



Konark International Cyclothon 2016 inaugurated at Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar

Land crunch for Army NALCO pacts for power

Bhubaneswar (KCN): State Government seems to be not finding it easy to make provision for large chunk of land as required by the Union Ministry of Defence for setting up of military establishments in the Left Wing Extremist (LWE) districts, said sources familiar with the development.

Ministry of Defence (MoD) is asking for an area of 25X20 Kilometer for setting up of army establishments in the LWE districts of the State.

Odisha has 19 LWE affected districts, and making available such a huge patch of land in these districts does not seem to be an easy proposition, said officials dealing with the matter.

During last year it was decided that MoD will set up army establishments in the LWE affected States

of Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Bihar.

Even as MoD has asked for such huge land allotment for their firing ranges, maneuvering facilities, barracks and other allied requirements, it is not easy to provide such a large chunk of land in the Maoist affected districts, admit officials.

Officials feel that the district administrations in the Maoist zones are facing tough time for land acquisition in these areas as most of the zones are in forest land and receiving forest clearance is a Herculean task.

Sources said the State government is more keen on making more recruitments from LWE affected districts than going for setting up of Army establishments there.

At the moment, recruitment of youth

from the Maoist affected districts is not that rapid and there seems little effort by the army to organize more and more recruitment camps there, said an official in the State government.

In Army, while officers are recruited on all India basis through open competitive examinations, recruitment in other ranks in Army is made through open rally system. Women are inducted only as Short Service Commissioned Officers in specified branches in Indian army.

Recruitment of youth including from tribal areas is an ongoing process and the State government is requesting MoD to recruit more tribal youth from Odisha.

Army authorities say that they have initiated several steps with a view to increase intake in other ranks from the Left

Wing Extremism (LWE) affected states.

They are also giving motivational lectures by Army personnel to join the forces in remote areas of LWE affected States.

MoD keeps re-



questing the State Governments too to encourage, train and motivate candidates to join Army.

State Government is also making efforts to ensure maximum participation of candidates from LWE affected areas in army recruitment rallies.

However, such rallies are organized less in number and more such rallies are needed for the LWE Districts, said a senior

official in the State Government.

Against this backdrop, MoD is asking the State Governments to provide large chunks of land for setting up of army establishments.

Keeping in view the difficulties of the State Governments, it is being contemplated to identify small patch of lands to set up smaller set ups by the Army in LWE affected districts, said officials.

The State Governments may not find it difficult to locate smaller patches of land for the purpose as the States are eager to support Army for facilitating more recruitment of tribal youth in the Maoist zones.

However, the MoD and State Governments will have to take a decision in this regard, so that steps can be taken in a time bound manner, said sources.

Delhi (KCN): National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), the Navratna PSU under Ministry of Mines and NTPC Ltd, the Maharatna power producer today signed a pact for developing power projects and other business col-

laborations in India. Director Finance Kulamani Biswal represented the NTPC.

The MoU was signed in the presence of Union Minister for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines Piyush Goyal, Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, State Steel &

rating latest technology ensuring reduced energy consumption and high productivity.

He also mentioned that NALCO is also planning to set up a Greenfield Aluminium Smelter project with a capacity of 6 lakh tonnes per annum in



Under the MoU, signed here today, And these Central Companies will float a joint venture namely NTPC - NALCO Power Company (NNPC) to set up power plants.

The first such 3X800 MW power plant is planned at Gajamara in Dhenkanal at an estimated investment of Rs 14,000 crore. The proposed super critical power plant with state-of-the-art technology will supply uninterrupted power to NALCO's Smelter at Angul, said sources.

The process for acquisition of 1,600 acres of land in Gajamara has already commenced, they added.

On behalf of NALCO, CMD Tapan Kumar Chand, and Director (HR) BK Thakur signed the MoU, while CMD Gurdeep Singh and

Mines Minister Prafulla Kumar Mallik and Dhenkanal MP Tathagata Satpathy.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr.Goyal highlighted that the joint venture is a win-win situation between NALCO & NTPC -- two best performing CPSUs.

NALCO is planning a Brownfield expansion at its Aluminium Smelter in Angul, with an additional capacity of 5 lakh tonnes per annum, at an estimated CAPEX of Rs.10,000 crore, he added.

The company possesses the required land and other infrastructure for the purpose and the proposed expansion will help the Navratna CPSE to achieve economy of scale and substantially reduce its cost of production, he added.

Mr.Goyal said the expansion will be taken up immediately by NALCO, incorpo-

Kamakhyanagar at an estimated investment of Rs.12,000 crore which will be equipped with the state-of-the-art Smelting Technology.

Union Minister Mr.Pradhan in his address informed that it's a dream come true for the people of State as a power project at Gajamara, Smelter project at Kamakhyanagar, Brownfield expansion of smelter at Angul by NALCO and TTPS project by NTPC will all together bring an investment of Rs 48,000 crore to State and greatly enhance the industrialisation, development process while generating more employment.

Mr.Mallik and Mr.Satpathy complimented NALCO & NTPC for taking up the projects to boost industrialisation and development.

Team for Narco reward

Bhubaneswar (KCN): Odisha Government has decided to take on the Drug Mafias in a big way by activating the Reward System and provide fiscal incentives to the Informers and Officers, who provide information on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

Accordingly the Department of Excise has reconstituted the State Level Committee after 16 long years in order to reward the informers at the earliest. Bishnupada Sethi, Secretary Excise has issued the notification today in this regard.

Secretary Excise headed State Reward Committee will have

Chief of Crime Branch, IG CID as



Members and Excise Commissioner will be Member Convener.

The Committee

will meet at least once in three months

exhibit performance regarding acts and drug abuse and offence under the NDPS Act.

Funds will be made available from Odisha State Beverages Corporation (OSBC) towards Reward and Incentives from its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Funds.

Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) reimburses the expenditure in this regard to support such activities.

And during last year the rates of reward to the informers who provide information on Narcotic Drug Trafficking and seizures of Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances has

been notified.

As per the Guidelines the informers who provide information leading to the seizures of Opium would get up to Rs 6,000 per kg; Morphine base and its salts: Rs 20,000 per kg.; Heroin and its salts: Rs 1.20 lakh per kg.; Cocaine and its salts (Rs.2.40 lakh per kg); Hashish (Rs.2,000 per kg); Hashish oil (Rs 10k per kg) and Ganja at Rs.600 per kg.

The reconstituted Committee will speed up the Reward System of Payment, so that people will be interested to provide vital information on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

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Wajah Tum Ho review: A monstrous absurdity of a film

Film: Wajah Tum Ho
Directed by Vishal Pandya
Starring: Gurmeet Chowdhary, Sana Khan, Sharman Joshi, Rajnesh Duggal
Rating: *

There is a lovely chick-bonding moment in this grotesque drama of absurdities where Sana Khan asks Sherlyn Chopra: "Are you really going to spend the night with this rapist?"

"Will you pay my bills?" comes the prompt retort. Then the brazen gold-digger then proceeds to sing a rehashed version of Dev Anand's "Aise to na dekho".

Amen to that. Unlike the rest of the cast, she has good taste.

Will the makers of this film pay us back the money we spent

script should be paced, and how the characters can be kept

dian soap operas. The actors are required to pose as insanely rich

exist. Their expressions anguish and agony is manufactured and phoney. Most of the drama is generated through a pelting over-the-top background score that over-punctuates every moment like U-turn warning on a highway that leads to nowhere.

The courtroom scenes presided over by a judge who resembles Pervez Musharraf have to be seen to be believed. I swear I saw Gurmeet and Sana laughing at one another.

Every time the actors open their mouths they sound like they've been learning the English language from an online crash-course service. Gurmeet and Sana show a lot of skin but fail to add

meat to their parts. They are like pouts on faces that refuse to acknowledge seduction even at gunpoint. Sharman Joshi's widower-cop act is beaten down by well-ters of outrageous indiscrepancies in the investigation that leads him to the arch-villain.

It's all a hoax dream packaged in a plasticine that melts under pressure. The film takes on the cult of televised sensationalism, but loses its nerves and sense of direction even before the game begins. There some enjoyable bits. No, not the bits where Gurmeet bites off Sana's lips. But the bits where he comes to blows with her show the heroine fighting back like man.



buying tickets for a film that makes as much sense as Trump's victory or Hillary's defeat? As the marketing boast goes, this is Bollywood's first film about hacking.

But it seems to have been written by hacks who have no knowledge of how a

interesting without giving them a jolting spin and a moral turnaround for the sake of a gasp.

Alas, the intended gasp turns into a tittering tedium as the script piles on the preposterous episodes with more inclination for putrid plotting than the In-

and absurdly glamorous entities with enough money to buy off islands and civilizations. But they mouth closeted-spoof dialogues that give away their amateurish attempts at jetsetting aristocracy.

These are characters in desperate search of a reason to

Dandupalya 2 caught in an endless wait

Dandupalya 2 is on every Sandalwood

this long delay. He is the same producer

lemma and is refusing to even discuss the

filming of Dandupalya 2 be-



buff's must-watch list, considering how the first part directed by Srinivas Raju was a hit when it released in 2012.

The film on the notorious gang was even declared the spine-chilling story of the year.

Even though work on the sequel started in March, and with much hype, the makers are now struggling to complete it. Twenty days of work is still to be completed.

Ravi Kale and Makrand Deshpande Sources in the industry tell City Express that producer Venkat is held responsible for

who had initially planned to invest in Naati Koli with Srinivas Raju. This movie was then shelved and Venkat decided to back the sequel to Dandupalya.

Our source says the producer is "not giving any concrete reason for the postponement and the schedule has been changing for the last eight months. It has taken a heavy toll on the project because the various artistes and technicians are slowly losing interest."

According to this source, the producer is caught in a di-

lemma and is refusing to even discuss the next schedule. "He looks undecided, which means the team cannot try to complete the project with somebody else's support," says the industry source. "The initial plan was to release the film in October, it is December now and there is no hope of completing the film. The project is stuck mid way. The last schedule was in May, after which there has been no word from the production end." Adding to this trouble there was a petition filed by the real Dandupalya gang. In April, they requested the court give a stay on the

cause the film is being shot without their consultation and the case on the gang is still ongoing in the court. City Express contacted its director Srinivas to learn of the movie's status and he replied with a "no comments". "I am busy with another script," he said.

Dandupalya 2's screenplay is written by its director. The movie features Pooja Gandhi, Makrand Deshpande, Shruthi, Ravi Kaale, Kari Subbu, Yethiraj, Danny, Jayadev, Muni, Sanjjanaa, Petrol Prasanna and Ravishankar.

Sruthi gets her wish, to work with Rajiv Menon

Sruthi Hariharan has a varied repertoire. The actress has worked with different directors and on diverse subjects.

While she stays rooted in Sandalwood, Sruthi does not miss any opportunity to work in other languages, especially if it gives her a chance to work with a good director.

The actress, who recently completed shoot for Uppi Matte Hutti Banti Prema, had a wonderful 2016 with plenty of projects. Her 2017 looks equally exciting.

While she is to play

The actor admits that the Tamil film industry was hard to get a break into, despite her fluency in the language.

"I have been busy with projects in Kannada, but it's not been as easy in Kollywood," she says.

"I have been part of a Balaji Sakthivel film, which is taking its own time, and we have to go with the flow.

Meanwhile Rajiv Menon's project is something I am looking forward to. He was one director in my wish list. I am a huge fan of his



opposite Darshan in Prakash Jayaram's directorial, set to go on floors from February, Sruthi is upbeat about her Tamil film with Rajiv Menon. In it, she will be playing the lead opposite GV Prakash. This yet-to-be titled film, she says, will go on floors from January.

"My last film in Tamil was with Arjun Sarja," she says, "It was a bilingual in Kannada and Tamil and was shot in the beginning of last year."

films, Kandukondain Kandukondain and Minsara Kanavu, which I have grown up watching. Forget working with him, I would be excited even if I am with him on the sets." Sruthi is also excited about working with GV Prakash.

"We know the kind of stories GV Prakash gravitates to, the combination of the director and actor will be riveting. It is a commercial film and will be made in sync sound, another interesting challenge for me," she says.

'Go digital' drive brought cyber security to the fore in India

NEW DELHI(K-CN): With the country logging into the digital world to become a cashless economy, the threat of data breach loomed over both public and private enterprises, with several such cases being reported through the year -- forcing the government to wake up from its slumber and prepare for digital war.

In one of the financial sector's biggest cyber threats, millions of debit cards were compromised after a malware-related security breach was detected in a particular ATM network in October. The State Bank of India (SBI), HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank and YES Bank were among those which reported several of their customers' debit cards being compromised.

India was also listed among the top five in the world to be attacked by ransomware -- malware that forces its victims to pay a ransom through certain online payment methods to regain their data -- as reported by Moscow-based Kaspersky Lab, a leading software security group operating in almost 200 countries and territories worldwide.

In September, Trend Micro Incorporated, a global leader in security software and solutions, reported that over 180 Indian companies were victims of ransomware in the first six months of 2016.

Indian businesses lost over \$1 million from data losses and downtime in the last 12 months,

a survey by EMC Corporation -- the



world's largest data storage multinational -- revealed in July. According to EMC, 46 per cent of organisations in India suffered unplanned system downtime and/or data loss due to external or internal security breaches.

Amid this, Pavan Duggal, the country's leading cyber law expert, lamented that Indian Cyber law does not have adequate provisions to deal with the growing cyber threats.

"The Information Technology Act, 2000, amended in 2008, still does not comprehensively deal with all relevant issues in the cyber security ecosystem. India not being a signatory to any international treaty on cyber crime complicates the intrinsic ability of the immense law and legal frameworks to provide effective remedies against cyber crimes which are committed from abroad," Duggal told IANS.

With increased 4G and 3G penetration, the internet user-base in India is expected to double to 600 million users by 2020 from the current 343 million -- so the threat will only grow.

"With the surge in digital transactions

via e-wallets and other online payment

gateways, mobile frauds are expected to grow to 60-65 per cent in the country by 2017," warned leading industry body ASSOCHAM and global research firm EY in December.

According to Oracle India Managing Director Shailender Kumar, security breaches have moved information security from a hidden corner of the IT function to a topic of strategic importance to both business and society.

"Towards the beginning of 2016, cyber security had started to become a boardroom discussion. It has emerged to be a key concern for IT and business managers alike this year. In 2017, if security is not attended to, it will negatively impact not only the brand reputation but also the shareholders' trust, revenue loss and result in higher risks for organisation," Kumar told IANS.

With more and more Indians buying phones, enhanced security for the devices became another concern this year. India is the second-largest mobile phone market globally, with over one billion mobile subscriptions. Of this,

approximately 240 million

subscriptions, which is expected to grow to 520 million by 2020, said a joint study by ASSOCHAM and Deloitte released in December.

The threat gets bigger with more and more people embracing mobile digital payments in the wake of demonetisation. "Mobile continues to be an area of exposure. As we get more and more used to transactions with mobile banking or e-commerce, mobile becomes more of a financial gateway and the implications are huge," said Anand Ramamoorthy, Managing Director, South Asia, Intel Security.

Keeping this in mind, the IT industry's apex body Nasscom and the Data Security Council of India (DSCI) launched a detailed road map for the next 10 years. Titled "Growing Cyber Security Industry, Road Map for India," the report identifies Managed Security Service (MSS), Security and Vulnerability Management (SVM) and Network Security (NS) as attractive emerging opportunities globally.

Nasscom-DSCI has also established the Cyber Security

Task Force (CSTF) initiative that aims to create one million cyber security jobs and 1,000 cyber security start-ups by 2025.

As the year drew to an end, the hacker group "Legion" broke into the Twitter accounts of the Congress Party, its Vice President Rahul Gandhi, controversial liquor baron Vijay Mallya and TV journalists Barkha Dutt and Ravish Kumar, threatening to leak data that will create "chaos" in India.

The government later asked the micro-blogging website to strengthen its security and announced measures like audit of the Indian IT infrastructure and setting up a task force to quicken action on cyber security.

Highlights of the Indian cyber security scene in 2016:

* The government announced it will set up the National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) to provide near real-time situational awareness and rapid response to cyber attacks; expected to be operational by March 2017.

* India poised to build a cyber security product and services industry of \$35 billion by 2025 and generate a skilled workforce of one million in the security sector.

* The Ministry of Electronics and IT ordered review of the IT Act 2000 and set up a crack team to respond to cyber security incidents quickly.

* Nasscom and the Data Security Council of India (DSCI) launched a detailed road map for the next 10 years.

Sensex edges lower; posts biggest weekly fall in a month

A broker reacts while trading at his computer terminal at a stock brokerage firm.

Indian shares edged lower on Friday, posting their biggest weekly fall in a month, as sentiment remained subdued after the U.S. Federal Reserve signalled more rate hikes than expected next year.

The Nifty ended 0.17 percent lower at 8,139.45, and fell



1.48 percent for the week, the biggest fall since the week ended on Nov. 18.

The Sensex

closed 0.11 percent lower at 26,489.56, losing 0.96 percent for the week, its biggest fall in a month.

CBI makes exception for Paytm: Company says it was scammed

NEW DELHI(K-CN): The Central Bureau of Investigation [CBI] has gone out of its way to act on a complaint lodged by the digital wallet company Paytm that it was cheated out of Rs 6.15 lakh by 15 customers. The agency filed an FIR case against the customers on Thursday.

It is rare for CBI to take up such cases unless they have been referred by the central government or there are directions by the Supreme Court or a high court.

Responding to media queries why the agency -- which is facing a staff crunch -- decided to take up the case, a CBI spokesperson said, "[the agency is mandated] to register cases under the Information Technology Act in Delhi even against private individuals."

The agency mentioned the 15 Paytm customers and unknown officials of the company as suspects in the FIR.

Calls made to most of the customers to seek their reaction were disconnected after they were told that they have been named in the CBI FIR. Some numbers remained unanswered or unreachable.

The 15 customers are residents of Kalkaji, Govindpuri and Saket. The unknown officials belong to One97 Communications, the parent company of Paytm.

The complaint by the company's manager [legal], M Sivakumar, claimed that the company

makes payment for defective products received by a customer and arranges a reverse pickup of the damaged product which is then sent to the merchant.

The process is done by a team of customer care executives who have been assigned specific IDs and passwords to handle such complaints from customers

along with such involved customers. PTI

The digital wallet company, which has received a big boost in transactions after the demonetisation of Rs 500 and Rs 1000 notes announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 8, claimed that the customers first had knowledge of the internal work-



ers and arrange refunds and pickups.

It was alleged that during the period 2014-16 it found that in 48 cases customers had received refunds even though their orders were successfully delivered to them.

"As a matter of fact wherein delivery of orders were successful and satisfactory to the customer, refund should not happen. However, in all these 48 cases, refund of the order amount happened to the respective customers to the tune of Rs 6.15 lakh," the complaint, which is now part of the FIR, alleged.

It alleged that customers "illegally" appropriated money refunded in their bank accounts and wallets.

It claimed that this is a "serious" fraudulent act and foul play with the common intention to wrongfully gain

ing of the company.

"The accused persons first acquired knowledge of how the system of the company works and conspired to book orders, take delivery of products at common addresses known and or belonging to them and their accomplices and then made or fabricated false and fraudulent entries in the computer system of the company and approved/made against the same orders," the company alleged.

The company has information that in those cases where refunds were made, money was further transferred from the wallet to the bank accounts of either accused persons or people known to each other, it alleged.

The company claimed that the refunds were made within five to six minutes of disputes being raised by the customer.

Hike in petrol, diesel rates deferred

NEW DELHI(K-CN): PSU oil companies have deferred a planned Rs 2.26 a litre hike in petrol and Rs 1.78 increase in diesel.

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corp (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corp (HPCL) revise rates, particularly when a price cut is necessitated, on 1st and 16th of every month based on average international price in the previous fortnight. But an increase that was warranted because of

a rise in international gasoline (petrol) price to USD 62.82 per barrel from USD 57.43 and that of diesel to USD 60.97 from USD 56.79 was deferred today.

The surge in international price, which was moderately tempered by strengthening of the rupee to Rs 68.05 from Rs 68.23 a dollar, had necessitated Rs 2.26 a litre hike in petrol and Rs 1.78 in diesel, officials said.

This increase was excluding local levies. The actual hike after

considering VAT would have been about Rs 2.90 per litre and the same for diesel would have been Rs 2.10. Petrol in Delhi currently costs Rs 66.10 a litre and diesel Rs 54.57. Rates were last revised on December 1 when petrol price was hiked by a marginal 13 paise a litre, but diesel rates were cut by 12 paise.

IOC Chairman B Ashok justified the deferment move, saying "it is not compulsory" to change rates on a particular date.

"We continue to

review it and will take appropriate decision at the right time," he said. "Price revision is being done in a calibrated manner."

Stating that global prices are volatile, he said there are lots of changes happening around. "We need to take an overall view and then calibrate our views."

Prior to the December 1 price change, rates were hiked by Rs 1.46 a litre in the case of petrol and Rs 1.53 per litre for diesel, excluding local levies, on No-

vember 16.

Industry sources said the deferment may be for a day or two as Parliament is in session and any hike would have added to the discomfort for the government, particularly when it is facing heat over hardships caused by currency demonetisation.

The Winter Session of Parliament ends today and rate revision may follow soon, they said.

Sindhu's run ends in semifinals of World Super Series Final

DUBAI(KCN): Olympic Silver medalist PV Sindhu's brilliant run at the BWF World Super Series Final came to an end after she suffered a narrow defeat against World No 5 Korean Sung Ji-Hyun in the women's singles semi-finals, here today.

It was a contest between Sindhu's power and Sung Ji's precision and unfortunately the Indian failed to break the Korean's impregnable defence and went down fighting 15-21 21-18 16-21 in a thrilling 76-minute contest.

Sindhu, who had scripted a thrilling come-from-behind victory over Sung en route to her maiden China Open Super Series Premier title, could not match the Korean's excellent court coverage and deft touch.

The Indian had a 6-3 head-to-head record against Sung before the match but it meant nothing as Sung, who has been inside top 10 for last six years, tried to make Sindhu run to all four corners of the court with her accurate returns and placements.

Her strategy seemed to work as she lead 10-7 after battling for every point early on in the contest. The Korean entered the break with a slender 11-9 lead.

Lagging 11-14, Sindhu narrowed the

smashes to gather points. She lead 9-6.

weak shot which can be exploited.

advantage after the Indian found the net



deficit to 14-15 with the help of her sharp smashes and half smashes but Sung always found a way to bounce back by mixing her strokes as she lead 18-14.

Sung won a long rally when Sindhu hit wide and then reached the game point when she pushed the Indian to the corner and caught her at the forecourt. The Korean then sealed the game with a flick at the nets.

Sung, who remained unbeaten in the Group stage, once again took a small 2-0 lead early on in the second game but Sindhu soon picked up three points to lead 3-2 and 6-5 in the initial stages.

Sindhu tried to break Sung Ji's rhythm and kept pushing her to the baseline and depended on her

But errors flowed equally from Sindhu's racquet as she allowed the Korean to turn the tables at 10-9.

Sung Ji employed the same tactic that gave her results in the opening game as she kept pushing Sindhu to the back in the initial stages of rally and then tried to catch the Indian at the net with her deceptive cross court returns.

However, Sindhu managed to grab a slender 11-10 lead at the Interval when Sung Ji hit wide.

The duo continued their duel after the Interval and tested each other with some extraordinary strokes. They moved neck and neck from 11-11 till 17-17.

Standing at the mid court, the duo tried to outdo each other, waiting for one

An error in judgement at the baseline by Sindhu helped the Korean to equal the score at 18-18. But Sindhu then came up with an accurate net return to grab the lead again and then reached the game point after winning the longest rally of the match with a drop which Sung Ji failed to put away.

Another rally and Sindhu produced a stinging smash which left her opponent stranded and took the match to the decider. In the deciding game, Sung stood up front to catch hold on the shuttle early and tried to push Sindhu to the back and soon raced away to a 4-0 lead.

The Korean held on to the four point advantage till 9-5 with Sindhu committing unforced errors. At the Interval, the Korean had a 11-6

again.

After the change of ends, Sindhu grabbed a couple of points but Sung bounced back with her soft touch to come up with forecourt winners and lead 15-9 at one stage.

Sindhu's cross court returns earned her a few points as she narrowed the lead to 11-16. But she continued to do the catch up job as the Korean extended the gap to 18-12. Another error near the net by Sindhu saw Sung reach 19-13.

Two superb smashes by the Indian was followed by another net error as Sung held five match points advantage which she converted with another winner at the first opportunity to seal her place in the finals.

India hold nerve to enter Junior World Cup final after 15 years

LUCKNOW(KCN): Favourites India came from a goal down to pip Australia 4-2 via shootout in a thrilling contest and enter the final of the men's Junior Hockey World Cup after a hiatus of 15 years in front of a packed Major Dhyani Chand Astroturf Stadium here today.

India, who last won the Junior World Cup way back in 2001 in Hobart, are on a mission to reclaim the title and will face Belgium in the summit clash on Sunday.

The hosts scored two skillful field

van Doren's superb display in the shoot-out to register the upset win after the two teams failed to break the deadlock in regulation 70 minutes.

Van Doren made two brilliant saves in the shoot-out to deny Germany's Philip Schmid and Tim Herzbruch.

In the second semifinal, India had the better share of possession in the opening half but it was Australia who utilised their chances.

It seemed Australia took a cue from the Spaniards as they hardly gave any space to the Indians, relying

of the opening half in the next minute when Varun's long scoop from deep found Simranjeet Singh unmarked inside the circle after an Australian defender fumbled, but the striker pushed wide with only the rival custodian to beat.

Australia got the first chance after the change of ends when they earned their fourth penalty corner but the stopper fumbled to control the injection.

Trailing by a goal, India went all out attacking in search of the equaliser and their



goals in the second half through Gurjant Singh (42nd minute) and Mandeep Singh (48th) after Australia took the lead through Tom Craig (14th).

But just when it was time to close out the game, the Indian defence conceded a soft goal and Lachlan Sharp (57th) drew level for Australia to take the match into shoot-out after both the teams were locked at 2-2 at the end of regulation time.

In the shoot-out, goalkeeper Vikas Dahiya rose to the occasion and made two fantastic saves to deny Australia's Matthew Bird and Sharp.

The Indians, on the other hand, were clinical in the shoot-out with skipper Harjeet Singh, Harmanpreet Singh, Sumit and Manpreet (Jr) finding the back of the net past the Australian custodian.

Earlier today, India's final opponents Belgium stunned six-time champions and title holders Germany 4-3 in the shootout in the first semifinal to enter the tournament final for the first time.

Belgium rode on their goalkeeper Loic

mainly on man to man marking.

Australia utilised the first chance they got in the match. The Burras earned their opening penalty corner in the 13th minute and Tom Craig scored from the third attempt with a reverse shot from close range after the initial flick and rebound were saved by the Indian defence.

Australia preferred to sit back and rely mainly on counters to surprise the Indians.

Australia secured two consecutive penalty corners in the 22nd minute but this time India goalkeeper Dahiya came to his side's rescue to deny Blake Govers from the second attempt.

India pressed hard and minutes later earned two back to back penalty corners but Harmanpreet Singh failed to find the back of the net on both occasions.

In the 32nd minute, Varun Kumar found Vikramjit Singh inside the circle but the latter's shot went straight to Australian goalkeeper Ashleigh Thomas' pads.

The hosts had their best opportunity

efforts bore fruit in the 42nd minute through a fierce reverse shot strike from Gurjant from a tight angle after he was set up by Simranjeet's brilliant play.

Pumped up by the equaliser, the Indians went for the kill and six minutes later took the lead through Mandeep, who scored his third goal of the tournament.

The credit for India's second goal entirely should go to Mandeep who first intercepted an Australian defender's miss-scoop and then played little one-two with Nilkanta Singh before unleashing a reverse hit underneath the Australia custodian into the board.

Stunned by India's strike, Australia went into attacking mode and in the process secured two consecutive penalty corners, the second of which was brilliantly parried away by Vikas in front of the Indian goal.

But lapse in concentration for a moment from the Indian defence cost the hosts dearly as Australia equalised in the 57th minute with a soft goal.

Pakistan reeling at 87-8 in reply to Australia's 429?

BRISBANE(KCN): Skipper Steve Smith and rookie Peter Handscomb posted centuries to set a platform before the pacemen went to work under lights, having Pakistan reeling at 97-8 and setting Australia on course for a big first-innings lead in the first day-night test at the Gabba.

A total of 15 wickets fell on Friday after Australia resumed the second day at 288-3.

Handscomb (105) produced his maiden test century, Smith scored 130 and the last-wicket pair of Nathan Lyon and

Jackson Bird added 49 to lift the total to 429 in a partnership that frustrated the Pakistan bowling attack.

In the last 40 minutes of the middle session, Mitchell Starc (3-45) dismissed opener Azhar Ali (5) as Pakistan endured a difficult start to the innings in fading light.

Sami Aslam (22) and Babar Azam (19) combined to get the total up to 43-1 before Josh Hazlewood (3-19) struck twice on consecutive balls to trigger the collapse. Pakistan then lost 7-24 before Sarfraz Ahmed (31) and Mohammad

Amir (8) combined in an unbroken 30-run stand to ensure the visitors batted until stumps.

Hazlewood removed Azam with the third-last ball of the 20th over, caught by Smith at second slip, and had Younis Khan (0) caught behind with the next. Skipper Misbah-ul-Haq (4) survived the hat-trick ball but was out six overs later when he edged Bird to slip, ensuring all Australia's fast bowlers chipped in.

Starc returned to dismiss Asad Shafiq and Aslam's gritty de-

fiance ended in the next over when Bird, during a nine-over spell that netted two wickets for seven runs, had him caught behind to make the total 56-6.

Hazlewood took a return catch to remove Wahab Riaz and Starc took the last wicket of the day, getting Yasir Shah caught by Usman Khawaja at third slip.

The Australian fielding was almost flawless, with Khawaja at third slip, Smith at second and Matt Renshaw at first holding some sharp catches, a contrast to

the error-riddled fielding performance from the Pakistan lineup which put down at least three regulation chances — two against Smith.

The only blemish on the Australian fielding was a missed stumping chance by wicketkeeper Matthew Wade in the next-to-last over.

Handscomb said the difference between the first and second nights of the test was the way the Australian fast bowlers combined to produce seam, swing and a nagging line and length.