

Nabi devastates with ball, endures with willow; Samad steadies as Yudhvir ignites contest

J&K on verge of commanding victory against Rajasthan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Brilliant all-rounder Aquib Nabi once again showcased his class, anchoring the innings with a determined display with the bat before dismantling Rajasthan's batting lineup with a lethal spell of bowling, while, the usually aggressive Abdul Samad displayed composure and grit, steadfastly guiding the chase, as Yudhvir Singh unleashed a breathtaking assault, electrifying the Sher-e-Kashmir Cricket Stadium with his explosive stroke play. With this commanding team effort, a confident Jammu and Kashmir side stands poised on the cusp of a memorable victory against the formidable Rajasthan in their Ranji Trophy Elite Group-A encounter here today.

Earlier, resuming from an overnight score of 66/2, J&K lost Shubham Khajuria (21), skipper Paras Dogra (21) and wicketkeeper Kanhaiya Wadhawan (01) early in the first session today before Abdul Samad steadied the



sinking ship, Yudhvir Singh blazed the ground with fireworks and Aquib Nabi dazzled with the willow to power Jammu and Kashmir to a decent total of 282 runs in their first innings, thus gaining a sizeable 130-run first innings lead.

Curbing his explosive instincts, Samad crafted a resolute knock of 76 runs off 118 balls, embellished with 7 fours and 2 sixes. Yudhvir followed with a blistering 53 off just 37 deliveries, peppered with 7 fours and 2 sixes, while Aquib played a composed yet commanding innings of 55 from 65 balls, striking 8 fours

and 2 sixes to bolster the total.

For Rajasthan, Deepak Chahar stood out with an impressive spell, claiming 4 wickets for 39 runs in 14 overs, while A.V. Choudhary and A. Sharma complemented him effectively with three wickets apiece. In their second innings, Rajasthan's batting order collapsed under immense pressure, reeling at 41 for 5 as Aquib Nabi unleashed a fiery spell. Exhibiting precision and aggression, he dismantled the opposition with figures of 5 wickets for just 5 runs in 6 stunning overs, leaving the

SCOREBOARD		
RAJASTHAN 1ST INNINGS		
JAMMU & KASHMIR 1ST INNINGS		
Qamran Iqbal	c Kartik Sharma b A Choudhary	24
Shubham Khajuria	c ‡MD Choudhary b Chahar	21
Yawer Hassan	c ‡MD Choudhary b Chahar	01
Paras Dogra	(c) e Tomar b Ashok Sharma	21
Abdul Samad	b Ashok Sharma	76
Kanhaiya Wadhawan	† e Tomar b Chahar	01
Yudhvir Singh	c Hooda b Ashok Sharma	53
Abid Mushtaq	lbw b Chahar	10
Aquib Nabi	c sub (KS Rathore) b A Choudhary	55
Umrans Malik	c Hooda b A Choudhary	00
Sunil Kumar	not out	00
Extras		20
Total		282/10
RAJASTHAN 2ND INNINGS		
Abhijeet Tomar	c Yawer Hassan b Aquib Nabi	09
Sumit Godara	c Qamran Iqbal b Aquib Nabi	00
Mahipal Lomror	(c) b Aquib Nabi	04
Deepak Hooda	not out	17
Akash Singh	b Aquib Nabi	00
Mukul Choudhary	† lbw b Aquib Nabi	00
Kartik Sharma	not out	01
Extras		10
Total		41/5

batters in sheer disarray.

Deepak Jagbir, unbeaten on 17, was the lone Rajasthan batter to reach double figures. With two days of play

remaining and Rajasthan still trailing by 89 runs with five wickets in hand, Jammu & Kashmir appear poised for a commanding victory.

GGHSS Nowabad shines at State Level National Science Drama Competition

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dr. Naseem Javed Choudhary, Director School Education Jammu, inaugurated the Divisional Level-Northern India Science Drama Contest 2025-26 hosted by SCERT J&K, Divisional Office Jammu at Baba Jitto Conference Hall, Kissan Kendra, Jammu.

Organised under the visionary leadership of Shantmanu, Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary) and Director SCERT J&K, and the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Sindhu Kapoor, Joint Director, SCERT Jammu, the event was held under the aegis of the National Science Centre, Delhi, a unit of NCSM, Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

Government Girls Higher Secondary School (GGHSS) Nowabad, District Jammu brought laurels to the institution by securing the second position at the State Level National Science Drama Competition 2025, held under the aegis of JKSCERT.



GGHSS Nowabad students and faculty receiving trophy.

The team's thought-provoking performance on a scientific theme captivated the audience and judges alike with its creativity, acting skills, and impactful message. The event witnessed participation from the top-performing district teams across the Union Territory, making the competition both vibrant and challenging.

Adding another feather to the school's cap, Lakshita Bhagat of GGHSS Nowabad won the Best Actress Award for her outstanding portrayal and powerful stage presence, earning appreciation from all quarters.

In recognition of the dedicated efforts behind the success, a Certificate of Appreciation was also presented to the escort teacher and Director of the play, Poonam Gupta, for her exemplary guidance, direction, and motivation throughout the journey from zonal to state level.

The Principal of GGHSS Nowabad, Dr. Kartar Chand Sharma, congratulated the entire team for their remarkable performance and extended best wishes for future achievements, appreciating the hard work, discipline, and teamwork displayed by the students and mentors alike.

Inderjeet Kesar to receive Bandhu Sharma Memorial Award 2025

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dogri Sanstha, Jammu, has announced that eminent Dogri writer Inderjeet Kesar has been selected for the prestigious Bandhu Sharma Memorial Award 2025. According to president Dogri Sanstha Jammu, Padmashri Prof. Lalit Magotra, the award, carrying a cash prize of Rs 21,000, a citation, and a memento, has been instituted by the family of Late Bandhu Sharma, a noted Dogri litterateur and cultural activist, in collaboration with Dogri Sanstha, Jammu. It is presented annually to honour exceptional contributions to Dogri literature, particularly in the genres of short stories and novels, thus upholding the legacy of Bandhu Sharma, who dedicated his life to the promotion of the Dogri language and culture. Widely respected for his creative excellence, Inderjeet Kesar's literary works beautifully capture the spirit of Dogra culture, human values, and regional ethos. His contribution has significantly enriched Dogri prose and poetry, earning him recognition across linguistic and cultural circles. Dogri Sanstha described his selection as a tribute to his lifelong dedication to Dogri literature and a celebration of his outstanding literary achievements.



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: As part of the ongoing Police Flag Day Week-2025, Nationwide observance of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas and to commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (the Iron Man of India), J&K Police today organised a "Run For Unity" in Ganderbal, Baramulla & Shopian, besides organised Badminton tournament in Shopian.

In Ganderbal, J&K Police today organised a "Run For Unity" from Manigam to Lar to pay heartfelt tribute to the brave police martyrs who made the ultimate sacrifice

in the line of duty. The event was flagged off by SSP Ganderbal Khalil Ahmad Poswal, who also joined the participants in the run, symbolising solidarity and collective spirit. A large number of school students, youth, and police personnel took part in the event with great enthusiasm and patriotic zeal. At the culmination point in Lar, the atmosphere was filled with excitement as the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd position holders were felicitated with Cash Prizes and Certificates of Appreciation for their outstanding performance and sportsmanship. Speaking on the occasion, SSP Ganderbal

Khalil Ahmad Poswal lauded the active participation of the youth and highlighted the importance of such events in fostering unity, discipline, and physical fitness.

In Baramulla, J&K Police today organised a "Run for Unity" programme at the Police Station level in Kunzer. Students from many schools have participated in the event with great enthusiasm. The programme witnessed active involvement from both boys and girls, showcasing their commitment to the ideals of unity, integrity, and national integration. At the conclusion of the event, the participants

securing First, Second, and Third positions in both categories were felicitated with awards in recognition of their performance, discipline, and sportsmanship.

In Shopian, J&K Police organised a "Run for Unity" at Keller and a Badminton Tournament at Government Higher Secondary School Imamsahib. The 'Run for Unity' was flagged off by DySP DAR Shopian Mohd Ashraf, commenced from Government Higher Secondary School Keller and culminated at Main Market Keller. The event aimed to pay rich tribute to the valiant police personnel who laid

down their lives in the line of duty and to promote the spirit of unity, peace and national integration. At the conclusion of the Unity Run, participants were felicitated with certificates and mementos as a token of appreciation for their enthusiastic participation.

Similarly, a Badminton Tournament was organized at Government Higher Secondary School Imamsahib, which was inaugurated by DySP PC Imamsahib. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from local youth and students and provided a platform to promote sportsman-

ship, fitness and community engagement while paying homage to the martyrs, participants were felicitated with certificates and mementos as a token of appreciation for their enthusiastic participation.

J&K Police remains committed to promoting youth engagement, sportsmanship, and national harmony through such community-oriented initiatives. Police continues to organize such community-oriented activities to strengthen police-public relations and inspire the younger generation to contribute positively towards peace, harmony and national unity.

JU Boys Hostel, IIM Jammu forge cultural bonds with 'Bandhan' immersion program

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a landmark initiative to celebrate and preserve the rich tapestry of local heritage, the Jambu Lochan Boys Hostel (JLBH) and Baba Jitto Boys Hostel (BJBH), University of Jammu hosted the "Bandhan" Cultural Immersion Program in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu. The event witnessed the active participation of 20 students from IIM Jammu, fostering a unique platform for cross-cultural dialogue and learning.

The program was conceived under the guidance of Prof. Satinder Kumar, Provost, Boys Hostel, University of Jammu, with the objective of providing management students from



JU Boys Hostel faculty and IIM Jammu students posing for a photograph.

IIM Jammu an authentic, ground-level experience of the region's valorous history, traditions, and cultural ethos.

The day-long event offered a meticulously curated itinerary designed for deep immersion. It commenced with a formal welcome address by Dr. Nitam Sharma, Resident Warden

JLBH, followed by an insightful interactive session with Dr. Mrinalini Atrey, Assistant Professor, The Law School & Secretary General :ICICH-ICOMOS, on the life and enduring legacy of iconic figures Raja Jambulochan, Baba Jitto Ji and General Zorawar Singh.

The core of the program was a vibrant cultural inter-

action and storytelling session, where boarders from the Boys Hostel shared fascinating anecdotes about local heroes, traditions, and crafts with the IIM Jammu delegates.

A highlight of the visit was a lunch featuring an array of authentic Dogri cuisine, served at the Jambu Lochan Boys Hostel, offering a taste

of the local culinary heritage. The program concluded with a guided tour of the University's Botanical Garden meticulously coordinated by Dr. Sajan Thakur, providing a serene end to the enriching day.

Speaking on the collaboration, the Provost and Wardens emphasized that such initiatives are crucial

for holistic education, moving learning beyond conventional classrooms as envisioned by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Jammu University and fostering a sense of pride and connection to one's roots among students.

The successful execution of "Bandhan" was steered by a dedicated team comprising Dr. Satya Priya, Warden, JLBH; Dr. Surinder Sharma, Warden, BJBH; Dr. PP Singh, Resident Warden, Nehru Hall; Dr. Nitam Sharma, Resident Warden, JLBH; Dr. Vimal Kishore, Resident Warden, SVBH, students conveners Avinash Choudhary, Ansh Ranyal, and Saif Qureshi, and staff of hostel. Ankush Varma, Chief Innovation Officer, IIM Jammu, coordinated the visit on behalf of the institute.

Asian Star Radio London showcases 'Talent Beyond the Sea' celebrating J&K's pride with Mansi Yuvraj Hans

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LONDON/JAMMU: Asian Star Radio London, under its acclaimed programme "Talent Beyond the Sea," recently brought a heartwarming and inspiring feature from Jammu & Kashmir, celebrating local talent that shines on global platforms.

The episode highlighted an exclusive conversation between RJ Parul, a proud daughter of Jammu and a prominent voice of Asian Star Radio London, and Mansi Yuvraj Hans - the talented and graceful wife of singer-actor Yuvraj Hans and daughter-in-law of Padma Shri Hans Raj Hans, the legendary singer and Member of Parliament.

The interaction was a powerful exchange about Jammu's culture, women empowerment, and Mansi's personal journey from her roots in Jammu to her accomplishments as a modern Indian woman balancing family, art, and inspiration.

RJ Parul expressed her joy in connecting with another proud daughter of the soil.



District Jammu Cycling championship held



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Organised by the Cycling Association of Jammu and Kashmir in support with J&K Sports Council, the District Jammu Cycling Championship held at MA Stadium, here on Sunday.

The coveted men's Elite Open title went to Anish Dubey while Amey Chourey and Vivaan Jandiyal were second and third respectively.

In Junior category, Anurag Kapoor bagged the title, followed by Kirtan Saini and Bhannu Partap Singh at second and third place respectively.

The under-14 boys event won by Sabeel Malik, while Mrityunjay Gupta was second and Shivay Raina finished third.

The winners were presented with the medals and certificates by the chief guest, president Cycling Association of J&K (CAJK), Dr. Arvinder Singh. Among other prominent present were Om Parkash Sharma (general secretary, CAJK), Ravi Salgotra (Chief Executive Officer, CAJK), S.S. Gill (Coordinator, CAJK), Surinder Mohan (Director, Yuva Kabaddi), and Shiv Kumar Sharma.

CK Nayudu Trophy Mousub, Aakash, Shivansh shine with bat; Vishal, Praful star with ball as bowlers dominate day-1

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Promising Mousub Mohd Bhat, gutsy Aakash Ayoub Bhat and skipper Shivansh Sharma displayed good skill with the willow, while left-arm orthodox Vishal Kumar and right-arm off-spinner Praful Dhar spun web around the rival batters as bowlers dominated day-1 of the CK Nayudu Trophy match between Jammu and Kashmir and Meghalaya at JKCA Hostel



ground here on Sunday.

Earlier, put into bat, J&K scored a modest total of 207 runs in 49.5 overs. Mousub

top scored with 46 runs, while Aakash and Shivansh contributed 40 runs each. Arya Thakur (24), Arnab

Gupta (17) and Praful Dhar (13) were the other contributors.

Manish was the most suc-

cessful bowler for Meghalaya with 3 wickets, while Pranav Aggawal took 2 wickets.

In reply, Meghalaya were tottering at 58/7 in 38 overs at the draw of stumps today. Sachin (19) and skipper Kevin Christopher (15) were the main scorers.

For Jammu and Kashmir, Vishal Kumar took 3 wickets by conceding 22 runs in 17 overs, while Praful Dhar bagged 2 wickets by giving away 19 runs in 7 overs. Speedsters Basit Bashir and Yasir Rasheed claimed one wicket each.

Ajinkya Rahane hits 159 in Ranji Trophy match against Chhattisgarh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MUMBAI: Former captain Ajinkya Rahane hit a resolute 159 as Mumbai reached 406 for eight in their first innings on a rain-affected second day of their Ranji Trophy Elite Group D match against Chhattisgarh, here on Sunday.

Rahane, who had retired on the first day at the score of 118 due to cramps, came out to bat on the second day and finished at 159 off 303 balls laced with 21 fours. He was dismissed caught behind by Aditya

Sarwate (4/103).

Mumbai had resumed their first innings at 251 for five on the second day and only 46 overs were bowled on the second day of the contest here at the BKC Ground.

Akash Anand was batting on 60 (148 balls, 5 fours), accompanied by Tushar Deshpande (4 not out) at stumps.

At the Arun Jaitley Stadium, hosts Delhi left Himachal Pradesh in a spot of bother at 165 for three, leading by another 265 runs in their

first innings.

Delhi had posted a huge total of 430 but none of their batters could convert the starts into a big score. Openers Arpit Rana (64), Sanat Sangwan (79) and No 3 Yash Dhill (61) hit fifties at the top while the lower order chipped in as well.

Ayush Doseja made 75, Sumit Mathur struck 51 while Anuj Rawat hit a strokeful 57 off 66 balls with four fours and three sixes as Delhi finished with a big total after resuming play at 306/4 on the sec-

ond day.

In reply, Himachal Pradesh opener Sidhant Purohit made a watchful 70 off 165 balls with 10 fours but a couple of late wickets in the day put them in some trouble.

Purohit fell to India bowler Navdeep Saini, who also got rid of Ankit Kalsi (20) later on while Ankush Bains (43) fell to Sumit Mathur after a fine 43.

In the last Group D game, hosts Puducherry reached 25/1 in reply to Hyderabad's 435 in the first

innings, trailing by 410 runs in the first innings.

Rahul Gahlaut struck 114 while half-centuries from opener Tanmay Agarwal (50), Kodimela Himateja (66) and wicketkeeper-batter Rahul Radesh (81) pushed Hyderabad to a big score in their first essay.

Brief scores:

At Mumbai: Mumbai 406/8 in 130 overs (Ajinkya Rahane 159, Siddhesh Lad 80, Akash Anand 60 not out; Aditya Sarwate 4/103, Ravi Kiran 3/53) vs Chhattisgarh.