

Iran Paralympics Lifters Rank 1st in Asia-Pacific With 7 Medals



2015 Asia-Pacific Power lifting Paralympics Championship

ALMATY (IRNA) – 2015 Asia-Pacific Power lifting Paralympics Championship ended here on Thursday with championship of gold and 3 silver medals.

The Iranian team gained 70 points in Asia section and 69 points in freestyle (FS) section of the international championship, ranking 1st in the games.

21 countries from Asia and 7 from various parts of the world participated in the game and in the final ranking the Iranian, Chinese, and Jordanian teams respectively with 70, 69 and 24 points ranked first to third in the Asian competitions section.

In freestyle section, too, similarly, Iran, China and Jordan ranked 1st to 3rd with 69, 68 and 40 points respectively.

The Iranian medal winners in the games included Amir Jafari, Nader Moradi, Mohammad Farzin, Seyyed Ahmed Salehipur, Saman Razi, Ali Sadeqzadeh, Ahmad Aminzadeh and Siamand Rahman.

Sepahan, Esteghlal Win in Iran Professional Season

TEHRAN (Tasnim) - Sepahan of Isfahan and Esteghlal of Tehran football teams began the new season of the Iranian Professional League (IPL) with victory on Thursday.

In Isfahan, Sepahan defended its title with a 1-0 win over Esteghlal Khuzestan. Mehdi Sharifi was on target in the 65th minute.

Esteghlal beat Siah Jamegan 2-1 in Mashhad. Esteghlal striker Sajjad Shabazzadeh found the back of the net with a header in the 37th minute and Alireza Naghizadeh equalized the match in the 63rd minute.

With 12 minutes remaining,

Shahbazzadeh scored once again to help his team wins its away game.

Saba was held to a goalless draw by newly-promoted Esteghlal Ahvaz and Saipa and Gostaresh Foolad played out a goalless draw.

On Friday, Tehran's popular team Persepolis will host Padideh of Mashhad in Azadi Stadium.

Last season's title favorites Tractor Sazi and Naft Tehran will play in Tabriz.

Malavan will host Iran's Hazfi Cup champion Zob Ahan while Foolad and Rah Ahan will face in Ahvaz.

Iran's Haddadi Reaches Agreement with Sichuan Blue Whales

TEHRAN (Tasnim) - Iran's Hamed Haddadi reached an agreement with Chinese basketball team Sichuan Blue Whales on Wednesday.

The player, currently in China to accompany Team Melli in the 2015 International Basketball Challenge, has already played in Sichuan Blue Whales.

Haddadi joined Chinese club Qingdao DoubleStar Eagles last season and finished in third place with the team.

The Iranian Big Man averaged 20.4 points, 13.9 rebounds, 3.7 assists and 2.3 blocks per game.



Hamed Haddadi

Brazil to Deploy 85,000 Security Personnel During 2016 Olympics

RIO DE JANEIRO (Xinhua) -- The Brazilian government announced Thursday that it will mobilize 85,000 police and military personnel to guarantee security during the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, more than twice the number for the London Games.

This would be the largest security plan for the Olympic Games in the history of the city, official

sources said.

As many as 37,000 army personnel will be mobilized alongside thousands of various police forces to guard Rio de Janeiro and other cities hosting the football events -- Brasilia, Belo Horizonte, Salvador, Sao Paulo and Manaus, said Andrei Rodrigues, the official tasked with overseeing security during major events in Brazil.

The budget covering this massive security operation will be shared by various government departments.

The Ministry of Defense will spend 580 million reais (171 million U.S. dollars) in buying communications equipment and preventing cyber attacks.

The state government of Rio de Janeiro will invest 750 million reais (222 million dollars)

in building infrastructure, such as command centers, mobile police offices, observation platforms, and helicopter-mounted cameras.

The Brazilian Intelligence Agency will also set up in the Olympic city a center dedicated to combat terrorism, where it will receive the help of intelligence agents from numerous countries.

AFC Kick Off Visit Underway in Tajikistan

DUSHANBE (AFC) - A Club and League Assessment Visit under the AFC Kick Off development programme is underway in Tajikistan.

The visit aims to assess the current situation of clubs in Tajikistan in terms of management, technical, infrastructure, finance and other important areas. Ten premier league clubs will be visited during the exercise.

The visit commenced with an opening ceremony at the Tajikistan Football Federation (TFF) headquarters on Monday with the national football body's Vice President Khurshed Mirzoev giving a warm welcome.



Asian Football Confederation

"I'd like to welcome the AFC delegates and thank them for assisting the TFF in the development of leagues and clubs" he said. "It is a good opportunity for the clubs to know in what areas they are lacking and the recommendations will help the clubs to develop themselves."

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A presentation was made to TFF officials to explain the Kick Off programme and the objectives of the visit with individual meetings held with TFF staff responsible for league, finance, legal and technical matters.

After the assessment of all the clubs, the findings will be presented to the TFF and recommendations provided on how to address the issues and challenges facing the clubs.

Kick Off is a programme which focuses on strengthening the club and league management of AFC's Member Associations through tailor-made, self-sustainable solutions.

Persepolis Signs Honduran Jerry Bengtson

TEHRAN (Persian League) - Iranian football club Persepolis announced the signing of Jerry Ricardo Bengtson Bodden, a striker from Honduras, on Wednesday.

Jerry Bengtson has joined Persepolis on a one-year contract for an undisclosed fee.



Persepolis Signs Honduran Jerry Bengtson

The 28-year-old striker has played for the Honduras national youth team and is now part of the senior Honduran national team.

Bengtson represented Honduran football team in the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

Beijing Chosen to Host 2022 Winter Olympics

BEIJING (Anadolu Agency) - China's capital Beijing is to host the 2022 Winter Olympics, the International Olympic Committee announced in a statement on Friday.

"Beijing will become the first city to host both a summer and winter edition of the Olympic Games, following the city's successful staging of the Summer Games in 2008," the committee

said in a statement on its website.

Delegates voted by 44-40 in a ballot in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to select Beijing ahead of Kazakhstan capital Almaty.

Beijing's mayor Wang Anshun told Malaysian media after the decision that the city would deliver "games that are joyful and harmonious, games that are safe and reliable".