

# World Para Athletics Championships: Salehi grabs javelin gold as Iran bags double medals on Day 5

## Sports Desk

Elham Salehi claimed a second gold medal for Iran at the World Para Athletics Championships, winning the ultimate prize in the women's javelin throw event on the fifth day of the competition in New Delhi.

Representing the country in the F54 class, Salehi secured the top spot with her fifth effort of 17.06m, with Mexican duo Alondra Salazar (16.83m) and Rebeca Citlaly Cortés (15.48m) settling for the silver and bronze, respectively. This was Salehi's second medal in New Delhi, following her bronze-winning campaign in the shot put F54 event on the preceding day. Meanwhile, Zeinab Moradi also won a women's javelin medal on Wednesday, winning the bronze in the F56 division.

The Iranian girl registered a

final effort of 22.06m to finish behind Latvian gold medalist Diana Krumina (26.18m) and Raissa Rocha Machado (23.90m) of Brazil and take Iran's medal haul to six.

It was an all-Iranian one-two in the men's shot put F11 final on Tuesday, as reigning Paralympic champion Amirhossein Alipour defended his world title in style, shattering the championship record with a 14.59m throw. Three-time Paralympic medalist Mahdi Olad, who won the silver of the category in Paris, again had to settle for a runner-up finish behind his fellow Iranian, courtesy of a season-best 14.23 throw. Completing a podium that mirrored last year's Paralympic Games, Spain's Álvaro del Amo Cano took the bronze with a throw of 13.70m.

Amanollah Papi got Iran off the mark in New Delhi on Sunday, winning a bronze

in the men's javelin throw event.

Representing the country in the F57 class, Papi saved his best for the last attempt, registering a season-high 51.55m effort to win a consolation bronze.

Turkey's Muhammet Khavandi and Yorkinbek Odilov of Uzbekistan grabbed the gold and silver medals, finishing on with 53.3m and 52.06m, respectively.

There was disappointment for Iranian Alireza Mokhtari – a Paralympic bronze medalist last year – in the men's shot put F53 contest on Monday, after he was stripped of the silver medal due to a successful protest against his efforts.

More than 1,000 athletes from 104 countries will compete in the 12th edition of the World Championships at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium until Sunday.



● IRNA

## CAVA Women's Volleyball Nations League: Iran eases past Kyrgyzstan in opener



● AVC

## Sports Desk

Iran got off to flying start at the CAVA Women's Volleyball Nations League in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, coming out victorious over Kyrgyzstan in straight sets (25-12, 25-18, 25-13) on Wednesday. "The players were in action for the first time in a while, and since it was their opening match, they were a bit nervous. I had expected them to replicate the form they showed in training, but the nerves got in the way. I'm still pleased with their decent performance and how they fought until the very last moment," Iran head coach Lee Do-hee said after the game.

A second outing for the Iranian girls at the tournament, featuring four Central Asian nations, will come against Tajikistan today, followed by a game against the host in the final round of

the league phase on Friday. "Tajikistan, who, like Kyrgyzstan, isn't a top-tier team. That's why I want the players to treat this as a warm-up for future major events. We need to see better execution of our practice drills and a more courageous style of play to ensure we're ready for the challenges that lie ahead," added the South Korean coach, who welcomed the occasion as a perfect preparation for the Islamic Solidarity Games, starting November 7 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Aytak Salamat, Shabnam Alikhani, Reihaneh Karimi, Negar Hashemi, Fatemeh Khalili, and Elaheh Poursaleh started the game for Iran, which settled for a third-place finish in last year's event.

Shaqayeq Hassankhani, Zahra Karimi, Paria Hajatmand, Noura Mohammadi, Fatemeh Manzouri, Nazanin Alizadeh, Zahra Salehi, and Ghazaleh

Bostan complete the Iranian squad in the Uzbek capital. "Considering this was Iran's first match in the tournament, the first set was a bit of a struggle. However, from the second set onward, our team found its rhythm and we were able to play more comfortably and with higher quality. I have no doubt each player will only improve from here," Hassankhani said after Wednesday's victory. "The level of competition here is very high. However, due to some changes in the schedule and hosting, fewer teams were able to participate. Nonetheless, we will strive to achieve the best possible result among the teams that are here," added the outside hitter.

The top two teams in the league table will square off in the final showpiece on Sunday, with the other two going head-to-head in the third-place showdown.

## AFC Champions League Elite: Ezzatollahi on target to help Shabab Al Ahli edge Al Ittihad

## Sports Desk

Iranian midfielder Saeid Ezzatollahi scored a first-half winner as Emirati top-flight champion Shabab Al Ahli walked away with a massive 1-0 away victory over Saudi Pro League champion Al Ittihad at the AFC Champions League Elite on Tuesday.

Ezzatollahi rose highest to nod home Cartabia's corner with five minutes before halftime, as the visitors moved up to fifth in the West Zone table with four points from two points, having settled for a 1-1 draw against Iranian champion Tractor in their opener in Dubai.

Ezzatollahi's international teammate Sardar Azmoun, who has just returned from a sidelining injury, started the game on the bench before being introduced as second-half substitute.

The defeat added to mis-

ery for the star-studded Al Ittihad, which got off to a losing start in the Asian elite clubs' competition, suffering a 2-1 defeat against another Emirati

club Al Wahda two weeks ago.

"I am proud of the players' performance. The team spirit that has been building since last season



Shabab Al Ahli midfielder Saeid Ezzatollahi celebrates his winner during a 1-0 victory over Al Ittihad at the AFC Champions League Elite in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on September 30, 2025.

● AFC

was evident. The most important thing was the players' understanding of the technical strategy," the visiting head coach Paulo Sousa said after the game. "This was an extraordinary and unusual day, a match between two league champions, so we are proud of the team," added the Portuguese.

"I am proud that we are competing strongly in Asia and proud of the mentality of the players. "We completely controlled the first half but I have to admit that in the second half, we declined physically, which allowed Al Ittihad to advance. We could have, however, still doubled the score but we wasted many opportunities."

Shabab Al Ahli will next host PFC Nasaf on October 21 while Al Ittihad will aim to turn its fortunes around when it travels to face Iraq's Al Shorta.

## Iranian mountaineer Hesamifard on verge of historic ascent

## Sports Desk

Iranian mountaineer Afsaneh Hesamifard is on the verge of an unprecedented achievement, according to Reza Zarei, the chairman of the country's Mountaineering and Sports Climbing Federation.

"She will become the first Iranian woman to complete the ascent of all 14 peaks over 8,000 meters," Zarei said.

"She recently obtained her visa for Tibet and is now poised for

the historic feat by conquering Cho Oyu, the 8,201-meter peak located 20 kilometers west of Mount Everest, in the new future," added the head of the sport's national governing body. "The Ministry of Sports has rewarded climbers for conquering these mountains over the past two years. Given the historic nature of Hesamifard's climb, I am hopeful the Ministry will grant her a reward that reflects the magnitude of her accomplishment."



● IRNA