with the list at an appropriate time.

The banking sector is saddled with non-performing assets (NPAs) of over Rs 8 lakh crore, of which Rs 6 lakh crore is with public sector banks (PSBs).

On consolidation, Mundra said, it is purely a commercial decision and once the decision is taken it will reach the regulator for approval. "I think these are business decisions which are to be taken by respective bank managements, owners. At right point of time where it needs review by the regulator, it will come. RBI comes into the picture much later," he said.

It is to be noted that Finance Minister Arun Jaitley had an-

nounced capital infusion of Rs 10,000 crore for the current fiscal in line with the Indradhanush scheme. As per the scheme, public sector banks need to raise Rs 1.10 lakh crore from markets, including follow-on public offer, to meet Basel III requirements, which kick in from March 2019. This will be over the

**From Page -1** the rest of the country and people are facing enormous problems for communication.



Therefore, Air connectivity to this area is highly essential.

Even as per media sources, more than 35% travelers from Bhubaneswar and 25% travelers from Visakhapatnam airport are from this place. Therefore, this project will be a viable project for AAI. Owing to that the Central Government has given proposals several times to Odisha Government to identify a big patch of land near Berhampur city to establish a Green Field

Rs 70,000 crore that banks will get as capital support from the government. Of this, the government has already infused Rs 50,000 crore in the past two fiscals and the remaining will be pumped in by the end of 2018-19.

Additional allocation will be provided as may be required, Jaitley had said.

Domestic Airport.

This is unfortunate that Berhampur airport is getting delayed for negligence

and a clear lack of interest on the part of the State Government, alleged Mr. Tripathy.

Therefore, once again he has urged the Chief Minister to write a letter and talk to the Union Minister of Civil Aviation to expedite the process of establishing a Green Field Domestic Airport near Sitalapalli at the earliest, for which land was already earmarked in Berhampur CDP, and recently that was passed by State Government.

## PSU banks may need more than budgeted capital infusion of Rs 10,000 crore: RBI Deputy Governor Mundra

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## Indian skipper Virat Kohli becomes quickest cricketer to score 8000 ODI runs

**BIRMINGHAM (KCN):** Indian captain Virat Kohli today

third and fourth in the list. Kohli, who came

with 665 runs followed by Rahul Dravid (627) and

has so far hit 317 runs from four matches in this ongoing edition.



became the fastest cricketer to score 8000 runs in ODIs during his unbeaten knock of 96 against Bangladesh in the semifinals of the Champions Trophy here.

Kohli reached to the 8000-run mark in his 175th innings to go ahead of South African captain AB de Villiers who had taken 182 innings to reach to the milestone.

Sourav Ganguly (200 innings) and Sachin Tendulkar (210 innings) are now

into the match with 88 needed to score 8000 runs, took a single off Sabbir Rahman to reach the milestone.

Meanwhile, Shikhar Dhawan also became India's highest run-getter in the Champions Trophy, surpassing Ganguly's haul of 665 runs.

Dhawan has so far amassed 680 runs from nine matches in two editions of Champions Trophy, including three centuries and as many half centuries. The second in the list is Ganguly

Tendulkar (441).

Dhawan surpassed Ganguly when he was on 32 during India's run chase of 265 against Bangladesh in the second semi-final here. He went on to score 46.

He also became the first batsman to score 300-plus runs in two different editions of ICC Champions Trophy -- 2013 and 2017.

Dhawan scored 363 runs from five matches to be adjudged the man-of-the-series in 2013 and

Dhawan's highest score in the Champions Trophy till now is 125, which he scored against Sri Lanka in a Group B game in the ongoing edition of the tournament.

The Delhi batsman also broke Tendulkar's record of being the fastest cricketer to score 1,000 runs in ICC One-day International (ODI) events. Dhawan took 16 innings to reach the landmark, eclipsing Tendulkar (18) and Ganguly (20).

## We need to be mentally tough in crunch games: Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Mortaza

**BIRMINGHAM (KCN):** Bangladesh skipper Mashrafe Mortaza today con-

often in big matches. This was a match where we should have scored 330 but

big matches like these. We need to ask ourselves some questions as to whether

tions. Some of these youngsters have played for 3-4 years so it's not fair to just



ceded that his team needs to get "mentally tougher" in crunch games, which has been their undoing in big-ticket tournaments.

Bangladesh suffered a nine-wicket defeat at the hands of India in the semi-final of the ICC Champions Trophy here.

"We have repeated these mistakes

ended up scoring 264. We need to get mentally tough in these situations and when we come back next time, may be correct mistakes," Mortaza said at the post-match press conference.

"May be quality and skill-wise we are not lacking but you need to get mentally

tougher as to what needs to be done in

we were ready to defend 264. May be that's what we need to ask ourselves," said the skipper.

He expects that the youngsters would step up and not depend on players like Tamim Iqbal, Mushfiqur Rahim and Mahmudullah all the time.

"We don't have too many back-up op-

drop them. We have to persist with them and also believe they can get mentally tougher," he said.

Asked if he is mulling his future and whether he would be playing in the 2019 World Cup, he said: "May be, may be not. I am still enjoying my game."

## Chennai's own Suresh Raina to add colour and verve to TNPL

**CHENNAI (KCN):** India player Suresh Raina, who was a regular member of the Chennai Super Kings and captain of Gujarat Lions in the recently concluded IPL, will be turning

which will begin next month. Along with Raina, Yusuf Pathan, Manoj Tiwari, Unmukt Chand, Sanju Samson, Manan Vora, Smith Patel, Hamuma Vihari, Ashoke

signed up for TNPL today. We are happy with the pool of players who have registered. We look forward to an exciting tournament which will begin on July 22," said Prasanna

eleven.

"Raina was a regular member of CSK and has developed a special bond with the city. He has opted to play for Grand Slam in the TNCA senior division league. Raina and Yusuf Pathan will be the players in demand at the auction.

"The outstation players auction will be held next weekend," said a source close to the developments in TNCA.

"As per the rule, four outstation players can register in the TNCA league for a club and two can play in the eleven. So if 48 players register with TNCA first division league, the rest can play in the lower division. Last year Hardik Pandya played in the second division," added the source.

Dinda, Sandeep Sharma, Y Chahal, and Piyush Chawla are among the 80 odd players who registered for TNPL as the deadline ended here on Thursday.

"Suresh Raina

Kannan, CEO of TNPL. Raina's Chennai connect made him sign for TNPL.

As per the rule, a team can have three outstation players and two can play in the



out for Grand Slam in the TNCA senior division league coming season. This automatically makes him eligible to play in the second edition of Tamil Nadu Premier League (TNPL)

## India rally to beat Scotland 4-1 in Hockey World League Semi-Finals

**LONDON (KCN):** India conceded a surprise early goal but made a fine comeback by pumping in four quick goals to beat minnows Scotland 4-1 in their opening match of Hockey World League Semi-Finals here today.

Scotland captain Chris Grassick struck as early as the sixth minute to stun the Indians who trailed 0-1 till the end of the first two quarters.

India, however, recovered and scored four times in the third quarter to run away with full points in the Pool B match. Ramandeep Singh (31st, 34th), Akashdeep Singh (40th), Harmanpreet Singh (42nd) were the goal scorers for India.

The first quarter belonged to the underdogs Scotland who displayed good attacking skills to put India on the backfoot. They held on to the ball possession for a greater part of the first quarter keeping the Indians

in the hunt. While the Scottish goalkeeper Thomas Alexander was impressive with his saves, it was skipper Chris Grassick who got an early lead for his team with a splendid deflection that beat Vikas Dahiya to the post in the sixth minute.

It was a baseline pass by Kenny Bain picked up by Grassick perfectly to stun the Indian side.

Both teams slowed down the pace just a little bit in the second quarter. India played cautiously, rotating the ball only to make well-calculated entries into the opposition striking circle.

India's marquee midfielder Sardar Singh was in the center of action with some impressive dribbling, trying to make space in the circle. But, Indian forwards were denied the equaliser by a determined Alexander who continued to impress with his saves. He padded away Akashdeep

Singh's shot on goal in the 25th minute to end the second quarter with advantage to Scotland.

The ten-minute break at half-time was put to good use by India's chief coach Roelant Oltmans who brought about strategic changes to create opportunities in the circle. It worked wonders with forward Ramandeep Singh finding a breakthrough in the 31st minute. He struck a cracker of a goal with a reverse hit from the top of the circle, beating defender Willie Marshall to equalise.

Ramandeep struck again in the 34th minute when forward S V Sunil assisted from the baseline. A perfect deflection by Ramandeep earned India a much-needed 2-1 lead. India made great amends to a poor start with two more goals in the third quarter. In the 40th minute, it was India skipper Manpreet Singh who

set up a goal for Akashdeep, who timed his run to perfection to receive the pass and deflect it past Alexander.

In the 42nd minute, a clever-thinking Sunil appealed for a video referral that saw India win their first penalty corner of the match. India's young drag flicker Harmanpreet Singh made no mistake with a brilliant effort, picking up the ball from injector Sardar Singh, to send the ball like a bolt to the top corner of the post.

At the end of the third quarter, India enjoyed a comfortable 4-1 lead. India did well in the final quarter to defend their lead, denying any opportunity for the Scottish players to score. India's young goalkeeper Akash Chikte too held his nerve to ensure India walked away with a 4-1 win. India play their next Pool B match on June 17 against Canada at 18.30 hours IST.