

PDA, SMVDU explore Shivgarh Autumn Trail

► **Group of varsity students visits Choti Mata Mandir Changar**

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: A group of young trekkers on Saturday explored the autumnal hues and adventures enroute historical Shivgarh Dhar, as part of the 'Visit Patnitop' event series.

The second event of the series titled 'Shivgarh Autumn Trail', organised by Patnitop Development Authority, in collaboration with Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University and supported by the Department of Tourism J&K and District Administration Ramban, was flagged off from Padora meadow by Parkash Chand, BDC Chairman Chenani, Thakur Sher Singh, CEO PDA and Samir Vohra, Deputy Registrar, SMVDU.

The trekkers, along with BDC Chairman, covered a distance of around 10.5 kms as they explored one of the most surreal routes of Patnitop Tourism Circuit



A group of young trekkers and adventures enroute historical Shivgarh Dhar.

coming alive with the first tint of autumn sights, sounds and scents, and reached an elevation of approx 2700 mts.

The students and faculty of SMVDU, hailing from Jammu and Kashmir, and states like Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Delhi and Bihar, enjoyed a mindful walk during the nature's greatest show.

The trekkers visited the Choti Mata Mandir, Changar, situated on the ridgeline of the Dhar Shivgarh, offering a panoramic view of the surroundings. They also danced to the traditional songs and dhol beats.

"The 'Shivgarh Autumn Trail' provides the opportunity to experience the beauty of autumn closely. And with this event, we've covered the route

twice in the same year, however, during different seasons," said Thakur Sher Singh adding that the 'Visit Patnitop' initiative is already a hit among adventure, tourism, heritage, culture enthusiasts.

Nagendra Singh Jamwal, Registrar, SMVDU thanked PDA for giving an opportunity to the SMVDU students and faculty to engage in adventure activities and

exquisite treks. He said, "Patnitop is a complete destination and we would like to explore its adventure and heritage aspects."

The event series 'Visit Patnitop' was kicked off recently by Patnitop Development Authority in continuation of their efforts to promote the all-encompassing beauty of nature and adventure tourism potential of Patnitop Tourism Circuit.

During the trek, trekkers from SMVDU and a team of PDA collected the waste from the route under the PDA initiative 'CARRY THE TRASH BACK'.

Late evening, CEO PDA and BDC Chairman felicitated the participants. They invited travellers, trekkers from all over the country and abroad to explore the beautiful landscape of Patnitop Tourism Circuit from Sanasar to Basantgarh.

LG Mathur attends inaugural ceremony of 2nd LG Polo Cup

Also inaugurates Ladakh Drass Festival 2022

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KARGIL: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur, on Saturday attended the inaugural ceremony of the Second LG Polo Cup 2022 at the Horse Polo Stadium in Goshan, Drass. He also inaugurated the Ladakh Drass Festival 2022. Chairman,

LAHDC Kargil, Feroz Ahmad Khan; EC LAHDC Kargil, Mubarak Shah Naqvi; Secretary, Tourism and Culture, Mehboob Ali Khan; Secretary, Youth Services and Sports, Ravinder Kumar; Deputy Commissioner, Kargil, Santosh Sukhdev, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Anayat Ali Chaudhary, were among the guests present in the event.

13 teams, including teams from Leh, are taking part in the LG Polo Cup.

LG Mathur stressed the need to make proper arrangements and include more teams to improve the quality of traditional sports of horse polo.

He advised that the LG Polo Cup may be conducted in the month of September from next year onwards.

Calling Drass the centre of polo in Ladakh, he stated that emphasis should not only be to improve the infrastructure but also to provide the best training and use the best breed of horses to showcase the best possible and good quality matches to the audience.



Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur, interacting with Polo players.

LG Mathur stated that efforts are being made to present Sheena culture to the outside world through the Ladakh Drass Festival.

He emphasised the need for the participation of multiple cultures from different parts of Ladakh and outside the region in the Festival.

He requested Hill Council Kargil to prepare a separate regional area development plan for Drass and Zaskar subdivision to avoid haphazard development in these areas in the future due to the opening of the Zoji-la and Shinku-la tunnels.

He suggested that luxurious homestays may be explored in Ladakh to attract more tourists to villages. LG Mathur informed that the UT Administration and Hill Council Kargil are making all possible efforts to meet the aspirations of the people of Drass in all fields.

LG Mathur also met the polo players and interacted with them.

Chairman, LAHDC Kargil, Feroz Ahmad Khan, appreciated the efforts being made by the UT Administration to improve sports infrastructure and promote different sports in Kargil district.

Secretary, Tourism and Culture, Mehboob Ali Khan, informed about the plan to organise Ladakh Drass Festival on a grander scale to boost tourism activities in Drass.

Secretary Ravinder Kumar apprised of the popularity of polo in Drass and efforts being made by the Administration to promote and support different sports, including polo, in Ladakh. Earlier, Deputy Commissioner, Kargil, Santosh Sukhdev, welcomed the guests, while Joint Director YSS Moses Kunzang gave the vote of thanks.

MIET organises Sports Week



Teams posing for a photograph with faculty members.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Model Institute of Engineering and Technology (MIET) organised Sports Week on its campus involving around 200 students in different sports events.

A good number of 70 female students took part this event, a handout issued here on Saturday informed.

Director MIET, Ankur Gupta congratulated the winners and appreciated the spirit and enthusiasm of other participants. He complimented the Sports Committee for successful conduct of the event on the campus. He further committed all resources to provide high quality sporting infrastructure at MIET and institutionalizing a sporting culture.

Earlier, the Sports Week was inaugurated by Prof. S K Sharma, Advisor to the Chairperson. He motivated the students towards sports and physical fitness amidst a message of learning team spirit, teamwork, winning, overcoming challenges, losing, and overcoming disappointment, fair play and sportsman spirit out of such event.

The sports week was conducted by the college sports committee under the supervision of Sukomal Ganguly, Head Sports at MIET and a BCCI certified Cricket Coach.

The Results: CRICKET: Civil Engineering bt Computer Science and Engineering in final. TABLE TENNIS:

Men: Singles: Riteshwar of B. Com, Ist; Dhrub of Civil Engineering, 2nd and Vinayak of Computer Science and Engineering, 3rd. Doubles: BBA/B.Com, Ist and CSE Department, 2nd. Women: Tanya of CSE, Ist; Stuti of MCA, 2nd and Vipasha of MCA, 3rd. Doubles: MCA Department, Ist.

CHESS: Superb Jain of CSE, Ist; Amol of ECE, 2nd and Satriq of EE, 3rd. CARROM: Men: Dhrub of ECE, Ist; Farzan of CE, 2nd and Anuj of MBA, 3rd. Women: Tanya of CSE, Ist; Tanzela of ECE, 2nd and Esha of ECE, 3rd. BAS-KETBALL: CSE Department, Ist; Rest of MIET, 2nd and Electrical Engineering, 3rd.

Maiden Taekwondo Championship begins at Kishtwar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

K I S H T W A R : International Taekwondo Federation, in collaboration with Jammu & Kashmir Taekwondo Association, on Saturday organized "25th J&K UT level (Sub-Junior/ Cadet) Taekwondo Championship 2022" here at Kishtwar near TRC under the aegis of Taekwondo Federation of India.

The players/officials from Kashmir Division and Jammu Division are participating in this Championship and will showcase their skills.

The chief guest of the Opening Ceremony was Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Dr Devansh Yadav.

Speaking on the occasion, he congratulated all the participants/organizers for hosting a championship of world eminence, besides he urged the local players to avail the opportunity to showcase their talent.

ITF president, R.K

Verma 6th Dan from Rishikesh, HQ of ITF was the guest of honour.

The opening ceremony was hosted by son of the soil Mukesh Thakur, Black Belt 4th DAN and international gold medalist- and president of JK Taekwondo Association, who has to his credit establishment of two academies, one at Jammu and other one at Kishtwar which is instrumental in engaging budding players in shaping up their sporting skills in Taekwondo.

Sachin Thakur, District Incharge and National gold medalist, is coaching these players.

Tomorrow, on the last day of championship, prizes will be distributed among the winners.

Present on the occasion were BDC chairperson Palmnar, Lalita Devi, AEE PDD Sudheer Sharma, Lovemeet Parihar, Neeraj Kumar besides guardians of the participating players.

Athletics meet of Zone Miran Sahib concludes



Students competing in athletic event at Miran Sahib, Jammu on Saturday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS), three-day inter-school Athletics meet of Zone Miran Sahib concluded at Government Boys High School, Simbal, here on Saturday.

Over 170 young boys and girls took part in various field and track events representing different schools of the Zone. Earlier, speaking

to the athletes at the valedictory function of the meet, Zonal Physical Education Officer (ZPEO), Rakesh Kakkar laid emphasis participation by the youth in sports activities.

Bandana Sharma PEL GGHSS Miran Sahib presented a detailed report of the event.

The Results: GIRLS: Under-17 100 mtr: Divya Chib, GHSS Miran Sahib, Ist. 200 mts:

Sefia, GHS Brij Nagar, Ist. 400 mts: Divya Chib, Ist. Discuss Throw: Saffa Bibi, GBHS Brij Nagar, Ist. Shot Put: Shreya Sharma, GHS Brij Nagar, Ist. Under-14: Discuss Throw: Trisha Khandka, APS Miran Sahib, Ist. Shot Put: Manish Devi, GHS Govind Singh Pura, Ist. Under-19: Discuss Throw: Kavleen Kour, GGHSS Miran Sahib, Ist. Shot Put: Kavleen Kour, Ist.

‘Media XI drubs JKPYC by 98 runs in friendly tie’

Sport activities have potential to fight, defeat indulgence in drugs: Bhalla

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An all-round batting and bowling performance by Media XI Cricket Club Jammu helped them to secure a convincing win over Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Youth Congress (JKPYC XI) in a friendly night cricket match, held here at Maulana Azad Memorial Stadium.

Former minister and Working President JKPC, Raman Bhalla was the Chief Guest on the occasion, who appreciated both the teams and also presented trophies to the winning and runner up teams.

"I must appreciate and acknowledge efforts of Media XI cricket club in setting examples of keeping youth away from drugs," Bhalla said and added that he will



Winner and runner-up teams posing with JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla.

try to organize such friendly matches and tournaments on regular intervals.

He further said that sports have the potential to not only fight, but to defeat any indulgence in drugs.

Aiming to spread a message 'No to Drugs', both the teams pledged to inspire youth to stay away from

drugs and adopt positive habits, including involvement in sports.

Earlier, winning the toss captain of JKPYC, Udhay Chib chose to field first, but failed to restrict Media XI Cricket Club. Opening batters from Media XI Cricket Club, including Pardeep Singh Bali and Ashu Mehra

gave a brilliant start to the team with 37 runs on the board in just 3 overs, before Ashu was bowled out by Divyansh.

Vice captain of the team, Sunil Bali made a blistering start with one six and a four, before he was also bowled out while trying to drive away a lofted ball.

However, Pardeep Singh Bali (35) and Faheem Tak (41) took the score to a respectable total of 173 runs, with much needed contributions from Sunil Thappa (27). From JKPYC XI, Udhay Chib was the key bowler who claimed 2 wickets, while Mohd Inran, Divyansh and Neeraj Kundan scalped one wicket each.

Chasing the target, JKPYC XI was restricted on mere 75 runs, with Dev Thakur clean bowled Udhay Chib in his penultimate ball. From JKPYC XI, Divyansh with 14 runs was the top scorer.

Faheem Tak and Ashu Mehra clinched three wickets each, while Pardeep Singh Bali also scalped two, to contain JKPYC XI. Media XI Cricket Club defeated the JKPYC XI by 98 runs.

Jammu Climber Shivani with Indian team leaves for Asian Climbing Championship

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Shivani Charak of J&K along with four male sport climbers of India left on Saturday for Seoul, Korea to participate in the Asian Climbing Championship scheduled to be held at Seoul in Korea from October 10th to 16th, 2022.

President Mountaineering Association of J&K (MAJK), Ram Khajuria said, "In fact, Shivani Charak, the top ranked women climber of India, along with Anisha Verma of East Zone had been selected by Indian Mountaineering Foundation to participate in both the Asian Climbing Championship as well as World Cup at Japan but due to certain



Indian team (Shivani Charak in the center) at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi before its departure for Seoul.

visa problems Anisha Verma could not make it either to Asian Championship at Seoul or World Cup at Marioka in Japan."

Even, Shivani could not get visa for World Cup

and shall be participating in the Asian Championship only, he added.

It may be mentioned here that participation of Shivani in the Asian Climbing Championship

is a pre-Olympic preparation and good performance in the competition shall facilitate Shivani's selection for the Asian Games to be held in China next year.

Meanwhile, Zorawar Singh Jamwal, President; Ram Khajuria, Sr. Vice President; Shawetia Khajuria, General Secretary and Sushil Singh, Treasurer of Mountaineering Association of J&K besides Patrons of Tawi Trekkers J&K Ashwani Sharma, former MLA and Rahul Sharma, Chairman Sprawling Buds ICSE School, Bantalab, Jammu wished best of luck to Shivani and are hopeful that she would perform to her full potential in the continental competition and bring laurels to the country and J&K.

Women's Asia Cup: India ride on top-order show to beat Bangladesh by 59 runs

■ AGENCY

SYLHET: Shafali Verma once again showed her match-winning prowess with an attractive 55 off 44 balls as India out-batted Bangladesh by 59 runs to win their fourth match and clinch a semi-final spot in the Women's Asia Cup T20 here on Saturday. After an indifferent batting show in the defeat against Pakistan, the 'Women In Blue' put up a much improved performance scoring 159 for 5, largely due to a 96-run opening stand between Shafali and stand-in skipper Smriti Mandhana (47 off 38 balls).

Credit should also go to Jemimah Rodrigues, whose 35 not out off just 24 balls helped the Indian team score nearly 160.

Bangladesh managed 100 for 7 at the end of 20 overs and never looked like being in the hunt for a victory.

SCOREBOARD		
INDIA WOMEN		
Shafali Verma b Rumana Ahmed		55
Smriti Mandhana (c) run out (Ritu Moni/ Fahima Khatun)		47
Jemimah Rodrigues not out		35
Richa Ghosh f c Fargana Hoque b Rumana Ahmed		04
Kiran Prabhu Navgire b Rumana Ahmed		00
Deepthi Sharma c Sanjida Akter Meghla b Salma Khatun		10
Pooja Vastrakar not out		01
Extras		07
Total		159/5
BANGLADESH WOMEN		
Fargana Hoque c Rana b Sharma		30
Murshida Khatun c Mandhana b Rana		26
Nigar Sultana (c)† st †Ghosh b Shafali Verma		31
Rumana Ahmed run out (Sharma)		00
Ritu Moni c Rana b Renuka Singh		04
Fahima Khatun st †Ghosh b Shafali Verma		01
Lata Mondal b Sharma		01
Nahida Akter not out		00
Salma Khatun not out		05
Extras		02
Total		100/7

With 8 points from five games, India are on top of the

seven-team table with a match left in the round robin stage.

Having never chased a total beyond 142 in their entire T20I history, Bangladesh did try their bit but could never force the momentum against a solid Indian bowling attack which kept things tight.

After a shoddy fielding effort against Pakistan, it improved by a couple of notches on the day as there were no easy runs in store. The hosts couldn't even score 50 in the first 10 overs and scoring more than 110 runs in the back-10 was virtually impossible for them.

None of the Indian bowlers were off target for the better part with Sneha Rana (1/17 in 3 overs) and Deepthi Sharma (2/13 in 4 overs) being parsimonious as ever. Even Shafali's loopy leg-breaks (2/10 in 4 overs) seemed unplayable.