

14 Pandya powers India to thrilling T20 series victory over Australia



15 Mbappe brings up century as PSG win at Montpellier



15 Barcelona suffer fourth Liga defeat, go down 2-1 to Cadiz



Spurs go top of Premier League

Vardy lifts Leicester into third, Palace punish 10-man West Brom



LONDON: Tottenham Hotspur's French goalkeeper Hugo Lloris punches away the ball during the English Premier League football match between Tottenham Hotspur and Arsenal yesterday. — AFP

LONDON: Son Heung-min and Harry Kane fired Tottenham back to the top of the Premier League yesterday after Jamie Vardy struck in the final minute to lift Leicester to third in the table. Jose Mourinho's men beat faltering Arsenal 2-0 in front of 2,000 vocal fans at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium to leapfrog Chelsea.

Earlier, Leicester beat rock-bottom Sheffield United 2-1 while Crystal Palace hammered struggling West Brom 5-1. Spurs took the lead in the north London derby in the 13th minute with a Son wonder goal. The South Korean was set free down the left by Kane, cut inside and curled a brilliant 25-yard effort into the top corner. The home side doubled their lead on the stroke of half-time as they took apart their local rivals on the break.

Giovani Lo Celso played in Son, who returned

the earlier favor to tee up Kane to smash in from close range. Son and Kane have now combined for 31 Premier League goals, the second most of any pair after Chelsea's Didier Drogba and Frank Lampard (36). Tottenham who have not lost a league match since the opening day of the season, now have 24 points after 11 matches, two clear of Chelsea and three in front of Leicester and Liverpool. Liverpool also welcomed back supporters to Anfield as they hosted Wolves yesterday for the first time since the Reds ended a 30-year wait to win a top-flight title.

Vardy strikes

Leicester ended a four-game winless run in all competitions at an empty Bramall Lane to push the Blades closer to a return to the Championship.

Clubs in tier-three areas of England, with tougher coronavirus restrictions, still have to play behind closed doors, while tier-two zones such as London and Liverpool can have crowds of up to 2,000. Sheffield United have just one point from 11 games and were punished for a lack of ruthlessness as John Egan let Vardy run through rather than bringing down the striker outside the box and taking a red card, before the former England international kept his cool to beat Aaron Ramsdale.

The late winner was just reward for Leicester's domination of the game. They hit the woodwork twice in the first half through Vardy and James Maddison.

But it was Ayoze Perez who put Brendan Rodgers's men in front when he pounced on Marc Albrighton's deflected shot. However, Chris

Wilders's men hit back immediately for only their fifth league goal of the season when Oli McBurnie showed good strength to head home from a corner.

The hosts then held out more comfortably in the second period until they lost possession inside their own half and Maddison picked out a perfect pass to release Vardy for the winner. In the first match of the day, Wilfried Zaha and Christian Benteke both scored twice as Crystal Palace made West Brom pay for Matheus Pereira's first-half red card in a 5-1 rout at the Hawthorns. The Eagles had struggled for goals in recent weeks, but with Zaha restored after missing defeats to Burnley and Newcastle due to coronavirus, Palace were a team transformed as they moved to 11th in the table. — AFP

Roma frustrated in goalless draw

ROME: Roma were left ruing missed chances after a 0-0 home draw with Sassuolo in Serie A yesterday as both teams had goals ruled out by VAR and the hosts played the second half with 10 men. Sassuolo are fourth in the Italian top flight on 19 points following the stalemate at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome. Roma are a point behind after wasting opportunities to win despite having to play for 50 minutes with a man less.

Pedro was sent off for a second bookable offence five minutes before the break. His coach Paulo Fonseca followed him to the stands at the end of the first half after Henrikh Mkhitaryan's goal was ruled out for a foul by Edin Dzeko following a VAR check. The home side dominated after the break despite being outnumbered and were unlucky to not take the lead when Leonardo Spinazzola's cross was guided onto the post by Sassuolo defender Gian Marco Ferrari, under pressure from Dzeko.

Sassuolo thought they had snatched the points with 15 minutes left when Lukas Hradek whipped a long-range shot past Antonio Mirante, only for the goal to be ruled out for the tightest of offsides by VAR. "I'm very proud of my team. We played very well even when down to 10. We were



ROME: Roma's Spanish forward Pedro (right) fights for the ball during the Italian Serie A football match Roma vs Sassuolo yesterday at Olympic stadium in Rome. — AFP

very well organised defensively and didn't allow Sassuolo many opportunities," Fonseca told SKY. Parma's match with newly-promoted Benevento also finished goalless while mid-table side Hellas Verona drew 1-1 with Cagliari. Atalanta's match

at Udinese was postponed after heavy rain made the pitch unplayable. Napoli are a point behind Roma in sixth and will have the chance to leapfrog into the top four when they face bottom side Crotone later on. — AFP

Lille beat Monaco

PARIS: Yusuf Yazici scored what proved to be the winner as Lille beat fellow title hopefuls Monaco 2-1 yesterday to retake second place in Ligue 1 and increase the pressure on leaders Paris Saint-Germain. Christophe Galtier's men dug deep at the Stade Pierre-Mauroy to end Monaco's four-match winning streak and move back to two points behind reigning champions PSG. Marseille are two points further back in third, but have two games in hand.

Fourth-placed Lyon could move level on points with Lille when they visit Metz later. "This result is important because we were facing a direct competitor and we hadn't won much recently," said Lille coach Galtier. "When I see what Paris did on Saturday, by beating Montpellier despite rotating eight players, I tell myself that it remains PSG (as title favorites). "To be very honest, I look at what is happening behind us... There is a terrible fight with Monaco, Marseille, Lyon or Montpellier." Lille, who were held to a draw by struggling Saint-Etienne last weekend, had the best chance of the opening half but Jonathan Bamba's strike was

well saved by away goalkeeper Vito Mannone.

Lille broke the deadlock in the 53rd minute. Jonathan Ikone avoided two challenges on the edge of the area before slipping a pass through for Canadian striker Jonathan David to score. The hosts doubled their advantage midway through the second half as Turkish internationals Burak Yilmaz and Yazici combined, with the latter slotting in from close range. Yazici, who was introduced as a substitute three minutes before his goal, has scored four times in the league this season despite only starting twice. Pietro Pellegri pulled one back for Monaco in the 90th minute, but there was not enough time for an equalizer.

The principality club sit fifth, five points behind PSG, who saw off Montpellier 3-1 on Saturday. "It would have deserved to end in a draw, so I am inevitably disappointed," said Monaco boss Niko Kovac. Elsewhere yesterday, Saint-Etienne's winless league run extended to nine matches with a goalless draw at Dijon. Strasbourg moved out of the relegation zone with a thumping 4-0 success over Nantes, while Hatem Ben Arfa scored a late winner as Bordeaux edged Brest 1-0. Nice labored to a 0-0 stalemate at Reims in their first match since sacking Patrick Vieira as coach. — AFP



NORD: Lille's forward Burak Yilmaz plays the ball during the French L1 football match between Lille OSC and AS Monaco at the Pierre-Mauroy stadium in Villeneuve-d'Ascq yesterday. — AFP