

MAM College declared overall champion in Yuvtarang 2024-25

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JAMMU: The grand finale of Yuvtarang 2024-25, a vibrant and eagerly awaited youth festival, organised by the department of Students Welfare, Cluster University of Jammu, under the patronage of its Vice Chancellor, Professor K S Chandrasekar at M.A.M College Jammu, culminated with a spectacular valedictory function held here on Thursday.

Yuvtarang, as a vibrant programme, witnessed an impressive display of talent, creativity and sportsmanship from students across various colleges and the PG schools of University, marking it as one of the most successful youth festivals to date.

Principal Secretary, Culture, Suresh Kumar Gupta, was the chief guest during the concluding ceremony while Padma Shri, Balwant Thakur (eminent theatre artist), Padma Shri Rajendar Tiku (visual artist and sculptor) and Padma Shri Romalo Ram(folk artist) were the guests of honour.

Special Secretary,



Principal Secretary, Culture, Suresh Kumar Gupta with other dignitaries at closing ceremony of Yuvtarang 2024-25.

Department of Culture, Trishla Kundal, Principals of colleges, senior officers of Education and other concerned departments, besides a large number of students were also present on the occasion.

Suresh Kumar, in his address, commended the participants for their spirit and highlighted the role of such festivals in nurturing talent and fostering unity among youth. He encouraged the students to carry forward the lessons learned and the camaraderie formed during Yuvtarang that can pave way to success in their future

endeavours. Vice-Chancellor, Cluster University Jammu, Prof. K S Chandrasekar, in his presidential address stated, "Yuvtarang has always been more than just a festival and a lifetime achievement for each participant who partake in different literary and cultural categories. It's a platform for youth to explore their potential, connect with peers and celebrate diversity. We are thrilled by the energy and enthusiasm of the students this year."

Dean Student Welfare, Cluster University Jammu, Professor Monika Sharma, presented formal welcome

address and briefed the audience about the vision of Yuvtarang fest. She explained that this fest is an annual celebration of student's talent across creative, literary, and performing arts. She shared that this event provides a platform to the students to showcase their talent.

In the morning session, first position for Folk Group Dance Competition was bagged by the Government College for Women Gandhinagar, second place was secured by Maulana Azad Memorial College while the third spot was claimed by

SPMR College.

The valedictory session was marked by distribution of twelve prestigious trophies among the winners.

The overall Trophy was bagged by M.A.M College, runners up trophy by GCW Gandhinagar, overall trophy for best performer by Mohd Zaigham Salaria, trophy for best natak by M.A.M College, trophy for best performance in Music (Gaayan Vaadan) by M.A.M College, trophy for best performance in Creative and Fine Arts by SPMR College while trophy for best performer in literary activities was earned by GGM Science College.

The overall best performer in music award was clinched by Ridhima Bajpai of GCW Gandhinagar, overall best performer in theatre award by Akash Katoch of M.A.M College, overall best performer in Literati was shared by Manmeet Kour and Nitesh Choudhary of GGM Science while overall best artist in Creative and Fine Arts trophy was bagged by Mohammad Zaigham Salaria of GGM Science College.

Satish Sharma visits Khelo India Soft Tennis Centre; interacts with players

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JAMMU: Minister for Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma, on Thursday visited Khelo India Soft Tennis (ST) Centre, M A Stadium, and had an interactive session with the promising soft tennis players there.

The Minister also congratulated the players, Sidhani Singh, Soham Bhat and Shrinai Bhat, who recently participated in the Junior Soft Tennis World Championship held at Jingshang, China. He appreciated the players for their excellent performance in the International tournament and assured that this promising sports will be supported in all respects. He also commended the dedication of International coach and mentor, Indu Bhushan, who in a very short span of time has prepared the players of high caliber.

Satish Sharma, while elaborating various initiatives aiming sports promotion in J&K, said that the Omar Abdullah led government is keenly exploring all possibilities to encourage the talented athletes in the potential



Sports Minister Satish Sharma with players during visit to Khelo India Soft Tennis (ST) Centre, M A Stadium.

sports. He affirmed that the competent players would be provided all requisite facilities and platform enabling them to exhibit their exceptional sporting talent at national and international events.

Indu Bhushan also apprised the Minister of scope and potential of Soft Tennis game which is popularizing among the sports lovers very fast. He informed that launched in 2004 in India, the game has gained huge momentum in almost every state and UT of the

nation. This unique game, similar to Lawn Tennis, is being played in the Asian games where India has won medals as well. Also, the process for inclusion of Soft Tennis in the Olympics is also being done by the ST Federation of India.

The players requested the Minister to intervene in the matter of including Soft Tennis among the sports disciplines in the job SRO, besides establishment of Soft Tennis Courts in the state land available at Bhagwati Nagar.

GDC Bishnah organises poster making competition on 'Drug Abuse -A Serious Health Concern'



GDC Bishnah faculty posing for a photograph with winner students.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: In a proactive effort to raise awareness about the alarming rise of drug abuse and its impact on public health, Department of Zoology, Govt Degree College (GDC) Bishnah, on Thursday organised a poster making competition on the theme "Drug Abuse -A Serious Health Concern".

The event which took place in the Zoology lab invited students of all the semesters to contribute to their artwork

and ideas on one of society's most pressing issues.

10 students from science stream participated in the competition. The judges for the competition were Dr Sania Hamid, HOD Botany and Dr Kusum, HOD Punjabi.

Ariba Ansari bagged the first prize, second prize was bagged by Neharika Charak and third prize was shared by Mohd Asif and Rinkal Kumari.

The Head of the

Department, Dr Vasudha Chaudhari briefed the students about the significant health risks posed by the substance use and the importance of prevention, treatment and support for affected individuals.

The programme was coordinated by Dr Ashma Gupta, Assistant Professor in Zoology. The entire programme was held under the leadership of Dr Shallu Samyal, Principal of the College.

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JAMMU: Showing extraordinary skill and temperament when it mattered the most in the medal winning bouts, the young fencing duo from Jammu and Kashmir namely Sabrena Choudhary and Eknor Kaur blossomed, winning gold and silver respectively in U-14 girls Sabre event of the 68th National School Games in the discipline of Fencing, thus carving a space on the country's sports map and vindicating the stand and the commitment of the Jammu and Kashmir Government with regard to promoting sports in every nook and corner and making Jammu and Kashmir a sporting hub.

Gaurika of DAV and Navya of Haryana won bronze medals in U-14 girls Sabre event.

68th NSG: Manipur, Haryana claim gold in Epee Girls, Foil Boys

J&K fencers blossom as Sabrena wins Sabre gold, Eknor bags Silver Tara honours winners with medals



DG YSS, Rajinder Singh Tara and other dignitaries with winner students.

The mega Fencing event, which is as part of a historic series of National events, is being organised by the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports, under the auspices of School Games Federation of India (SGFI) at the Gymnasium Hall, University of Jammu here.

Meanwhile, in the U-14 Girls Epee team event, Manipur clinched gold, Telangana bagged silver, while Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh claimed Bronze medals.

In the U-14 Boys Foil Individual event, Vivek Kumar of Haryana won

Gold, Devesh of Haryana bagged Silver and the bronze medals were claimed by Shubham Agarwal of CBSE and Asher SA of Tamil Nadu.

By winning two medals on day-3 today, J&K's medal tally in these games reached four with two gold and two

silver medals.

Director General Youth Services and Sports, Rajinder Singh Tara presented medals to the winners in a colourful and well attended function.

He was accompanied by Joint Director Youth Services and Sports, Jammu, Ved Prakash; Deputy Director Youth Services and Sports Central, Jitendra Mishra; Accounts Officer Directorate of Youth Services and Sports, Sunil Kumar Sharma; Director Physical Education and Sports, University of Jammu, Daud Iqbal Baba and a galaxy of District Youth Services and Sports Officers.

It may be recalled that the Fencing event is as part of a month-long series of National School Games in the disciplines of Judo, Fencing, Wushu and Football.

Children's Day celebration at JU: Nurturing young minds, shaping bright futures

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Home Science, University of Jammu celebrated Children's Day with a spirited gathering that embodied the theme, "Nurturing Childhood, Empowering Futures."

The event aimed to highlight the critical role of early nurturing in shaping confident, resilient, and empowered future generations. Children from Surabhi Nursery School and day care centre, accompanied by students and scholars from the department, participated in the day's festivities.

The day commenced with



Surabhi Nursery School students and faculty celebrating Children's Day at JU.

an engaging Fancy Dress Competition.

By encouraging such self-expression, the department demonstrated its commitment to nurturing children's individuality, an essential part of

empowering them for the future. This theme of nurturing was woven throughout each activity, underscoring the importance of providing young children with spaces to explore their personalities and

interests freely. The event also included a variety of interactive games designed to cultivate teamwork, problem-solving, and social skills, essential qualities for building resilience in the face of future challenges.

As the children played, laughed, and learned together, students and scholars from the department engaged with them, embodying the ethos of a supportive community dedicated to fostering positive childhood experiences.

Head of the Department, Prof. Sarika Manhas emphasized that early childhood is a formative period where nurturing guidance can set the foundation for future success.

"Today's celebration is not only a joyful event but also a reminder of our collective responsibility to create supportive environments for children. By nurturing their growth today, we empower them for a brighter future," she said.

Prof. Shashi Manhas, and Prof. Samridhi Arora acknowledged the participation of children, students, and faculty alike, highlighting how such occasions strengthen bonds within the community and reinforce the commitment to holistic child development. The entire event was managed by the staff of Surabhi Nursery School and students of M.Sc Human Development.

J&K Police Central Sports Team conducts Basic Life Support Workshop



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JAMMU: A two-day workshop on Basic Life Support (BLS) was organized by J&K Police Central Sports Team at Gulshan Ground, Jammu on November 12-13, 2024. The workshop aimed to equip players

and mountain rescuers with essential life-saving skills to respond to cardio-pulmonary emergencies and respiratory distress. Expert trainers from the Mountain Rescuers Team, led by Inspector Ram Singh and supervised by Dy.SP

(Sports) Kuldeep Handoo, provided comprehensive lectures and hands-on demonstrations. The entire J&K Police Central Sports Team participated in the workshop, ensuring they are prepared for sports events and emergency duties.

Dist Kho Kho Championship 2024-25 concludes



DC Poonch Vikas Kundal interacting with players.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Two Day Open District Kho Kho Championship (Men-Women) 2024-25 organized by District Kho Kho Association Poonch concluded on Thursday, here at Dina Nath Rafiq Memorial Model Government Higher Secondary School Girls (Sheesh Mahal).

Deputy Commissioner

Vikas Kundal was the chief guest on the occasion. As many as 11 teams from different institutions, private clubs and higher secondary schools participated in the Kho Kho championship.

The students were enthusiastic and participated with full zeal in the sports event and the matches were witnessed by a good gathering of students.

The chief guest advised the Players/Youth to stay away from drugs and take part in Sports. He extended good wishes to Kho Kho Association Poonch for organising such a big tournament at District level.

In the female category, the final match was played between Malik Club vs Sheesh Mahal Club. The final was clinched by Malik Kho Kho Club by defeating Sheesh Mehal Club. In the Male Category, Malik Club remains the winner by defeating Purani Poonch Club.

Later, the Chief Guest along with the Principal Dina Nath Rafiq Memorial Model Government Higher Secondary School Girls Poonch, presented trophies and certificates to the winner and runner-up teams in the presence of staff members.

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JAMMU: Jammu University students won fifteen (15) individual medals at the National Yoga Sports Foundation (M&W) Championship 2024-25, organized by the Yoga Sports Foundation at Monad University, Hapur, Ghaziabad (U.P), on 9th and 10th November 2024.

Jammu University achieved an impressive victory at the National Yoga Sports Foundation (NYSF) Championship 2024-25, showcasing outstanding performances in both men's and women's categories. The medal-winning team comprised Nitika (Gold), Jahnavi (Silver), Diksha (Silver), Priya (Bronze), Lobzang



Jammu University faculty felicitating winner students.

(Bronze), Meenakshi (Silver), Pooja (Silver), Amandeep (Silver), Tofeeq (Silver), Bignesh (Silver), Sahil (Bronze), and Sajid (Silver). The athletes displayed remarkable skills and resilience in various yogasana categories.

In addition to their suc-

cess at the championship, Jammu University's Nitika Sharma was awarded the prestigious "Miss Charming Girl" title at the Miss Yoga India Competition.

Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director of the Directorate of Sports and

Physical Education, University of Jammu interacted with the medalists and congratulated them, stating, "This achievement is a testament to our students' hard work and commitment to excellence. Jammu University is proud of our

yoga team and their contribution to the university's reputation at a national level."

The students trained under the guidance of Sanjeev Kumar, whose expertise has been instrumental in preparing them for high-level competitions. The victory has brought immense pride to Jammu University, reinforcing its commitment to promoting sports and holistic development. The institution looks forward to future achievements as it continues to support and nurture talent in yoga and other sports.

Rainu and Samika accompanied the team as Manager and Assistant Manager.