

RAJIV GRABS SIX POINTS IN FIFTH ROUND

Zhuhai (China): IDEMITSU Honda Racing India team rider Rajiv Sethu recorded his best-ever top 10 finish, grabbing six points in the fifth round of FIM Asia Road Racing Championship 2019 at Zhuhai circuit on Sunday. Starting 14th, Rajiv dropped to 18th before recovering eight positions in nine laps to finish in Top 10 in an action packed AP250 race 2. This is his second top 10 finish in his third ARRC season, his first being in the Australian round race 1 earlier. Despite a decent 14th position on the grid, a bad start dragged Rajiv to 18th ending lap one itself. But learning from Saturday, Rajiv continued his assault on the time sheets immediately and recorded his best ever 1:54:055 lap time in lap two itself. By lap three, Rajiv gained five positions. He was now with the top bunch riding in less than two seconds gap. In lap four, he gained over his old adversary Cao Viet Nam putting him in 12th position, but an error in lap five dragged him back to 14th. Despite infighting he maintained his metronomic pace till 8th lap. It was in lap nine that Rajiv overtook the Malaysian trio of Nazirul Izzat, Muhammad Izam and Muzakkir Mohamed and finally finished in Top 10. Senthil Kumar started from 7th row and his start pushed him to 16th but moderated to 21st ending lap 1. By lap three, Senthil regained 3 positions to 18th. — PTI