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India and Romania take gold on day 1
at the ISSF World Cup in Guadalajara

Guadalajara (MEX), 3 March 2018 - The 2018 ISSF Season kicked off in great style, as India's Shahzar Rizvi claimed the 10m Air Pistol Men gold, and his country secured three total medals in a single competition day.

10m Air Pistol Men

Making his debut in an ISSF World Cup, Rizvi shot consistently good through the whole match, grabbing the lead after the 14th shot and maintaining it until the very end. The 23-year-old — who previously placed 9th as a junior at the 2014 ISSF World Championship in Granada (ESP) — also signed a new World Record in this event, finishing with 242.3 points and the gold medal around his neck.

Germany's Christian Reitz made his way into the Air Pistol final for the first time in a World Cup, climbing on the second step of the podium and taking silver with 239.7 points. It's the 23rd World Cup medal for the 30-year-old German, who previously won 11 golds, 6 silvers and 5 bronzes in the 25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men event.

On the third step of the podium, Rizvi was joined by his teammate Jitu Rai (30) who took bronze with 219.0 points.

Om Prakash Mitharval (22) — India's third final participant — finished just outside of the podium, placing 4th in his first World Cup appearance and sealing his debut with 198.4. Brazilian experienced shooter Julio Almeida nailed his 34th World Cup start in this event, taking 5th place with 177.8 points.

Almeida was followed by Peru's 29-year-old Marko Carrillo and France's 25-year-old Florian Fouquet, who respectively took 6th and 7th place in their first final participation. Carrillo's final score was 154.2 points, while Fouquet finished with 134.6.

United States' Nickolaus Mowrer (29) — also a first-time finalist — was the first athlete eliminated from the match, finishing in 8th place with 112.0 points.

10m Air Rifle Women

The second final contested at the ISSF World Cup Stage 1 in Guadalajara went down to the very last shot.

The tight duel involving Romania's Laura-Georgeta Coman and People's Republic of China's Xu Hong finally crowned the 24-year-old born in Bucarest, who secured the second Air Rifle gold of her World Cup career.

Despite leading for most of the final, Coman failed to build a comfortable gap between her and her rivals, but after missing the 10th ring for the first time with her 23rd shot, she sealed the victory with a great 10.5, finishing with 251.5 points.

0.5 points behind Coman placed People's Republic of China's 19-year-old Xu Hong, who scored 251.0 points and took Silver in her first World Cup start.

Making her World Cup debut in Guadalajara, 17-year-old Mehuli Ghosh of India took bronze with 228.4 points. Her teammate Anjum Moudgil (24) finished in 4th position with 208.6 points.

Two more Chinese athletes finished in 5th and 6th position: 21-year-old Sun Ting and 29-year-old Zhao Huixin respectively finished with 186.4 and 164.6 points, with Sun also setting a new Qualification World Record with 629.5 points.

Sun was followed by India's third finalist Apurvi Chandela (25) who concluded in 7th place with 144.1 points, while Slovenian shooter Ziva Dvorsak (26) placed at the bottom of the table, finishing in 8th position with 121.2 points.

The day concluded with the opening ceremony, held at the Club Jalisco Jalisciense at the presence of local and international authorities — including the President of the Mexican Olympic Committee, Mr. Carlos Padilla Becerra — plus a wide representative of officials and athletes.

"I warmly welcome you all to this ISSF World Cup in Guadalajara," opened the ISSF President, Mr. Olegario Vazquez Raña. "I would like to thank you all for being here, and to thank the state of Jalisco and its authorities for having us. My best wishes to all the participants!"

The President of the Federacion Mexicana de Tiro y Caza, Mr. Jorge Alfonso Peña Soberanis added: "It's a great honour for us to be here in Guadalajara, Mexico, twenty-six years after the first ISSF World Cup was held in our country's capital, Mexico City."

"Once again, I would like to welcome you all, authorities, officials, shooters and fans, to the beautiful city of Guadalajara and to this beautiful venue!" he concluded.

The parade of the flags of the 50 participating countries opened the following celebrations, which included typical Mexican exhibitions of dance and music.

The ISSF World Cup in Guadalajara (MEX) will continue tomorrow with two more finals: the 10m Air Rifle Men, scheduled at 12:30 pm (UTC+6:00), and the 10m Air Pistol Women, starting at 1:45 pm.

Both matches will be streamed live on the [ISSF website](#), on the Federation's [Livestream channel](#), on its official [Facebook page](#) and on the [Olympic Channel](#).

Live results of the competitions, news and updates will be available on www.issf-sports.org and on all ISSF social media platforms: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [Weibo](#) and [Youku](#).

For the 10m Air Pistol Men complete results [click here](#).

For the 10m Air Rifle Women complete results [click here](#).

For editorial photos [click here](#).

Notes for the editors:

The International Shooting Sport Federation is the governing body of the Olympic Shooting events, and it has over 160 affiliated National Federations worldwide. Shooting is an Olympic sport since the very first edition of the modern Olympic Games, Athens 1896. Find out more about the International Shooting Sport Federation at www.issf-sports.org.

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