

# Volleyball coaching camp concludes at Poonch



Chief Guest, District Youth Services & Sports Officer Poonch, Mohd Qasim along with other officials posing with players after distributing sports-kits.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: The 21-day long Coaching Camp for both boys and girls being organised by Poonch District volleyball Association under the aegis of Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir (VAJK) and sponsorship of J&K Sports Council, concluded on Sunday at Sports Stadium

Poonch. The coaching camp was held under the supervision of Krishan Lal Sharma, Secretary Poonch District Volleyball Association. Prior to coaching camp, Poonch District Volleyball Association conducted trials and selected 14 boys and girls each for the camp. In the valedictory function,

District Youth Services and Sports Officer Poonch Mohd Qasim was the Chief Guest, who interacted with the campers and distributed sports kits amongst the trainees. Other dignitaries present on the occasion were Krishan Lal Sharma, Mukesh Kumar Physical Director, Mushtaq Ahmed boxing coach, Rajinder

Singh PEM, D.K Raina PET, Rajinder Singh Taekwondo coach, Sorab Sharma PEM, Ramiz Tariq, Matinder Pal Singh, Navjot Singh and Bal Krishan. On the behalf of Poonch District Volleyball Association, Neeraj Sharma presented the vote of thanks.

Earlier batting first after winning the toss, Singh Veterans Cricket Club Akhnoor scored 182 runs for the loss of seven wickets in 20 overs. Sny Mahi played a magnificent inning of 89 runs, while Bishan Kumar and Vinod Kumar

## Joginder Mangotra Memorial Cricket Series Mahi's 89 runs helps Singh Veterans Club Akhnoor to register 68 runs win

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
AKHNOOR: Splendid inning of 89 runs by Sny Mahi helped Singh Veterans Cricket Club Akhnoor to register 68 runs win over Jammu Sports Veterans in the second match of the of the ongoing Joginder Mangotra Memorial Cricket Series being played at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS), Akhnoor.

The three matches series is being organized by Singh Cricket Club Akhnoor with Jammu Sports under the overall supervision of Sham Singh Langeh, President Singh Cricket Club Akhnoor.

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Winner team posing for a photograph.

chipped-in 28 and 17 runs respectively. For Jammu Sports Veterans, Jagdev Singh scalped two wickets, while Nitin, Raman, Arun and Mukesh Sharma took one each.

In the second inning, Jammu Sports Veterans failed to chase the target and scored 114 runs for the loss of ten wickets in 20 overs.

Arun was the top scorer with 25 runs while Vikrant and Raman made 13 runs each. Vinayak and Yash added 12 and 11 runs to the

total respectively. For Singh Veterans Cricket Club Akhnoor; S.S Langeh and Bishan Kumar grabbed two wickets each while Rakesh, Raj Singh, Ajay Sharma, Manav Mehta and Sny Mahi claimed one each. Sny Mahi of Singh Veterans Cricket Club Akhnoor was declared as Man of the Match. The match was officiated by Abhitash Sharma and Stiphen Sotra as Umpires while Dev Bhagel maintained the scorecard.

## Rashid Khan reaches 400 wickets in T20 cricket, does so in quickest time

■ **AGENCY**  
ABU DHABI: Afghanistan's premier leg-spinner Rashid Khan picked up his 400th wicket in competitive T20 cricket during the team's T20 World Cup match against New Zealand here on Sunday. The 23-year-old spinner reached the milestone when he bowled New Zealand opener Martin Guptill with a wrong'un in the ninth over of the Kiwi innings, even as the batter tried to go for a slog sweep at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium. Rashid achieved the feat in his 289th T20 match. Only three other bowlers have crossed the 400-wicket mark in T20 cricket. Dwayne Bravo, the first to reach the feat in 364 matches, also became the first bowler to cross 500 T20 wickets. The West Indies all-rounder, who has just announced his interna-

tional retirement from the format, has 553 wickets from 512 matches. Two other bowlers that followed him to the feat are Imran Tahir (in 320 matches) and Sunil Narine (in 362 matches), both reaching the milestone earlier this year. Rashid also holds the record for most T20 scalps in a calendar year, having picked a staggering 96 wickets in 2018. His economy rate of 6.34 is the second best behind West Indies' Sunil Narine among bowlers who have played 200 T20 games. Earlier in the tournament, Rashid became the fastest bowler to take 100 wickets in T20 Internationals during Afghanistan's Super 12 match against Pakistan. The dismissed batter, on that occasion, was veteran Pakistan all-rounder Mohammad Hafeez.

## Reasi Badminton Championship Commences



SSP Reasi, Shailender Singh posing with players, police officers and others.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: Three days district Reasi Badminton Championship Tournament being organised at Indoor Stadium Maari, here. Senior Superintendent of Police Reasi, Shailender Singh inaugurated the event and witnessed the inaugural match. 60 players & coaches from different parts of the district are participating. In a series of sixty matches, 32 players for Men single & 26 players for Men Double players are sporting for the

championship titles. Winners of the event shall participate in the Championship UT of J&K. Badminton Players of Reasi have made to finals in recent past. Singh conveyed that Jammu and Kashmir Police is providing the avenues to the youth so that they can show their hidden talent and youth of J&K have been taking the benefits of these activities organised by Jammu Kashmir Police from time to time. In this event play-

ers expressed with confidence to perform better & win the champions title of J&K. SSP further added that sports activities are prerequisite for a healthy youth and youth of Reasi are participating in these events with enthusiasm. Surinder Sharma President Badminton Association Reasi expressed gratitude to J&K Police & SSP for promoting sports activities in Reasi which is required for welfare of youth of the district.

# SR College conducts interactive Workshop with Suchiter Sharma

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The SR College of Competitions (SRCC) organised an interaction cum workshop for the civil services aspirants in the college premises at Gandhi Nagar. The session was taken by Suchiter Sharma who has qualified the Civil Services examination 2021 with 146th rank.



Suchiter Sharma addressing students at a workshop.

for coaching. He shared in detail his strategy for the civil services preparation the problems he faced and the solutions attempted to overcome those problems.

He discussed in detail the syllabus, the various papers of general studies, optional and the essay papers. All the aspects including the scheme and pattern of the

exam, approach for Prelims and Mains, sources of study material and the books required, use of online sources, need of coaching and the relevance of newspaper reading in preparing the current affairs and writing test series for both prelims and mains were covered thoroughly and to the satisfaction of the students. He discussed the entire syllabus, the focus areas and the kind of questions asked in the previous years papers were also taken up. Aspirants were also guided about the CSAT and Essay papers also. Further, aspirants asked

about the ethics, integrity and aptitude paper and the approach to handle the theory and the case studies part. Aspirants were also suggested to atleast attend one or two comprehensive test series for both prelim and mains examinations. He also motivated the students about answer writing practice on regular basis. He also shared the details of his UPSC interview/ personality test. The response to the workshops was overwhelming and the attendees appreciated the initiative taken by the SR College of Competitions. The

attendees included the aspirants preparing for IAS and JKAS 2021 (mains) and also undergraduates who will be eligible in a couple of years. Such interactions encourage, motivates and inculcate a sense of confidence in the aspirants that if he can do it why can't we " told Parveen Sharma, director of SR College. "SR College keeps on organising such online and offline workshops, seminars, webinars and interactions with the IAS officers, KAS toppers and various subject experts " informed Office Coordinator Neha Sharma.

## We have enough talent in India to have different sets of bowlers for different formats: Arun

■ **AGENCY**  
ABU DHABI: The Indian cricket team is in a "much better place" compared to the time he came on board and there is enough talent to handle the transition of pacers and have different bowlers across three formats, feels outgoing bowling coach Bharat Arun. Arun, head coach Ravi Shastri and fielding coach R Sridhar will end their tenure with India's campaign in the T20 World Cup. Arun, largely credited for developing a crack fast bowling unit comprising Jasprit Bumrah, Umesh Yadav, Ishant Sharma, and Mohammed Shami, feels that the amount of cricket scheduled in these times would require proper "workload management" and bowlers with different skill-sets. "Absolutely," Arun agreed when asked if there was a possibility of different bowlers turning up for three separate formats. "It is not only the volume cricket that India is playing but also to remain in the bubble and playing is not easy, I can guarantee. They do need sufficient breaks as the mental health is going to be very, very important going forward," he added. "It's going to be the norm for at least 1-2 years. So it's important to have a very good pool of fast bowlers so we can afford to field different teams

for different formats. "It will not only help in understanding different talents that are available but it keeps our bowlers mentally and physically fresh," Arun tried to put things in perspective. Having joined the team in 2014 and worked six years (with one year break during Anil Kumble's tenure) till this T20 World Cup, the former India Test medium-pacer termed his time with the national team as a wonderful experience. "It's been an outstanding journey full of ups and downs. The team is in a much better position than it was when we started. The highest point would be the kind of bowling that we have. "Winning a lot of Tests overseas something we strived hard to achieve as a team," Arun stated. It was easy for Arun to talk about the high points during his tenure. "The back-to-back wins in Australia and also more or less winning the series in England -- of course, there's one more Test to go. But I think the performance was outstanding during the English series." Arun feels there is enough talent in India to be able to handle the transition phase when the likes of Ishant Sharma, Mohammed Shami are phased out in a year or two.

## Paddar Volleyball Championship hosted by Army concludes

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KISHTWAR: Nagseni Strikers clinched Paddar Volleyball championship by defeating Paddar Royals in final match, here the other Day. Paddar Volleyball Championship was hosted by Army with the aim to nurture local sports talent and encourage the young minds to participate in constructive activities. The final match was played at Padyarna Nagseni. The tournament was inaugurated by Commanding Officer, 17 RR (MARATHA LI) on 20th Oct 2021 at Gulabgarh. The tournament witnessed an overwhelming participation of teams from all Panchayats of Paddar and Nagseni blocks. The tournament was inaugurated by Commanding Officer, 17 RR (MARATHA LI) on 20th Oct 2021 at Gulabgarh. The tournament witnessed an overwhelming participation of teams from all Panchayats of Paddar and Nagseni blocks. The tournament was inaugurated by Commanding Officer, 17 RR (MARATHA LI) on 20th Oct 2021 at Gulabgarh. The tournament witnessed an overwhelming participation of teams from all Panchayats of Paddar and Nagseni blocks.



Participating teams posing for a photograph with army officers and others.

Nagseni Spiker was awarded the trophy for best booster and Sohan Chouhan of Paddar Royals was awarded the trophy for best spiker. Cash prize, Trophy and Medals were given to Winner team, Runner-up team, Best Booster and Best Spiker. Speaking on the occasion,

Commanding Officer, 17 RR (MARATHA LI) appreciated all of them for coming out and taking part in the tournament and wished everyone for healthy and competitive tournament. The officials from Youth Services and Sports department Kishtwar, other govt

officials besides Sarpanches were present at the event. The PRI lauded the initiatives and expressed that such initiatives by Indian Army will aid in developing sportsmanship spirit amongst the youth and engage them in constructive and nation building activities.

# T20 WC: India ousted as NZ clinch semifinal spot with comprehensive win over Afghans

■ **AGENCY**  
ABU DHABI: India were sent packing from the T20 World Cup after a clinical New Zealand clinched a facile eight-wicket triumph over Afghanistan in their final Super 12 game to claim the last available semi-final spot here on Sunday. India's slim hopes hinged on Afghanistan upstaging the Black Caps as that would have brought the Net Run Rate into equation and opened the doors for Virat Kohli's men, who only have themselves to blame for the ouster now. The Kiwis were favourites to win on the day and they hardly put a foot wrong, chasing down a small target

of 125 in just 18.1 overs to join England, Australia and Pakistan in the last-four stage. Sunday's result renders India's final league engagement against Namibia inconsequential. The team was outplayed in its first two Super 12 matches by Pakistan and New Zealand, which proved to be its undoing. The side did bounce back for wins over Afghanistan and Scotland but the damage done by the previous two defeats was far too much. Kane Williamson's men, who won four of their five Super 12 matches, will be up against either England or Australia in the semifinals.

Openers Daryl Mitchell (17), caught behind by the Mohammad Shahzad off Mujeeb ur Rahman, and Martin Guptill (28), who became Rashid Khan's 400th wicket in T20 cricket, were the only New Zealand wickets to fall in the afternoon match. Williamson (40 not out, 42 balls, 3 fours) looked unhurried during his knock and his half-century partnership for the third wicket with Devon Conway (36 not out) guided the team home. They negotiated the spin threat posed by Rashid, Mujeeb and Mohammed Nabi quite well to ensure that there was no drama.

Conway got over a tentative start and hit Nabi for two boundaries in the 14th over to speed up the chase after a brief lull. Earlier, New Zealand pacers, led by Trent Boult (3/17), dished out a clinical performance to restrict Afghanistan to 124 for 8 in their final Super 12 match of the T20 World Cup here on Sunday. Afghanistan, who needed to win to keep their semifinal hopes alive, reached the total mainly due to the efforts of Najibullah Zadran (73 off 48 balls). Zadran stood out in a rather tepid display by the rest of his team-mates. He struck six fours and three sixes

during his brilliant innings. The Kiwi pace trio of Boult, Tim Southee (2/24) and Adam Milne (1/17) did not give anything away in the initial overs as the Afghan batters struggled to get going and in trying to force the pace of their innings. Ish Sodhi (1/13) and Jimmy Neesham (1/24) were the other New Zealand wicket-takers. Neesham conceded only two runs from the final over of the Afghanistan innings. The left-handed Zadran rescued Afghanistan with a 59-run fifth wicket stand with captain Mohammed Nabi (14). The team was placed at 56 for 4 in 10 overs when the two got together and dug their heels in.

Preparations involved cycling every alternate day for about two hours, having a long ride of over 6 hrs on Saturdays, and pumping weight at a gym on the remainder of days, Bharaj, who has always been agile and fit, says.

Bengaluru, saddle sores for the last seven days which occurred as a result of spending up to 18 hours cutting an average of 275 km a day. I could not sit on an otherwise comfortable sofa last night, Bharaj quips, as he speaks of one of the worst nightmares for an endurance cyclist. Diet was also important and he had to push 10,000 calories a day to continue with the ride, where his team of six crew member friends were of immense help. I had prepared well for the ride and was not in any fatigue when I reached, he says, stressing that the team saw the sunrise at Kanyakumari and set off for Nashik in the vehicle immediately without waiting for the magical sunset. Preparations involved cycling every alternate day for about two hours, having a long ride of over 6 hrs on Saturdays, and pumping weight at a gym on the remainder of days, Bharaj, who has always been agile and fit, says.