



# 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

*Hand and eye co-ordination and archery go hand in hand*



# Is Sajeev's next stop Asian games 2022?

The 2021 Archery World Cup, also known as the Hyundai Archery World Cup, is the 15th edition of the international archery circuit organised annually by World Archery. This year the finals were held at Yankton, in the United States of America, where Sri Lanka also was a part.

In the present context, the name of Sajeev de Silva and Archery is soon becoming synonymous.

Now Sajeev has moved from the world ranking of 137th to 121 and this by far the best that a bow and arrow artiste has achieved on this resplendent island.

Sajeev says that his ultimate goal is to become the first athlete to represent his island at the Olympics his specialty event and preferably be it the 2024 Paris Games in Men's Recurve segment.

He said "In the Asian circuit where I am doing well I am around the 37th in the rankings and I have a few more months of opportunities and competitions to better the count. Certainly, I hope to be a part of the 2022 Asian Games and with the prevailing system, it is up to the authorities to make a call on me. Yet, I repeat my goal is to be an Olympian, and the last time in 2020 I missed -



through some twist of fate where people who had lower rankings got the opportunity and Archery was not a part at the Tokyo as far as Sri Lanka was concerned.

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“My next outing is an Asian meet and I am sure that I could better my rankings in that meet too. Now I have passed the stage fright situations and I am confident at International competitions. Even at the last International competition in the United States of America, I lost the first match and in the second I was pitted against Olympian Jeff Henkles from Luxembourg.

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“He is a three-time Olympian having participated at the 2004, 2012, and 2021 Olympic games. He was ranked 23rd after qualification, while I was ranked 90th at the competition. I won that game 6-4, but, lost at the next round to A.K. Samet of Turkey 6-2. As a result, I have moved to 121st in World Ranking.

“However I learned a lot from that experience and I am hoping to use that at my future competitions.”

The Compound Women’s matches were ranked against similar ranked opponents from India and Ukraine, and the opponents outperformed our ladies.

Nonetheless, it was a huge honour when we had one of our judges, Mrs. Sunethra Senevirathne, who was invited by the organisers to be a judge at the event which is a very prestigious event. Sajeew said “I was elated to witness Sunethra judging some final events which are reserved to the topmost judges.

“She is self-made and amiable; I think the day will not be very far when authorities invite her to stand at the Olympics.” When asked why besides sporadic individual achievements the sport of Archery is not improving as a unit, Sajeew said “Directly I can say we lack the ground facilities and the necessary baking to grow up as a unit. For instance, I am keen on my game and I keep practicing individually with the available resources and so are several other archers.”

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Lankan ladies in their competition

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“But, as a unit, we lack a lot of assistance. We are hoping to discuss the issue with the Sports Ministry and seek some assistance like a place of our own to hone our skills, but still, it is in the very early stages.”

Generally, Sri Lankans are very good at sports where the hand and eye co-ordination takes pride of place and not brawn and weight.



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# Congratulations

## Nextchamp Nadila Ambuldeniyage

Silver medalist in individual apparatus pommel horse  
Central South Asian Gymnastics Championship



# 99th National Athletics Championships: Records galore



Rohan Dhammika at the winning post

Roshan Dhammika broke Olympian Mahesh Perera's mark established (the 110 metres hurdles national record in 1997). The 23-year-old Dhammika improved the national record twice as he became the first hurdler to break the 14 seconds barrier. He clocked 13.97 seconds in the heats to take the record under his name. Later in the final he returned a time of 13.89 seconds to further improve on that.

Sri Lanka army's Sachini Perera improved her own women's pole vault record clearing of 3.57metres. Her previous record was 3.56 metres.

Records shattered like crackers at a wedding at the 99th National Athletic Championships at the Sudathadasa Stadium.

The names of the new record holders will be rewritten as Sarangi Silva Long Jump, Roshan Dhammika – the hurdler and the most impressive off all, distance runner Gayanthika Abeyratne becoming the first Sri Lankan female athlete to break the 16 minutes' barrier in the 5,000 metres event.

The veteran sailor girl Abeyratne expected was in a league of her own. It all begun on Saturday. She was mentally prepared to take up the 5000metres challenge on Sunday. After having shattered the women's 1,500 metres record on Saturday, Gayanthikahad at least a one lap lead over the rest of the track when -

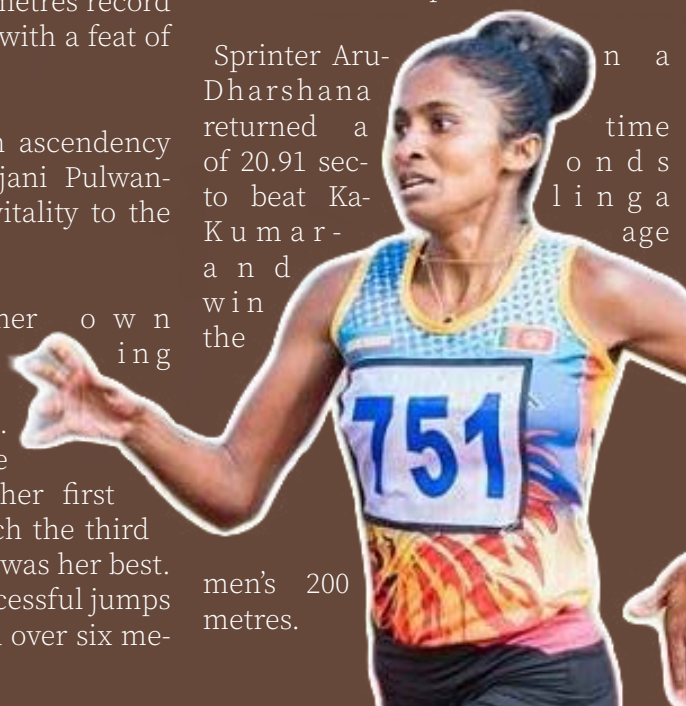
she closed the line in 15:55.84 seconds as she broke US based Hiruni Wijayaratne's 2020 record of 16:17.51 seconds. When she shattered Nimali Liyanarachchi's 1,500 metres record on Saturday she did it with a feat of 4:09.12 seconds.

In another good sign ascendency Sarangi Silva and Anjani Pulwanasa are bringing new vitality to the women's long jump.

Sarangi improved on her own national record clearing a distance of 6.48metres to win the gold. Pulwanasa cleared the six metres mark in her first three attempts of which the third attempt of 6.15 metres was her best. Sarangi made four successful jumps and all were measured over six metres.

W.S.M. Fernando of Sri Lanka Army broke Charith Kapukotuwa's meet record with a throw of 17.36 metres in the men's shot put.

Sprinter Aru Dharshana returned a time of 20.91 seconds to beat Kakumara and win the



men's 200 metres.

Gayanthika Aluthge  
Picture Courtesy : ThePapare.com

# The third session of the 8th ASMC successfully completed

The third session of the 8th Advanced Sport Management Course (ASMC) successfully completed on virtual basis over the weekend.

Advanced Sport Management Course (ASMC) is a Professional Diploma Course in Advanced Sport Management.

The ASMC is being jointly offered by the Olympic Solidarity and the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka to provide a unique opportunity for Olympic Sport Organizations, including the National Olympic Committee, National Federations, and organizations responsible for the development of Olympic Sport.

The objective of this programme is to offer NOCs the possibility to train the sport administrators of their NOC and its constituents by organising courses on a national level. Advanced courses are based on the supplied text “Managing Olympic Sport Organizations” (MOSO), developed in cooperation with MEMOS (Executive Masters in Sport Organizations Management).

MOSO provides the primary content for the learning experience and is the framework for the delivery of the courses. The courses are to comprise all six modules in the text, meaning that participants must participate in every module as part of the course requirements.

The MOSO consists of Organising an Olympic Sport Organisation, Managing Strategically, Managing Human Resources, Managing Finance, Managing Marketing and Organising a Major Sport Event.

This weekend, twenty participants of the programme presented their previous studies on ‘Managing Strategically.’

The third unit - ‘Managing Human Resource Management’ was delivered by Ms. Kinithi Jayatissa, one of the facilitators of the programme. The next session shall be held in January 2022 in house.

