

BPL 2018 final on Friday

DT News Network

Manama

The final match of the Coca-Cola Bahrain Premier League 2018 between Intex Lions and Awan Warriors will be held on Friday at the Isa Town Cricket ground.

Celebrities from film, entertainment, sports and cultural sectors will be part of the event, which will also have cultural and entertainment programmes for the family audience.

Bollywood film actor and entrepreneur, Suniel Shetty and commentator, cricket player and author, Aakash Chopra were announced as invited celebrities.

The details were revealed during a press conference held yesterday at the Park Regis Hotel. Mohammed

Shahid, CEO of KHK Sports, Mohammed Mansoor, President of Bahrain Premier League and officials from CBA were present.

Viewership crosses 200,000

The online viewership of the Bahrain Premier League had crossed 200,000 during the semi-finals all across GCC, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

"We were successful in nurturing the growth of cricket to the next level while providing a career opportunity for the youth in sports. We thank the support of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa that made this possible. We have received an overwhelming response from the

international athletes, celebrities and entertainment professionals," said Mansoor, President of Bahrain Premier League.

"The initiative held under the patronage of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa was a progressive initiative and had captured the attention of the cricket playing nations around the world for the very first time. The franchise-based initiative brought together business and sports for the very first time in the community of cricket in Bahrain. Development of sports has far-reaching effects on the economy, tourism, cultural relations, diplomatic relations, hospitality and service sector," Mohammed Shahid, CEO of KHK Sports told reporters at the Press Conference.



Mohammed Shahid, CEO of KHK Sports with Mohammad Mansoor, President of BPL

Actor Suniel Shetty to make appearance

Manama

Indian film actor and entrepreneur, Suniel Shetty will make his appearance as an invited celebrity at the finals of the Coca Cola Bahrain Premier League 2018.

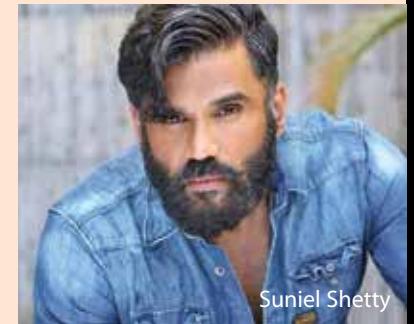
Suniel Shetty is noted for his contribution towards the film industry and for his entrepreneurial ventures in India including real estate and media investments.

The film actor and entrepreneur is a keen supporter of sports initiatives by Bahrain. He was an invited celebrity during Brave 9: The Kingdom of Champions held in Bahrain.

He will return to the Kingdom of Bahrain to extend support towards Coca Cola Bahrain premier League 2018 held under the patronage of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al

Khalifa by Mohammed Shahid, CEO of KHK Sports and Mohammad Mansoor, CEO of Exelon.

The finals will be held at the Isa Town Cricket grounds. The tickets for the public are sponsored by KHK Sports and Exelon and that also enables the public to witness the event for free for the first time.



Suniel Shetty



Organising committee of the Bahrain Premier League 2018 presided by Mohammed Shahid (CEO of KHK Sports) and Mohammad Mansoor, President of Bahrain Premier League at the official Press conference

S. Africa defeat Australia

Port Elizabeth

Kagiso Rabada put aside his disciplinary concerns to set up a series-levelling win for South Africa on the fourth day of the second Test against Australia at St George's Park yesterday.

South Africa won by six wickets after Rabada's fast bowling ensured they needed to chase a modest 101 runs for victory.

The fast bowler, who has been suspended from the remaining two



South Africa's Kagiso Rabada bowls

Tests of the series, took six for 54 as Australia were bowled out for 239 in their second innings.

South Africa lost four wickets before Theunis de Bruyn hit the winning runs.

AB de Villiers, whose 126 not out enabled South Africa to lead by 139 runs on the first innings, hit a quick 28 off 26 balls before he was caught at short leg off Nathan Lyon with 20 runs still needed.

Rabada took the first three of the five Australian wickets that fell for the addition of 59 runs on Monday. He had match figures of 11 for 150 - the fourth time in his 28-Test career that he had ten or more wickets in a match.

He was found guilty of a Level 2 ICC Code of Conduct offence of 'inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with a player'. Rabada has received a fine of 50 per cent of his match fee and three demerit points after a disciplinary hearing following his denial of the charge.

Rabada has accumulated eight demerit points within a 24-month period, automatically leading to a two-match suspension. The incident happened in the 52nd over of Australia's first innings of the second Test, when moving towards the slips, Rabada made contact with Steve Smith with his shoulder. (AFP)

India sail to 6 wicket victory

Colombo

India strengthened their chances to qualify for the final of the Nidahas Trophy 2018 after recording a comprehensive six-wicket win against Sri Lanka at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo yesterday.

India chased down 153 in 17.3 overs with nine deliveries to spare as the middle-order pair of Manish Pandey (42*) and Dinesh Karthik (39*)

stitched an unbeaten 68-run stand for the fifth wicket.

The contest was reduced to 19-overs-a-side after a lengthy rain delay. India lost openers Rohit Sharma (11) and Shikhar Dhawan (8) cheaply before Suresh Raina's dazzling cameo as he smacked two fours and as many sixes in his 15-ball 27 to offset the advantage Akila Dananjaya had given his team with the scalps of openers. KL Rahul (18), who replaced Rishabh Pant in the playing XI, was looking good during his stay but was dismissed in an unlucky manner, becoming the first Indian batsman and tenth overall, to be out hit-wicket.

When Rahul departed, Sri Lanka had faint hopes with India 85/4 in 9.5 overs but a calm-headed display from Pandey and Karthik ensured India sailed in the chase. (TOI)

BRIEF SCORES

India 153 for 4 (Pandey 42*, Karthik 39*, Dananjaya 2-19) beat **Sri Lanka 152 for 9** (Kusal Mendis 55, Thakur 4-27) by six wickets

South Africa 382 (De Villiers 126*, Elgar 57, Amla 56, Cummins 3-79) and **102 for 4** beat **Australia 243** (Warner 63, Rabada 5-96, Ngidi 3-51) and **239** (Khawaja 75, Rabada 6-54) by 6 wickets



Shardul Thakur wheels away after taking a wicket (Pic courtesy: AP)