

Strategic sports development plan yields dividends in J&K: LG



LG Manoj Sinha witnessing march of participating teams and budding players displaying martial arts during inaugural function of 6th Senior Asian Pencak Silat Championship.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said the formulation and implementation of strategic sports development plan in Jammu and Kashmir has been yielding dividends during the past two years,

"We have also implemented a new sports policy and offering attractive career options for the sportspersons," the Lieutenant Governor said while inaugurating the 6th Senior Asian Pencak Silat Championship being held in Srinagar.

The event brings together over 150 athletes from differ-

ent countries.

The Lieutenant Governor said that better infrastructure together with experts and outstanding coaches have brought a major shift in training programmes.

He extended his greetings to the members of sporting fraternity, jury members and welcomed all the guests to enjoy the hospitality and incredible sights of Jammu Kashmir during the wonderful tournament.

Over the next five days we will celebrate and honour the individual strength and sporting excellence, said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor under-

scored that sports is all about unifying spirit of universal harmony and brotherhood.

This championship should not be viewed as an event that is only about winning. Participation with the spirit of sportsmanship is important. As a one big united family, celebrate the success of others as much as you celebrate yours', he added.

Noting that Pencak Silat is relatively new to India and introduced only in 2014, the Lt Governor said within few years, Jammu Kashmir has witnessed an upswing in performance of our athletes in national and international events.

We are committed to take every possible step to develop strong winner's instinct among our sportsmen, the Lt Governor, he added.

The Lt Governor observed that the ongoing sporting events across Jammu Kashmir have kindled hopes and it is a sign of a robust sports culture in the society.

'Our sincere effort is to provide an environment of encouragement and adequate resources so that every talented sportsperson can give spectacular performance in the national and international events. We are committed to take every possible step to develop strong winner's instinct among our sportsmen, the Lt Governor, he added.

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540 medals in the national events and 17 medals in the International events.

Last year, more than 1.7 million children and the youth participated in various sporting disciplines and this year, the number is expected to go beyond 3.5 million. The overwhelming participation clearly indicates resurgence of sports in the Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir, he added.

Earlier, the Lt Governor interacted with the members of International teams of Pencak Silat from Singapore, Philippines, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Indonesia, India and Nepal.

Sarmad Hafeez, Administrative Secretary Youth Services and Sports, in his welcome address extended a warm welcome to the foreign sportspersons and delegates arrived in Jammu Kashmir for the championship.

He informed about the several steps have been taken at the Panchayat, block, district, and the UT level to promote sports, develop sports infrastructure and extend best facilities to the sportspersons.

He thanked the International federation, and Indian federation of Pencak Silat for their support in organizing the championship.

Kishore Prakash Yewala, President Indian Pencak Silat Federation; Teddy Surat Madji, Secretary General, International Pencak Silat Federation, Indonesia; Nuzhat Gul, Secretary, J&K Sports Council; Vijay Kumar, ADGP, Kashmir; P K Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Mohammad Ajaz, DC Srinagar; Rakesh Balwal, SSP Srinagar, besides scores of young sports enthusiasts were present on the occasion.

Aarav lifts Reasi Chess title



Chess matches going on during championship.

STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Aarav Gupta won the open category gold in the Reasi District Chess Championship, which was organized by Reasi District Chess in support with All J&K Chess Association (AJKCA) and J&K Sports Council (JKSC) at Amba Kids School, Panthal.

Second place went to Kulveer Singh while Kaniya Raina remained third. Patron of Reasi Association, Ashwani Katore was Chief Guest, who interacted with the participants.

In total, 80 boys and girls participated in this event. The Junior category title went to Suransh Raina while Rahul Singh and Divyansh Rajput remained second and third respectively.

The women's title bagged by Simran Verma. Simran Wazir and Akshi Sharma secured silver and bronze medal respectively. The competition was conducted as per FIDE laws of Chess by Arvindu Sharma under the guidance of Atul Kumar Gupta, president AJKCA.

Army's assault dog, injured during encounter, succumbs

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Army's assault dog 'Zoom', who was critically injured early this week during an encounter between security forces and terrorists in Anantnag district, succumbed here on Thursday, officials said.

The officials said Zoom was under treatment at Advance Field Veterinary Hospital (AFVH) here, but succumbed around noon.

Zoom's condition was improving and the canine was responding well to the treatment. The dog looked fine till around noon after which it suddenly started gasping and soon collapsed, the officials said.

"Zoom identified and attacked the terrorists during which the canine received two gunshots," they said.

The officials, however, said the canine kept on fighting and performing his task which resulted in the killing of two Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists. "Inspite of severe injuries, the brave soldier continued his task which resulted in neutralisation of two terrorists," they added. Zoom was rushed to the Army's Vet Hospital where he succumbed today. Zoom had been part of many active operations in south Kashmir, they added.

Zoom was injured in the encounter in Tangpawa area of the south Kashmir district on Monday.

Security forces had launched a cordon and search operation in the Tangpawa area after receiving specific



input about the presence of terrorists there.

On Monday, Zoom, as usual, was tasked to clear the house where terrorists were hiding, they said. However, during the operation, the canine received two gunshots and was critically injured, the officials said.

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The officials, however, said the canine kept on fighting and performing his task which resulted in the killing of two Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists. "Inspite of severe injuries, the brave soldier continued his task which resulted in neutralisation of two terrorists," they added.

Substantiation his stand, he added further, "Almost everyone dreams of something while growing up. We all have ambitions when we

are little, which undergoes a series of change, as we grow up. Ambitions lead us to a definite aim in our life. It drives us to do better in life. Ambitions differ from one person to another. However, one common thing that is usually found is that over the time, people give up their dreams and ambitions and adapt to the society. First dream that every child has is to become a Doctor but as time passes it becomes an Actor or Singer and at last the aim becomes to get a job. Only a fraction of us knows our true ambition otherwise rest all are just following the way the society is leading us to. So be ambitious in life, have your goal set and follow that will full determination. A man's worth is no greater than the worth of his ambition".

Another brilliant student from Grade XII E, Divyansh reflected on the topic saying, "The people who are crazy enough to think that they can change the world are the ones who do. It takes little muscle, a little grit, a little true ambition with a little bit of wit to change the world. It's not the 'biggest show', it's the little thing that people do that makes this old world go!"

Highlighting the difference among an aim, a goal & an ambition, he further added, "Let us understand the basic difference between these terms. The Aim is a specific goal of an individual or a group with specific time frame of single or multiple subjects. A Goal is an aim of an individual or a group target with a focus on specific subject. The ambi-

tion is a strong desire of one's life time for a bigger achievement without any time frame".

Principal JK Public School Kunjwani, Rajesh Rathore lauded the commendable endeavours of the students from XII Commerce for enlightening the audience on the chosen topic.

He made a reference to a famous quote, "If you fail to plan, means you are planning to fail".

He cited various examples from the Corporate world to make students learn about the meticulous planning & brilliant execution strategies adopted by the CEOs for multi-national companies.

He invoked students to learn all the tricks of the trade under the guidance of their dedicated teachers to conquer the challenges of professional life ahead. He wished them a very bright future.

Kho-Kho trials from Oct 16

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir shall hold two-day selection trials to pick up probable for the upcoming 32nd Sub Junior National Kho-Kho (boys and girls) Championship to be held at Satara in Maharashtra from October 29 to November 2.

The trials have been scheduled from October 16 at Green Play Field Gandhi Nagar, here. Players interested to take part in the trials from affiliated districts of Jammu Division should be registered with KKFI, a handout issued by the Association here on Thursday informed.

Speaking in the meeting, chairman technical committee, Rajinder Kumar (Sonu) disclosed that the competition shall be held in weight categories of 55 Kg, 60 Kg, 65 kg, 70 Kg 75 Kg, 80 Kg, 85 Kg, 90 Kg and above upto 120 Kgs following the laid down norms of the Indian



J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association members after a meeting.

Style wrestling Association of India.

Winners of all the weight categories shall represent district Udhampur in the upcoming Senior State Indian Style Wrestling Championship," informed general secretary of the district association, Om Parkash Verma.

For further information, interested eligible participants have been advised to contact Om Parkash Verma, Lochan Singh, Rajinder Kumar (Sonu) and Prem Kumar (Master).

Among others present in the meeting were Shiv Kumar Sharma, Inderjeet Khajuria, Prithvi Raj Sharma, Bansi Lal Tidyal, Naresh Kumar (Pappu Lakri), Ram Paul Sharma, Om Parkash Verma, Lochan Singh, Rajinder Kumar (Sonu) and Prem Kumar (Master).

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary Tourism termed the biking expedition of Bahrain Bikers as a positive sign for Kashmir Tourism and said that the department and stakeholders are doing lot from a long time which is now showing results on the ground.

He expressed his hope that the expedition would open gates for many other such activities as Kashmir has much to offer in adventure tourism.

He also expressed his gratitude to Bahrain Bikers and KCCI for organizing the biking expedition and said that the MoU signed between KCCI and Bahrain Small & Medium Enterprises Society (BSMES) September is showing its fruitful results.

He observed that this is

the wonderful beginning of other tourism related activities and said that Kashmir has a potential to become biking capital of the world.

He said that activities like biking expedition would give a positive message to outside world as outside people have certain perceptions about visiting Kashmir.

"Kashmir has a potential to become world's best adventure tourism destination.

We want to make it hub of

adventure tourism and will make Kashmir a dream destination in adventure tourism," he said.

Speaking on the occasion, group leader of Bahrain Bikers, Ali Ansari praised the hospitality and generosity of Kashmir and its people.

He said that they received lot of love and affection from the people wherever they visit in Kashmir and expressed his gratitude to KCCI for facilitating such a wonderful biking expedition to Kashmir.

Bahrain Bikers trip to Kashir started from Leh to Kashir where they visited several places like Nubra, Leh, Kargil, Sonamarg, Palhaj etc.

On the occasion, certificates of participation was also distributed among the participants in the biking expedition from Bahrain Bikers.

CS inaugurates lights at TRC Cricket Academy Ground

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, on Thursday inaugurated lights installed in J&K Sports Council Cricket Academy ground in TRC, Srinagar.

The lights are part of the programme aimed at making sports fields operational for extended duration of time.

Secretary Tourism and Youth Services and Sports, Sarmad Hafeez, DG Budget J&K, Mohammad Yaqoob Ittoo, Secretary J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul along with other senior officers from J&K police and other departments including J&K Sports Council were present on the occasion.

Chief Secretary was apprised that these recently installed lights in the premises was a long pending demand of cricketers and it is hoped that with this vital service budding cricketers of



Players posing for a group photograph.

the area would be benefitted to a great extent.

Chief Secretary was further informed that other modern facilities and equipments shall be added in this cricket academy centre in the days to come so as to ensure facilities to our cricketers at par with the players from other parts of the country.

Chief Secretary had an extensive round of the entire complex which houses cricket and football academy centers. He assessed the infra-

structural and other facilities being made available to players there.

Dr. Mehta said that J&K Sports Council is one of the vital institutions which contribute immensely towards overall personality development of our youth besides training them in their respective sports disciplines.

Dr. Mehta said that the government is committed to provide enhanced infrastructure with modern facilities to athletes across the Union Territory of J&K.

Dr. Mehta also visited the Sports Council Football School, housed in TRC astro turf, to assess the functioning of the institute.

Meanwhile, a friendly T-20 match organized by J&K Sports Council was also played on the occasion between Chief Secretary XI comprising cricketers from various government departments and Dalgate XI comprising cricketers from the adjoining areas of TRC cricket academy ground. The Dalgate XI team won the match.

DG Budget distributed prizes and mementos among the winning and participating teams.

In total, five teams representing as many Panchayats took part in the competition on league cum knockout basis.

In the final and closing function, FIVB Level 1 qualified Volleyball coach and incharge district Rajouri Volleyball Association, Mohd Tariq was the Chief Guest, who presented title trophies and other individual prizes amidst appreciation for the role of Army in promotion of sports in the border areas.

Chief Secretary interacted with the trainees of J&K Sports Council cricket academy centers from Central, North and South Kashmir and had feedback from them regarding the working of these units.

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