



GoodSport NEWS

S R I L A N K A O L Y M P I C W E E K L Y N E W S B U L L E T I N

SPORTS NEWS

A tragedy which should not have taken place



WHY? WASN'T IT PREVENTABLE?

Kaushalya Madushani, 25, was found dead at her home in Dummalasuriya on 24 April 2022 after allegedly committing suicide. She represented Sri Lanka in the women's 400m hurdles and her last win came just a day before her demise at the 100th Sri Lanka Athletics Championship a few days ago.

Now the question arises whether this wanton destruction of a blossoming life was preventable if the authorities managed to identify the malady, and at the same time, Madushani was given an insight about the IOC's Safe Sports Policy which is now adopted by the NOC SL Women's Committee -

-working under the auspices of the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka.

The Safe Sports Policy is in effect for the past year or more, but, it does not seem that respective Federations and Sports bodies have really grasped the wisdom of the policy which could come in as a stitch in time under many circumstances.

Madushani, a Kuliyaipitiya resident, had competed in international 400m hurdles events for Sri Lanka. She was discovered hanging in her home.

She finished second in the 400m -

-hurdles at the 2014 Asian Junior Championships, bronze at the 2016 South Asian Athletics Championships, gold at the National 400m hurdles Championships, and silver at the 13th South Asian Athletics Championships in Nepal in 2019.

As a matter of fact, the loss is for Sport, as a whole. The undeniable truth is a young lass, especially from a rural background and moving to the concrete jungle in the big city and the high pressure sports environment, may be bewildering and the athlete may become susceptible to circumstances out of the -

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ordinary and this may lead the athlete to seek shelter unsuspectingly.

IOC safe sport initiatives

Sport has long been recognised as a major contributor to positive health and well-being for participants; however, as a microcosm of society, sport is not immune from wider societal ills.

The IOC firmly believes that harassment and abuse have no place in sport or in society, and advocates for safe sport, as the safety and wellbeing of athletes, are paramount.

Sport is global; crossing cultures and laws, but there is only one culture that must apply: the culture of respect.

Since 2004, the IOC has been developing programmes and initiatives to

safeguard athletes from harassment and abuse in sport.

Commissions

The IOC prevention of harassment and abuse in sport (PHAS) initiatives have been established by the following four IOC Commissions:

Athletes' Commission

Athletes' Entourage Commission

Medical and Scientific Commission

Women in Sport Commission

Women in Sport Commission

These IOC Commissions are represented on the IOC Prevention of Harassment and Abuse in Sport (PHAS) Working Group, which is chaired by HRH Prince Feisal Al-Hussein.

The IOC PHAS Working Group collaborates with subject matter experts and Olympic Movement stakeholders to develop and implement initiatives to safeguard athletes from harassment and abuse in sport.

"We must be more determined than ever to protect athletes. One case is one case too many. Together we can make a difference."

HRH Prince Feisal Al Hussein, Jordan - IOC Member; IOC Women in Sport Commission Vice-Chair & IOC Prevention of Harassment and Abuse in Sport Working Group Chair.

The IOC Athletes' Rights and Responsibilities Declaration

IOC Safe Sport initiatives

Olympic and Youth Olympic Games-related

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The Frameworks in place at the Olympic and Youth Olympic Games through which any reports during Games time can be reported and will be investigated.

Education and Awareness-raising

Specially developed educational tools and awareness-raising materials, which are free to take and share.

Irony

It is an irony that with the above tools in their possession, athletes

The NOC SL also has reached out to the respective federations and Sports Bodies and have explained the value of its content, but, the lackadaisical attitude and the hesitance to think out-of-the-box have prevented the athletes from gaining the benefits of a scheme that at their doorstep for adoption.

As a matter of fact, Safe Sport is being taken very seriously by the International Olympic Committee and they in the process of blanketing its content and make it a deterrent so that may help certain athletes who are susceptible.

The situation is nothing new to Sri Lanka or the sports world as a whole. Though reportedly no one has taken his/her life over such conundrums, there have been cases of umpteen numbers of blossoming athletes suddenly giving up their sport or cutting short their overseas scholarship for reasons hidden behind a thin veil. Just have a peek beyond the veil, one could notice the eyes of anxiety crying out for help, but are hiding behind for reasons more than one.

It is then – if the respective authorities from Federations and Sports



with great futures are lost forever or they just decide to hang their boots prematurely.

This is where the federations are at fault. The National Olympic Committee have already recognised the different circumstances that the athlete may fall victim to and have developed a mechanism that put out in black and white.

“ We must be more determined than ever to protect athletes. One case is one case too many. Together we can make a difference ”

bodies who are closer to the afflicted individuals could guide them and bring them back on track may be with the help of safe sport intervention. The only drawback so far is that the Federations themselves do not understand the value of this scheme in which the International Olympic Committee is laying a lot of emphasis lately.

ජාතික මලල ක්‍රීඩා සංවිනයේ

කෞෂල්‍ය මධුෂානි අකාලයේ සමුගහි

ජාතික මලල ක්‍රීඩා සංවිනයේ සිටි මීටර 400 සහ මීටර 400 කඩුලු පැනීමේ ක්‍රීඩිකා කෞෂල්‍යා මධුෂානි අකාලයේම සිය ජීවිතයන් සමුගත්තාය. කිසියම් පෞද්ගලික කාරණාවක් සම්බන්ධයෙන් දැඩි-සේ කළකිරීමට පත්ව සිටි ඇය පසුගිය ඉරිදා (අප්‍රේල් 24) සියදිවි නසාගෙන තිබූ බව මලල ක්‍රීඩා ක්ෂේත්‍රයේ තතුදත් ආරංචි මාර්ග වලින් දැනගන්නට තිබේ.



කුලියාපිටියේ පදිංචිව සිටි කෞෂල්‍යා මධුෂානි, වසර 2019 දී නේපාලයේ කන්මණ්ඩු නුවරදී පැවැති දකුණු ආසියානු ක්‍රීඩා උළෙලේදී මීටර 400 x 4 ඉසව්වෙන් රන් පදක්කම (තත්පර 48.89) දිනාගත් ශ්‍රී ලංකා කණ්ඩායමටද අයත් වූ ක්‍රීඩිකාවකි.

මධුෂානි, දියගම මහින්ද රාජපක්ෂ ක්‍රීඩාංගණයේ දී පසුගියදා නිමාවට පත්වූ 100 වැනි ජාතික මලල ක්‍රීඩා ශූරතා තරගාවලියේදීත් මීටර 400 කඩුලු පැන දිවීමේ ඉසව්ව ජයගත්තාය.

එහිදී දක්ෂතම කඩුළු පැනීමේ ශූරියට ප්‍රදානය කෙරෙන ග්ලූකොලින් අභියෝග කුසලානද දිනාගැනීමටද ඇය සමත් වූවාය.

කුලියාපිටිය මධ්‍ය මහා විදුහලෙන් මලල ක්‍රීඩා පීටියට පිවිසි කෞෂල්‍යා, ජාතික මලල ක්‍රීඩා සංවිනයේ දිගු කලක් සිටි ක්‍රීඩිකාවකි.

පසුගියදා පැවැති ශත සංවත්සර මලල ක්‍රීඩා තරගාවලියේදී මීටර 400 (කාන්තා) ඉසව්වෙන් තරග කළ ඇය සිව්වැනි ස්ථානය (තත්පර 54.95) ලබාගත්තාය.

වසර 2016 දී පැවැති සාග් ක්‍රීඩා උළෙලේ දී මීටර 400 කඩුලු (කාන්තා) ඉසව්වේ ලෝකඩ පදක්කමක් වසර 2014 තායිවානයේදී පැවැති ආසියානු කනිෂ්ඨ මලල ක්‍රීඩා තරගාවලියේ දී එම ඉසව්වේ රිදී පදක්කමක් ඇය විසින් දිනා ගන්නා ලද ජාත්‍යන්තර පදක්කම් වේ.

[අනුරාධ බයස්]

THARUSHI IN THE COMMONWEALTH LIST

Tharushi Karunaratne an athlete in the NOC SL/ Crysbro scholarship list was among the names forwarded by Sri Lanka Athletics. They have forwarded names of eight athletes for the Commonwealth Games and twenty-one athletes for the Asian Games for the approval of the National Selection Committee, at the culmination of the 100th National Athletics Championship.

Proposed list:
Commonwealth Games

Men: Sumedha Ranasinghe (Javelin Throw), Kalinga Kumara (400m), Yupun Abeykoon (100m), Ushan Thiwanka (High Jump)

Women: – Nilani Rathnayaka (3000m steeplechase), Gayanthika Abeyrathne (800m, 1500m), Sarangi Silva (Long Jump), Hiruni Wijayarathne (Marathon)

Asian Games

Men: Sumedha Ranasinghe (Javelin Throw), Kalinga Kumara (400m, 4x400m, 4x400m Mix), Yupun Abeykoon (100m), Ushan Thiwanka (High Jump), Roshan Ranathunga (110m Hurdles), Chamal Kumarasiri (Triple Jump), Danushka Sandarawan (Long Jump), Aruna Darshana (4x400m, 4x400m Mix), Isuru Lakshan (4x400m), Pabasara Niku (4x400m), V. Deshan (4x400m)

Women: Nilani Rathnayaka (3000m steeplechase), Gayanthika Abeyrathne (800m, 1500m), Sarangi Silva (Long Jump), Tharushi Karunaratne (4x400m Mix), Nadeesha Ramanayaka (4x400 Mix), Amasha de Silva (100m, 4x100m), Rumeshika Rathnayaka (4x100m), Shelinda Jansen (4x100m), Medhani Jayamanne (4x100m), Lakshika Sugandhi (4x100m)

IKF PRESIDENT IN SRI LANKA

The president of the International Kabaddi Federation (IKF), Mr. Vinod Kumar Tiwari, visited Colombo, Sri Lanka on the 20th of April 2022. The main purpose of the visit was for discussions with the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka.

However, during this one-day visit, Mr. Tiwari also met with the newly elected Vice President of the IKF and the President of Sri Lanka Kabaddi Federation (SLKF), Mr. Anura Pathirana and Secretary of the Sri Lanka Kabaddi Federation, Mr. R. Saheewan, to discuss issues -

concerning the development of Kabaddi in Sri Lanka and internationally.

Issues concerning the development of Kabaddi, the infrastructure of the sport in Sri Lanka and the preparations of the Sri Lankan team for the upcoming Hangzhou 2022 Asian Games were among the discussions.

Mr. Tiwari also expressed his satisfaction over the current state of the SLKF while he promised to give further opportunities to Sri Lanka in the global field.

Moreover, as per discussions earlier at the General Assembly of the IKF held in Dubai, the president of the SLKF, Mr. Pathirana handed over the report consisting of requests to the IKF and plans made for the sport in Sri Lanka to Mr. Tiwari during the visit. The SLKF has requested for foreign technical assistance in coach training and for foreign training for technical officers in the said report as well.

Mr. Pathirana stated that the SLKF is looking forward to develop skills of players and conduct workshops in order to widespread Kabaddi islandwide.



ජාත්‍යන්තර කබඩි සම්මේලනයේ (IKF) සභාපති විනෝද් කුමාර් තිවාරි මහතා, 2022 අප්‍රේල් 20 වැනි දින ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ සංචාරයක නිරත විය. මෙම සංචාරයේ ප්‍රධාන අරමුණ වූයේ ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජාතික ඔලිම්පික් කමිටුව සමඟ සාකච්ඡා පැවැත්වීම යි.

කෙසේ වෙතත්, මෙම එක්දින සංචාරයේදී තිවාරි මහතා, මෑතකදී තේරී පත් වූ (IKF) හි උප සභාපති සහ ශ්‍රී ලංකා කබඩි සම්මේලනයේ (SLKF) සභාපති අනුර පතිරණ මහතා සහ ශ්‍රී ලංකා කබඩි සම්මේලනයේ ලේකම් R. සහිවත් මහතා සමඟ, ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ සහ ජාත්‍යන්තර වශයෙන් කබඩි ක්‍රීඩාවේ දියුණුව සම්බන්ධ ගැටළු සාකච්ඡා කිරීමට හමු වුණි.

කබඩි ක්‍රීඩාවේ දියුණුව, ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ -

IKF සභාපති ලංකාවට පැමිණෙයි

ක්‍රීඩාවේ යටිතල පහසුකම් සහ එළැඹෙන හන්ග්ජෝ 2022 ආසියානු ක්‍රීඩා උළෙල සඳහා ශ්‍රී ලංකා කණ්ඩායමේ සුදානම පිළිබඳ ගැටලු සාකච්ඡා විය.

එමෙන්ම, මේ වන විටත් ශ්‍රී ලංකා කබඩි සම්මේලනයේ කාර්යක්ෂමතාව පිළිබඳව ඒ මහතා සතුට පළ කළේ, අනාගතයේදී කබඩි ක්‍රීයාකාරකම් වලදී ජාත්‍යන්තරය තුළ ශ්‍රී ලංකාවට තව අවස්ථා ලබාදීමට පොරොන්දු වෙමිනි.

තවද, මීට පෙර වූබායි හි පැවති IKF මහා සභා රැස්වීමේදී සාකච්ඡා කළ පරිදි, SLKF සභාපති පතිරණ මහතා IKF වෙත ඉල්ලීම් සහ ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ ක්‍රීඩාව සඳහා කළ -

සැලසුම් ඇතුළත් වාර්තාව තිවාරි මහතාට භාර දුන්නේය.

පුහුණුකරුවන් පුහුණු කිරීමේදී විදේශීය තාක්ෂණික සහාය සහ තාක්ෂණික නිලධාරීන් සඳහා විදේශ පුහුණුව සඳහා ද එම වාර්තාවෙන් ඉල්ලීම් කර ඇත.

පතිරණ මහතා ප්‍රකාශ කළේ කබඩි ක්‍රීඩාව දිවයින පුරා ව්‍යාප්ත කිරීම සඳහා වැඩිමුළු පැවැත්වීමටත් ක්‍රීඩක ක්‍රීඩිකාවන්ගේ කුසලතා වර්ධනය කිරීමටත් ශ්‍රී ලංකා කබඩි සම්මේලනය අපේක්ෂා කරන බවයි.

THE FIRST VIRTUAL SPORTS ADMINISTRATORS COURSE CONCLUDED

The First Olympic Solidarity Sports Administrators Course for the year 2022 was conducted by the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka from 21 – 24 April 2022 on a virtual basis.

Due to the prevailing current situation, NOC Sri Lanka planned to organise the course via Zoom. Twenty-two candidates representing National Sports Federations, Universities, and tri-forces – Sri Lanka Army, Sri Lanka Navy and Sri Lanka Air Force were selected to follow this course.

The four-day course consisted of five sessions for a total of 30.5 hours of online delivery. During the delivery of the course, participants were involved in many interactive discussions especially in sharing their experiences and ideas.

In addition, national course directors conducted panel discussions on various topics from the Manual. All 65 units from five major sections such as principles, structure and leadership of the Olympic Movement; the games; -

athletes at the heart of the Olympic Movement; promoting the Olympic values and sport; and management were covered by the national course directors.

This time, six-course directors comprising three National Course Directors - Mr. B.L.H. Perera, Group Captain Nalin De Silva and Mrs. Olivia Gamage and Provisional National Course Directors - Dr. Rear Admiral Shemal Fernando, Major General Dampath Fernando and Mr. Gobinath Sivarajah, conducted the course.

COMMONWEALTH SPORT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

GAPS brings over 100 athletes and coaches to Birmingham

The GAPS programme, the sport for social purpose initiative developed by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) and Griffith University, has brought together over 120 para athletes, coaches and experts from 21 Commonwealth nations to the 2022 Commonwealth Games host city of Birmingham.

GAPS is a unique programme focused on supporting the development of emerging para athletes and coaches from the Commonwealth. It provides opportunities that empower coaches to support their athletes -

and the development of sport pathways across the Commonwealth.

The GAPS camp, which was hosted by the University of Birmingham last week, has a specific focus on preparations, classifications and qualification for the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

The camp connected peers in a holistic approach to gain knowledge through shared experiences and expert sessions. Athletes were challenged to try new training methods, push their boundaries to create a belief and a mindset that they can -

face whatever challenges are put in front of them.

The camp was made possible through the support of University of Birmingham and over 40 students who have volunteered their time to make this camp a success.

Since launching in the lead up to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games, GAPS has built multi-stakeholder partnerships and collaborations with universities, sport organisations and government agencies.

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In addition to Griffith University in Australia and the University of Birmingham, it also includes Western University in Canada and Stellenbosch University in South Africa, who have expanded the reach of GAPS across the Commonwealth. It is supported by the Commonwealth Sport Foundation, UK Sport, the high-performance sport agency and PacificAus Sports, the Australian Government funded sporting opportunities programme.

The GAPS camp in Birmingham saw athletes and coaches engage with the three Commonwealth sports of para athletics, powerlifting, and para table tennis across a week of wide-ranging practical and classroom-based activities. In total there were 61 athletes and 40 coaches from 21 Commonwealth nations.

CGF President Dame Louise Martin said: "I am delighted that the GAPS programme is back for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.

The GAPS programme ensures that the athletes and coaches participating have an opportunity to get to the upcoming Commonwealth Games successfully, are able to enjoy themselves and go back to their nations to showcase what they were able to achieve at a Games to inspire others to do the same.

As the attendees enjoy the world-class facilities and experience, I would like to thank our new-and-returning partners to the GAPS programme who make the camps possible.

I look forward to seeing some of the 130 attendees in Birmingham this week returning to shine at the Games in the summer."

CGF Vice President Chris Jenkins, who is Chair of the CGF Development Committee, said: "The goal of GAPS is to offer emerging athletes and coaches from the Commonwealth access to additional skills, knowledge, and resources so they can make a real difference in their own communities.

Through our expanding partnerships, we can really shift mindsets and reinforce the fundamental human right for women, girls, and people with a disability to be included in their sport pathways.

As GAPS continues to grow and strengthen across the Commonwealth, I would like to thank all our partners who help us to stage these amazing camps and ultimately create tangible opportunities for people to grow and develop through sport.

With less than 100 days to go to the start of Birmingham 2022, is very special to be in the host city and to harness the inspiration impact of the Commonwealth Games to drive positive change across our nations and territories."

Griffith University Associate Professor Clare Minahan said: "Some of the best athletes in the world may reside in developing nations of the Commonwealth.

"As people with a deep love of sport, we have a responsibility to discover and nurture talent by offering programs that provided athletes from developing nations opportunities to reach their potential and represent their country on the world stage. This is GAPS."

UK Sport Head of External Affairs and International Relations Clare Barrell said: "We are delighted to -

partner with the CGF to support the delivery of GAPS – Gather, Adjust, Prepare, Sustain, and fully believe in its' mission to increase the participation of para-athletes from under-represented countries at B2022 and future Commonwealth Games.

"Collaboration and inspiring positive change are at the heart of UK Sport's new mission and camps like these are so important for para-athletes from less resourced countries in Oceania, Europe, the Americas, the Caribbean and – in particular for us at UK Sport – Africa, where our support is primarily being placed."

University of Birmingham Director of The Graduate School of Sport and Professional Practice Barry Drust said: "It has been an absolute privilege to be able to help organise the GAPS camp this week.

"Having the opportunity to support the developmental journeys of so many athletes and coaches from around the Commonwealth is amazing. The chance for both the staff and student volunteers to support this has also provided valuable real-world experience and learning for everyone.

I have no doubt that this is not just changing the lives of individuals who are participating on the camp but also impacting the way that we here at the university think about the barriers to participation and how they can be removed."

