

Vardaan's blazing century powers SKCC to victory in Anti-Drug Cricket Match

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a vibrant display of sportsmanship and social commitment, the Shere-e-Kashmir Cricket Club (SKCC) secured a commanding win over Dogra Veterans Cricket Club in a T20 match held under the banner of "Say Yes to Future, No to Drugs." The match, organized by Sachin Singh and supported by Aman S. Cheema - President of SKCC and Senior Youth Leader, National Conference - aimed to raise awareness about the dangers of drug abuse and promote a healthy, active lifestyle among youth.

SKCC, led by captain Surpreet Cheema, won the toss and elected to bat first on a sunny afternoon at the Phalain Mandal Cricket Ground. Their innings was anchored by a sensational performance from Vardaan, who played a scintillating knock of 121 not out off just 63 balls. His innings featured a flurry of boundaries



Participating team posing for photograph.

and sixes, energizing the crowd and dominating the Dogra Veterans' bowling attack. He was ably supported by Anmol, who added a valuable 35 runs off 24 balls, helping SKCC reach a formidable total of 196 for 3 in 20 overs.

Despite a spirited effort from the Dogra Veterans, including two wickets by Pawan Sharma and one by Kalla, they struggled to contain the run flow. Their bowlers found little respite as Vardaan's aggressive stroke play kept the score-

board ticking at a brisk pace throughout the innings.

In response, the Dogra Veterans started cautiously but failed to build the momentum needed to chase down the steep target. Vasu Agarwal stood out with a resilient knock of 52, showcasing determination in the face of mounting pressure. Vardinder contributed 17 runs, but the SKCC bowlers maintained a tight grip on the game, never allowing the batting side to settle into a rhythm.

SKCC's bowling unit put

on an impressive display of control and consistency. Manmohan and Vivek picked up two wickets each, while Surpreet Cheema, Yash Khajuria, Sunil, and Anmol each chipped in with one wicket apiece. The disciplined effort restricted Dogra Veterans to 129 runs, handing SKCC a comprehensive victory by 67 runs.

For his extraordinary performance with the bat, Vardaan was rightly awarded the Man of the Match, receiving applause from players, organizers, and

spectators alike.

Following the match, Aman S. Cheema addressed the gathering and highlighted the broader message behind the event. "The youth of Jammu & Kashmir possess immense potential - they are the future torchbearers of progress and peace. Through sports, we can guide them toward discipline, unity, and a healthy, drug-free lifestyle," he said.

Cheema emphasized that events like these play a crucial role in channeling the energy of young people into positive and constructive directions.

The match was not only a thrilling sporting event but also a meaningful initiative to raise awareness about drug abuse, combining entertainment with a powerful social message.

The SKCC's victory was a testament to both sporting excellence and the strength of community-driven efforts to promote wellness and positive values among youth.

Samba District Cycling Championship held

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SAMBA: The Cycling Association of Samba, under the aegis of the Cycling Association of Jammu & Kashmir (CAJK), successfully organized the Samba District Cycling Championship with great enthusiasm and participation.

The event was conducted under the leadership of Avinash Choudhary (District President) and Kuljeet Singh (District Secretary), with overall supervision by Om Parkash (General Secretary, CAJK), S.S. Gill (Ex-General Secretary), and Kishav Singh (Observer, J&K Sports Council).

The championship witnessed energetic participation from young cyclists across various age categories. The event served as a platform for emerging talent to demonstrate their skills and sportsmanship while promoting cycling as a healthy and competitive sport.

In the Under-14 Boys category, Arman Singh clinched



Participants posing with officials.

first place, followed by Daksham in second, and Nitish Khalotra in third. The Under-16 Boys category saw Aryan Verma take the top spot, while Krishna, son of Ranjeet Kumar, secured second place, and another Krishna, son of Sunil Kumar, came third. In the Under-18 Boys category, Saiom Mahajan emerged as the winner. In the Girls Open category, Saianshi Mahajan secured first place with an impressive performance.

The championship not only highlighted the budding talent in the district but also

served as a selection platform for the upcoming Union Territory Cycling Championship, where the winners will represent Samba District.

Organizers extended heartfelt congratulations to all the winners and appreciated the efforts of each participant. They also encouraged the youth to actively engage in cycling, both for fitness and to excel in competitive sports. The event concluded on a positive note with a collective commitment to continue promoting cycling culture in Jammu & Kashmir.

J&K drubs Bihar by 8 wkts in Sr Women's T20 Tournament

Bawandeep bags Player of Match award



J&K women team posing for a photograph with officials after winning match against Bihar.

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MOHALI: Riding on superb batting display by the consistent trio of Bawandeep Kaur and Ruqiya Amin, coupled with splendid bowling show by the spinning duo of Sandhya Sayal and Ananaya Sharma, Jammu and Kashmir defeated Bihar by 8 wickets at IS Bindra International Stadium Mohali, today.

Chasing a paltry total of 87 runs, J&K reached the target

in 15.1 overs, losing 2 wickets in the process, thus winning the match by 8 wickets.

Stylish and Bawandeep Kaur top scored with 36 runs studded with 4 boundaries, while gritty and gutsy Ruqiya Amin contributed 29 runs to the total. Sanjana contributed 17 runs to the total, while skipper Jasia Akhter remained unbeaten on one.

Tejasvi and Pragati Singh took one wicket each for

Bihar.

Earlier, batting first, Bihar scored modest total of 87 runs in 20 overs by losing 7 wickets. Yashita Singh top scored with 32 runs studded with 5 boundaries, while P Priya contributed 22 runs to the total.

For J&K, off-spinner Sandhya Sayal and leg-break Ananaya Sharma took 2 wickets each, while pace bowling spearhead Sarla Devi, Rubia Syed and Rukiya

Amin claimed one wicket each. For her unconquered innings of 36 runs, Bawandeep Kaur was adjudged as the player of the match.

It is pertinent to mention here that this was the first win of the tournament for J&K this season. However, out of a total of seven matches, three were closely contested and could have gone either way, each ending in a thrilling finish.

Ananya Sharma wins gold at Inter-Collegiate Boxing Championship 2025

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Ananya Sharma, a student of BA 3rd Semester at Government Degree College (GDC) Neeli Nallah, Udhampur, has brought laurels to her institution by winning a gold medal in the Inter-Collegiate Boxing Championship 2025, held at the University of Jammu Sports Stadium from October 16 to October 18, 2025.

The tournament was organized by the Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, and coordinated by the Boxing Association of J&K, under the banner of the J&K Sports Council. The event saw enthusiastic participation from around 200 students representing various colleges and schools from the Jammu division.

Ananya clinched the gold medal in the below 50 kg women's category, defeating three opponents with



remarkable skill, stamina, and sportsmanship. In a thrilling final bout, she secured a knockout victory against Preeti Devi from Government College for Women, Udhampur, showcasing her technical prowess and determination.

Prof. Shaista Yasmeen, Convenor Sports, expressed immense pride in Ananya's achievement, calling it "a dream come true." She acknowledged the college's

role in supporting student-athletes to pursue both academics and sports.

Principal Dr. (Prof.) Seema Arora congratulated Ananya on her success, noting that her hard work, discipline, and commitment have brought immense pride to the college. She emphasized the importance of sports in the holistic development of students and encouraged others to follow in Ananya's footsteps.

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J A M M U : D o o n International School Jammu proudly hosted the highly anticipated Doon Cup 2025, a five-day inter-school sports tournament that brought together 26 leading CBSE schools of Jammu. The tournament featured Cricket, Football, and Basketball, uniting around 1,000 young athletes in a vibrant display of skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

The grand opening ceremony was graced by Padma Shri Faisal Ali Dar, India's first martial artist to receive the prestigious Padma Shri award, as the Chief Guest. The event began with a teachers' welcome song, followed by a symbolic torch-lighting ceremony performed by the Chief Guest and school dignitaries, igniting the spirit of unity and determination among participants. The release of balloons and pigeons symbolized



Winner teams in jubilant mood after receiving trophies.

peace, hope, and the soaring ambitions of the young athletes.

Distinguished dignitaries who attended the opening ceremony included Chairman Mr. G.N. Tantray, Vice Chairman M.A. Tantray, Principal Dr. Vikesh Kaur, Directors Elshaan Ul Nabi and Leesan Ul Nabi, Vice Principal Dr. Sarita Moza Koul, Headmistress Shivali

Singh Pathania, and Chief Coordinator Mr. Surinder Singh, along with sports officials and coaches from participating schools. They appreciated the energy of the participants and encouraged students to maintain exceptional teamwork and enthusiasm throughout the tournament.

The tournament concluded with a grand closing ceremony

featuring thrilling championship matches. Sh. Ranjeet Kalra, Member of the Governing Council (Sports), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, and former J&K cricketer, attended as the Chief Guest. In Football, Doon International School Jammu emerged as the champion by defeating JK Public School Jammu. In Basketball, Sainik School Nagrota claimed the winner's title, with Doon International School securing the runner-up position. In Cricket, KC International School triumphed over Model Academy School to lift the coveted trophy.

The audience, including Director Leesan Ul Nabi and Academic Manager Gazia Khan, enthusiastically cheered on the participants, appreciating the dedication and sportsmanship of every team. Doon International School Jammu was declared the Overall Champion of

DOON CUP 2025, having accumulated the highest aggregate points across all categories by winning one title and finishing as runner-up in another.

Principal Dr. Vikesh Kaur expressed her immense satisfaction at the successful execution of the tournament and lauded the participants for their commitment, discipline, and exemplary performance. Coaches, officials, and volunteers were honored with trophies of appreciation for their crucial roles in ensuring the smooth conduct of the event.

The ceremony concluded with a heartfelt Vote of Thanks delivered by Vice Principal Dr. Sarita Moza Koul, who expressed gratitude to all dignitaries, guests, participants, and the organizing committee for their unwavering support in making Doon Cup 2025 a grand celebration of sportsmanship, excellence, and unity.

Police Martyrs T-20 Cricket Tournament inaugurated

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDERBAL: In a heartfelt tribute to the brave police personnel who laid down their lives in the line of duty, Police in Ganderbal inaugurated Police Martyrs T-20 Cricket Tournament at Gorwan Lar, as part of a series of events being organized in loving memory of Police Martyrs.

The tournament was formally inaugurated by SSP Ganderbal Khalil Ahmad Poswal, who graced the occasion as the chief guest. Various cricket teams from across district Ganderbal are participating in the tournament, showcasing their spirit, discipline, and sportsmanship.

While addressing the gathering, SSP Ganderbal



SSP Ganderbal Khalil Ahmad Poswal being honoured.

lauded the enthusiasm of the participating teams and highlighted the importance of sports in promoting unity, teamwork, and positive energy among the youth.

He encouraged young players to explore their talents and imagination through constructive plat-

forms like sports, which not only build physical fitness but also nurture leadership and discipline. He also urged to refrain from the severe menace of drugs addiction and other negative influences.

On this occasion, several senior police officers of District Ganderbal were

also present and interacted with the players and spectators, extending their support and appreciation for the initiative.

It is worth mentioning that J&K Police is conducting a series of sports, cultural, and educational activities, including volleyball, marathons, cultural programmes, and other co-curricular events - as part of a 10-day-long commemoration of Police Martyrs. These events aim to pay homage to the supreme sacrifices of the martyrs.

Through such initiatives, J&K Police continues to uphold the spirit of camaraderie, remembrance, and community engagement - celebrating the legacy of courage and sacrifice left behind by our fallen heroes.

Sainik School Nagrota wins IPSC Band Trophy, Doon Cup 2025



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NAGROTA: Sainik School Nagrota has once again demonstrated its all-round excellence, winning top honours in both music and sports at national and regional competitions. At the IPSC Band Competition 2025, held on 16 October at The Scindia School, Gwalior, the school's Pipe Band won the 'Best Marching Pipe Band Trophy' among nine participating schools from all over India. The band from Sainik

School Nagrota impressed judges with its precision, synchronization, and musical harmony, earning high praise for its professionalism and discipline. In another proud moment, the school's Basketball Team clinched the Doon Cup 2025 Championship on 18 October at Doon International School, Jammu. The team defeated the hosts in the final with a commanding score of 45-17, showcasing remarkable teamwork and skill. Cadet Deepanshu

Kotwal was declared the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the tournament for his outstanding performance. Capt (IN) Shibu Devasia, Principal, Sainik School Nagrota congratulated the cadets and mentors for their achievements, noting that these victories reflect the school's strong focus on holistic education - fostering discipline, teamwork, and leadership through excellence in academics, music, and sports.