

69th National School Games in Wushu declared open in Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Indoor Sports Complex, Wazir Bagh, Srinagar, came alive with vibrant energy as the 69th National School Games in Wushu (Under-17 Boys & Girls) was officially inaugurated on Tuesday. The grand event, organized by the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) J&K under the aegis of the School Games Federation of India (SGFI), marks yet another milestone in Jammu and Kashmir's growing stature as a premier destination for national-level sporting events.

The opening ceremony was graced by Qazi Salman, Director, Press Information Bureau (PIB) and Director, RNU Doordarshan Kendra Srinagar, who attended as the Chief Guest. In the presence of a spirited audience comprising young athletes, sports officials, and enthusiasts, the national tournament was formally declared open, setting the stage for several days of exhilarating competition.

Expressing his admiration for the vibrant gathering, Qazi Salman remarked,



Director, PIB Qazi Salman declaring open National School Games at Srinagar.

"Witnessing this magnificent assembly of young talent from across the nation in Srinagar is truly heartening. Sports serve as a powerful catalyst for holistic development - building strength, discipline, and character while shaping the future leaders of our country. The emergence of Jammu and Kashmir as a vibrant hub for national sports is a narrative that must be celebrated and widely shared."

He lauded the Department of Youth Services and Sports for its meticulous planning and assured that PIB and Doordarshan

Kendra Srinagar would continue to amplify the coverage of such inspirational events that highlight the talent and vitality of India's youth.

The championship has drawn participation from 41 teams representing different States, Union Territories, and educational organizations across the country, bringing together India's most promising Wushu athletes. The event will continue till November 1, 2025.

In a telephonic message, Anuradha Gupta, Director General, Youth Services & Sports J&K, extended her

best wishes to all participants. She commended the organizing committees for their efficiency and commitment, expressing confidence in their ability to sustain the high standards set during the recently concluded U-19 Boys Football Nationals. She also announced that the department will soon host National School Games in Table Tennis and Taekwondo in Jammu next month, further solidifying J&K's reputation on the national sports map.

Ghulam Hassan Lone, Organizing Secretary of the event, extended a warm welcome to all participants and

highlighted the importance of hosting national-level tournaments in Kashmir, which, he said, inspire local youth to embrace sports as a way of life. He expressed gratitude to all officials, volunteers, and supporting organizations whose dedication made the event possible.

The ceremony was expertly anchored by Azhar Hajini, Convenor of the Media & Publicity Committee, who also delivered the vote of thanks. He welcomed the visiting teams-many of whom are in Kashmir for the first time-and encouraged media houses to provide wide coverage to the young athletes. He also acknowledged the technical support provided by the Wushu Association of India and the Wushu Association of J&K, and thanked the J&K Sports Council for facilitating the venue. Adding further prestige to the event were Kuldeep Handoo, India Chief Coach and CEO of the J&K Wushu Association, and Ajay Singh Chandel, SGFI Field Official, who attended as Guests of Honour. Balbir

Singh Sodhi, Assistant Director YSS Kashmir, along with District Youth Services and Sports Officers from various districts of Kashmir division, also graced the occasion.

The ceremony featured a vibrant march-past by the participating teams, symbolizing unity and national integration, along with captivating demonstration bouts of Wushu that offered a glimpse of the thrilling contests ahead. A sports oath was also administered to the participants, reinforcing the spirit of fair play and sportsmanship.

All matches of the Wushu Nationals 2025 are being broadcast live on the official social media platforms of the Department of Youth Services and Sports J&K, ensuring wide public engagement. With passionate participation and seamless organization, the **69th National School Games in Wushu stand as a shining example of youth empowerment through sport. The ongoing events reaffirm Jammu and Kashmir's commitment to promoting national integration, athletic excellence, and a vibrant sports culture.

MLA Rajeev Bhagat secures Rs 2.5 Cr for upgradation of Rehal Sports Stadium Bishnah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: During today's Jammu Assembly session, MLA Bishnah Dr. Rajeev Bhagat raised an important question regarding the poor condition of the Rehal Sports Stadium of Bishnah Constituency.



He pointed out that no funds had been allocated for its repair and maintenance and the condition of the stadium is very pathetic. Responding promptly, the Ministry of Sports announced an immediate grant of Rs 2.5 crore under the Khelo India Scheme for the upgradation of the Stadium with modern facilities.

The funds will be utilized to modernize the existing infrastructure and improve facilities for sports persons in the stadium. Expressing his gratitude, MLA Bishnah Dr. Rajeev Bhagat thanked the Minister the Youth Services & Sports, Satish Sharma, for his swift action and commitment to promoting sports infrastructure in Bishnah Constituency.

As the news spread, the residents of Bishnah Constituency expressed their heartfelt thanks to MLA Bhagat, acknowledging his continuous efforts toward the area's development. Locals said that his dedication and hard work have finally borne fruit, and they look forward to modernize the infrastructure with modern facilities for sports persons in the stadium soon. The initiative marks a significant step in encouraging youth participation in sports and enhancing the sporting culture in the region.

Maiden Wushu Ranking event at Jammu from Nov 2

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Wushu Association of India (WAI) is organizing 1st Ranking tournament-cum-selection trials at Indoor Hall, Bhagwati Nagar, here from November two to November four.

"In view of the 20th Asian Games 2026, the Wushu Association of India will conduct this ranking tournament among the shortlisted athletes identified during the earlier selection trials held at Srinagar and Manipur," informed chief coach of India, Kuldeep Handoo.

In addition, the technical committee has decided to include the first two position holders of the All India Police Games (Sanda division) and the gold medalists in the Taolu event to further enhance the team's overall performance for the upcoming Asian Games.

The proposed tournaments will continue to be conducted every two months until June



2026, which marks the deadline for the final entries for the Asian Games.

During the Sanda selection trials held at Srinagar, eight top athletes were shortlisted for the ranking events, while in Taolu, four positions were finalized during the trials conducted at Manipur.

The Wushu Association of India has also requested the Sports Authority of India (SAI) to organize a National Wushu Coaching Camp for the top four athletes in both Sanda and Taolu events.

Furthermore, the top two position holders will be sent for foreign exposure training in China for a duration of 60 days, commencing in December 2025.

In the first phase of the selection trials in the Sanda category, twelve players from J&K successfully secured their positions among the top eight ranked athletes.

The selection committee and Technical Team of the Wushu Association of India will jointly supervise and conduct the Ranking Tournament at Jammu.

5-Day Neurotech & AI Innovation workshop begins at JU

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The University of Jammu launched a five-day Neurotech and AI Innovation Workshop, a pioneering initiative under its flagship Design Your Degree programme aimed at promoting interdisciplinary, innovation-based learning.

Organized by the Skill Incubation Innovation Entrepreneurship Development Centre (SIIEDC), the workshop brings together students from engineering, neuroscience, computer science, and design to develop prototypes in brain-computer interfaces, virtual reality therapy, and sustainable systems. Over 70 students are participating in the programme, which will culminate in a 48-hour IDEA Forge Hackathon.

The initiative reflects the visionary leadership of Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, who has made Design Your



Faculty members and students during the programme.

Degree a cornerstone of the University's academic transformation. Prof. Rai believes that the challenges of the modern world-whether in health, climate, or technology-can only be addressed through collaboration across disciplines. Under his guidance, the University has adopted the spirit of NEP-2020, promoting experiential and problem-based learning.

"Education today must prepare students not just to

earn degrees but to innovate and make a difference," Prof. Rai has often emphasized, highlighting his focus on turning the University into a hub of creativity and enterprise.

The workshop was inaugurated by Prof. Alka Sharma, Director, SIIEDC, who described it as a "culture shift" in how students learn and innovate. She said the event embodies the essence of Design Your Degree by encouraging students to

move beyond traditional boundaries. Appreciating the collaboration with BALDMANN, an industry leader in neurotechnology and AI innovation, Prof. Sharma said, "By working with professional-grade tools like EEG hardware, drones, and VR systems, our students are experiencing the real-world process of innovation."

The technical sessions cover EEG/EMG signal processing, circuit board design

using KiCad, Unity-based VR environment creation, and drone flight operations, before teams develop functional prototypes for social impact. Projects span five domains-Health Tech, Green Innovation, AI & Human Experience, Smart Cities, and Creative Technology-and will be judged on innovation, feasibility, and societal relevance. Dr. Jatinder Manhas, Associate Director, SIIEDC and Workshop Coordinator, thanked the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Director, and BALDMANN experts for their guidance. "The energy and collaboration among students prove that we're successfully translating the Vice Chancellor's vision into action," he said.

The workshop will conclude on October 31 with prototype demonstrations, jury evaluation, and an awards ceremony recognizing the most innovative and impactful student projects.

JU organises Inter-Collegiate Table Tennis and Football Tournaments 2025-26

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, reaffirmed its dedication to promoting sports excellence and holistic student development by organizing a series of Inter-Collegiate Tournaments for the academic session 2025-26. The events - Table Tennis and Football (Men & Women) - were inaugurated with great enthusiasm at the University campus, drawing energetic participation from affiliated colleges across the region.

The Inter-Collegiate Table Tennis (Men & Women) Tournament 2025-26 commenced at the Table Tennis Hall, University of Jammu, showcasing remarkable talent and competitive spirit.



In the men's category, GDC Basohli defeated GDC Billawar by 3-0, while GMC Doda registered a dominant 3-0 win over GDC Poonch.

The matches were officiated by Ravish Vaid, Sahil Malgotra, and Sakshi Dabgotra, who ensured fair play and adherence to the rules. The tournament underscored the University's continued efforts to instill teamwork,

discipline, and fitness among its students.

Simultaneously, the Inter-Collegiate Football (Men & Women) Tournament 2025-26 kicked off at the University Football Ground, witnessing thrilling performances and passionate competition.

In the women's section, GDC Poonch emerged victorious against the PG Department, University of Jammu, with a 3-1 win in a tie-breaker. In the men's section, KC Law College beat GDC Kunjwani 2-1, GDC Udhampur triumphed over IUET Kathua 3-0, and GDC Kunjwani defeated Prabha Harijilal College by

3-0.

The football fixtures were officiated by Rahul Sharma, Dheeraj Menia, Dil Bahadur, Kartik, Shivam Gupta, Ramesh Chander, and Gagan Kumar, who maintained smooth coordination and fairness throughout.

Organized under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, the tournaments continue to strengthen the University's sporting culture, fostering leadership, teamwork, and physical well-being among students through structured inter-collegiate competition.

J&K girls Goal Shot Ball team leaves for National



Officials along with team and coaches posing for photograph.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir girls yesterday left for participation in the 3rd Junior Girls Goal Shot Ball Championship, scheduled to be held at Begusarai in Bihar from October 29 to November one.

The team was given a formal send off by Rakesh Dubey, Administrator Central Co-operative Bank in the presence of former India Football players, Arun Malhotra and

Gurmeet Singh.

The team, consisting of 10 girls, is accompanied by Sonia Jain and Rohit Vadan as manager and coach respectively. The kits for the girls were sponsored by Arun Malhotra.

Among others present were Ashutosh Sharma, General Secretary and Rakesh Dogra, Vice President as also Chandan Singh Chouhan, Treasurer of the Association.

Awareness Program on Cyber Security held at GCW Gandhi Nagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Cyber Security Awareness Program was organized on Tuesday by the Cyber Crime Investigation Centre for Excellence (CICE), Crime Headquarters Jammu, in collaboration with Government College for

Ramnish Gupta (JKPS), SSP CICE, and Albeena Malik, DySP CICE Jammu, were the key resource persons. DySP Albeena Malik delivered an insightful presentation on the growing menace of cybercrimes, online frauds, and social media offences, with special focus on

reporting mechanisms. SSP Ramnish Gupta, in his address, discussed real-life examples of cyber frauds occurring in Jammu and Kashmir and shared practical safety measures to protect oneself online. He urged students to remain vigilant and confident, stating, "Beat the



Women, Gandhi Nagar.

women-related cases and

fear to beat the cheat."

Heritage School organises third Annual Inter-House Quiz Competition



Faculty members along with winner students posing for photograph.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Heritage School organised the Third Edition of the Annual Inter-House Quiz Competition on 28th October 2025, an exhilarating and intellectually enriching event that celebrated the spirit of inquiry, teamwork and academic excellence among students.

The competition, graced by the Chairman Heritage School Mr. Sunil Gupta as the Chief Guest, commenced with an inaugural question posed by him, setting an inspiring tone for

the event. Participants had earlier qualified through a rigorous written test, ensuring a high standard of competition.

Representing the four Houses of the school, the four finalist teams competed in a fierce battle of wits. Each team of four students demonstrated exceptional knowledge, composure and presence of mind across four challenging rounds-General Knowledge, Business Quiz, Bollywood/Hollywood Quiz and the Buzzer Round.

The quiz encompassed a broad range of topics including current affairs, economics, political science, science, sports and cinema. Each round presented its own scoring system and time constraints, adding excitement and intensity to the contest. To further engage the audience, interactive questions were introduced after every round, making the event both dynamic and participative.

After a thrilling display of intellect and strategy, Tradition House emerged

as the Champion Team, represented by Vivek Singh Sudan (XII C), Archit Mahajan (XI C), Kuvvan (X B), and Vedant Sharma (XI B). Dignity House secured the Runner-Up position with an outstanding performance by Krishang Mahajan (XII C), Medhaansh Sharma (X C), Ahana Mahajan (IX D) and Ayva Kapoor (IX A).

Principal, Akash Pradhan, congratulated the winners and lauded all participants for their enthusiasm, confidence and sports-

manship. He also appreciated the dedicated efforts of Ajeet Bali, Sugandh Gupta and the organising committee for their meticulous planning and flawless execution, which ensured the event's grand success.

The Annual Inter-House Quiz Competition once again proved to be a vibrant platform for young minds to exhibit their intellectual brilliance, reinforcing Heritage School's commitment to nurturing curiosity, confidence and a lifelong love for learning.