

## Olympic organizers aim for 'balance' of security, celebration



● REUTERS

Paris 2024 organizers said a 'balance' between security and celebration is needed at the Games.

Tony Estanguet, President of Olympics organizing committee said that's a balance to be found between a perfect security, which is absolutely the priority. And there is no discussion, Reuters reported.

"There has never been any discussion to put at risk a security model. So, the base is how we can guarantee the security for the spectators and for the athletes. And that's why there is an unprecedented system of security in our country, and in Paris particularly, to make sure that security will be there."

But of course, yeah, there will be around people from police, even from military, even from private security. And they are there to welcome the people and make sure that it will be completely safe. It's part of the objective to guarantee security and to propose a fantastic celebration of the games, he said.

"We never diminish and reduce the ambition in terms of celebration, at start with the opening ceremony. But to have this kind of unique celebration, you need also to have a security plan very, very strong security plan. And that's the case."

For the first time, a Games opening ceremony will not take place in a stadium. Dozens of boats will carry thousands of athletes and performers on a nearly 4-mile floating parade on the Seine.

More than 300,000 people are expected to line both banks of the river to watch the ceremony - along with 45,000 police, including members of France's elite special intervention forces trained in counterterrorism.

Snipers will be deployed on the top of buildings along the route. An anti-drone system will be in place.

French officials have said there are no specific terrorism threats for the ceremony that will launch the Games in Paris, which run until Aug. 11.

However, should specific concerns arise, there are backup plans, that would either see the ceremony restricted to the Trocadero square near the Eiffel tower, or switched to the Stade de France stadium.

President Emmanuel Macron said on Monday that France was ready to host the Paris Olympics as he visited the Athletes' Village. "We are ready and we will be ready throughout the Games," Macron said, four days before the Olympics open.

# Coach Inzaghi impressed by Taremi in Inter's training

Iran's international forward Mehdi Taremi has been working with Simone Inzaghi for a week, as the Inter coach seems to be happy with his new signing.

The fact that the other senior strikers from last season have not been part of the training thus far means that the Iranian player has had the chance to work one-on-one with Inzaghi, reported Tasnim News Agency. The Italian coach has been apparently very impressed by what he

has seen from Taremi during the past week.

The Gazzetta reported that there are echoes of former Lazio and Bayern Munich striker Miroslav Klose in what Taremi has demonstrated in preseason. Inzaghi had worked with Klose right at the tail end of the German forward's career at the Biancocelesti in 2016. Similarly, the Gazzetta reported, there are echoes of Edin Dzeko's game in Taremi. The Bosnian had spent two seasons as a key player for Inter under Inzaghi.



● TASNIM



● IRNA

## Iran U20 volleyball sweep Australia in friendly

Iran's volleyball team defeated Australia in three straight sets (25-15, 25-14, 25-21) during a friendly match ahead of the 2024 Asian Boys' U-20 Volleyball Championship. In previous friendly matches, Iran defeated the Indonesia U20 volleyball team in two warm-up matches, wrote Mehr News Agency. The Iranian team is preparing for the 2024 Asian Boys' U20

Volleyball Championship. Iran has been placed in Group B along with China, Chinese Taipei, and Qatar. The 2024 Asian Boys' U20 Volleyball Championship will take place from July 23 to 30 in Surabaya, Indonesia. Iran U20 volleyball team also on Friday defeated Indonesia in a friendly match in a straight set (25-12, 25-20, 25-17). Iran's volleyball players, who

have traveled to Surabaya, Indonesia, to participate in the Asian Men's U20 Volleyball Championship, have held their training session under the supervision of the team's head coach Gholamreza Momeni-Moghadam. The 22nd Asian Men's U20 Volleyball Championship will be held from July 23-30 with the participation of 16 teams.

## Japan beat Iran in Asian Junior Handball Championship

Iran was defeated against Japan 31-29 in the 18th edition of Asian Men Junior Handball Championship in Group 2 on Sunday night.

Iran is scheduled to play Kuwait on Wednesday for the 5th/6th place, reported Tasnim New Agency. The 18th Asian Men's Junior (U-21) Handball Championship will run until July 27 in Amman, Jordan. The championship serves as a qualifying event for the 25th IHF Men's Junior (U-21) Handball World

Championship in Poland, slated for June and July 2025. The top four teams in the

ongoing competition will secure qualification spots for the World Championship.



● TASNIM

## Syrian forward Yasin Dali to join Chadormalu

Alaa-Aldin Yasin Dali has traveled to Iran to finalize his deal with Chadormalu football club.

Dali currently plays for Iraqi football club Naft Missan, Tasnim News Agency wrote on Monday. The 27-year-old forward has played 24 times for Syria's national team and scored four goals. Chadormalu won promotion to the 2024-25 Iran Professional League (IPL) in June.



● TASNIM

## Nadal defeated in first tour final in two years

Rafael Nadal lost his first final in two years as the Spaniard went down 6-3, 6-2 to Portugal's Nuno Borges at the clay-court Bastad Open.

The Spanish tennis great had shown signs of a return to form in Scandinavia as he made an impressive run to the final, just one week before tennis at the Olympic Games gets underway on the clay in Paris, AFP reported. But Nadal, rather than celebrating his 64th title on the surface and first since Roland Garros 2022, was dominated by Borges as he struggled to find fluency

with his serve and ground strokes.

"I don't know what to say. I think I was wishing for this moment for a while already," said Borges in his post-match interview.

"It's crazy, in tennis it doesn't happen when you expect it sometimes. I know we all wanted Rafa to win, a part of me wished that too, but something even bigger inside of me really pushed through today... I'm just really happy overall. I really don't know what to say, I'm very emotional." Borges was the first to

make headway in the match when he broke the Spaniard's serve to go 3-1 up, with Nadal saving break points before over-

cooking a forehand down the line.

But the 14-time French Open winner struck back immediately on the Borg-



● AFP

es serve, earning two break-back points before the Portuguese dumped a forehand into the net from inside the service box. But neither player could quite grab the ascendancy in the first set as Borges quickly ran up a 0-40 lead in the next service game, converting his second break point with a perfectly executed drop shot. Nadal was struggling to find his first serve but managed to hold just his second service game of the opening set to force Borges to serve one more time. The world number 51 kept his nerve to do just that.

The 38-year-old showed signs of his old self-serving at deuce in the first game of the second set with a booming forehand winner down the line, before he eventually held but that was one of the few highlights for Nadal on the day. Borges then struck at 2-2 as he broke Nadal's serve for the first time in the second set and fourth time overall to edge ahead. The 27-year-old followed it up by winning the next three games, sealing a maiden career title in his first-ever match-up against the former world number one with an ace.