

Induction-cum-Interactive Meet of Sem-I students organized in GDC Mahanpur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
MAHANPUR: Induction-cum-Interactive Meet of Semester-I students was organized in Government Degree College (GDC) Mahanpur.

The Programme was organised by the Admission Committee Semester 1st under the supervision of the Principal of the College, Prof. (Dr.) Sangeeta Sudan.

It was attended by all the students of 1st semester. The function started with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the Principal and other senior faculty members of the college.

The Principal of the College, Chief Guest of the occasion, was welcomed with a bouquet.

Dr. Jogbinder Singh



Semester-I students posing with faculty of GDC Mahanpur during Induction-cum-Interactive Meet.

Soodan, Convener of Admission Committee Semester 1st, gave the Welcome Address. In his address he not only welcomed the new batch of arts and science stream of the College but also motivated them to explore the sports, NSS, and other opportunities in the College along with their stud-

ies. Prof. (Dr.) Sangeeta Sudan, the Principal of the College, was the Chief Guest of the occasion. In her address, the Principal not only welcomed the newly inducted students of Semester 1st but also congratulated them for their new and crucial journey.

She also appreciated the efforts and dedication of the Admission Committee 1st semester for the smooth conduct of the Admission process.

Besides this, all the H.O.D.'s as well as the faculty members welcomed and addressed the freshers. Moreover, a formal introduc-

Anahat Singh clinches Costa North Coast Open PSA Challenger title

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Teenage squash sensation Anahat Singh secured her sixth PSA Challenger title of the year by winning the women's singles crown at the Costa North Coast Open 2024 in Coff's Harbour, Australia, on Sunday.

Seeded third in the tournament, the 16-year-old downed Japan's sixth seed Akari Midorikawa in straight games 3-0 (11-6, 11-6, 11-7). Throughout the tournament, she displayed remarkable form, dropping only one game. In the semi-finals, she defeated Hong Kong's seventh seed Kirstie Wong 3-1 (11-5, 7-11, 11-7, 11-9), after having previously swept aside Bobo Lam and Helen Tang from Hong Kong in the earlier rounds. Anahat, who won bronze medals in both the women's team and mixed doubles events at the Hangzhou Asian Games, received a bye in the first round due to her seeding. Earlier this year, she claimed the JSW Willingdon Little Masters and Senior Tournament title in January.

Army organises Volleyball Competition



A volleyball match in progress at Poonch.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: The Army has launched a volleyball competition for the youth of Surankote and neighbouring areas at Kulali.

The event aims to promote sportsmanship, teamwork, and physical fitness among local youth. It responds to the popular demand by locals to organize a mega volleyball tournament.

Twelve teams from various localities are participating in the competition,

showcasing their talent and vying for the top spot.

The initiative seeks to wean youth away from drugs and provide impetus to sports activities in the region.

By engaging with local youth, the Indian Army fosters community unity and development, recognizing the role of sports as a catalyst for understanding and brotherhood.

The event has garnered an overwhelming response from youth and local spec-

tators, demonstrating the Indian Army's commitment to community development and youth empowerment.

Local Residents have appreciated the sincere efforts put in by the security forces to constructively engage the youth of the region and have requested more such sporting events.

The Indian Army remains dedicated to nurturing the potential of local youth, promoting talent, physical fitness, and teamwork.

Tendulkar calls for introspection, Sehwag says 'upgrade against spin' after unprecedented defeat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
MUMBAI: India's former cricketers fell into stunned silence in the immediate aftermath of the unmitigated disaster against New Zealand here on Sunday. But once they have gathered their thoughts, they pulled no punches while reviewing the team's debacle.

The likes of Sachin Tendulkar, Virender Sehwag and Harbhajan Singh called for "introspection", urged the team management to stop "needless experimentation" in the Test format and start playing on better pitches.

India faced a humiliating 0-3 whitewash at home for the first time ever after suffering a 25-run defeat in the third Test against a New Zealand side that arrived here on the back of a 0-2 loss to Sri Lanka.

"Losing 3-0 at home is a tough pill to swallow, and it calls for introspection. Was it lack of preparation, was it poor shot selection, or was it lack of match practice?" Tendulkar posted on X.

Set a target of 147 on a crumbling Wankhede pitch, India lasted just 29.1 overs to be bowled out for 121, making it the lowest target to be successfully defended against them at home.

Rishabh Pant (64), who struck fifties in both the

innings, was the only batter to show some fight, while Shubman Gill (90) was the top-scorer in India's first innings.

"@ShubmanGill showed resilience in the first innings, and @RishabhPant17 was brilliant in both innings - his footwork made a challenging surface look like a different one altogether. He was simply superb," Tendulkar noted.

"Turning it a terrible show by Rohit Sharma's team, former India opener Sehwag wrote on Instagram: "While as supporters it's imperative to support the team but this has been a terrible performance from our team."

"The skill to play spin certainly needs an upgrade and certain experimentations are good for the shorter format but in Test cricket doing some needless experimentations just for the sake of it was indeed poor."

"Congratulations to @TomLatham and his @blackcapsnz boys on doing what is a dream for every visiting team and no other could conquer in this way."

"The crushing blow not only toppled India from the top of the World Test Championship standings but also exposed severe cracks in their batting against spin as New Zealand tweekers grabbed 37 out of 57 Indian wickets.

Left-arm spinner Mitchell Santner with 13 wickets was the wrecker-in-chief in the second Test in Pune, and in his absence in Mumbai following a side strain, Ajaz Patel led the charge with an extraordinary 11-wicket match haul.

Former India off-spinner Harbhajan Singh said on these kind of pitches "anyone can get anyone out" and teams don't need legends like Muttiah Muralitharan, Shane Warne, or Saqlain Mushtaq to take wickets.

"Turning pitches becoming ur own enemy #INDvsNZTEST Congratulations NZ you outplayed us. Been saying from many years. Team India needs to play on better pitches. These turning pitches making every batsman look very ordinary," Harbhajan wrote on X.

"Earlier generations batsmen never played on these kind of tracks. These tracks are prepared for 2/3 day Test matches. You don't need Muri, Warne or Saqi on these pitches to get the teams out. Anyone can get anyone out."

Former all-rounder Irfan Pathan highlighted the lack of red-ball cricket for the senior India batters as one of the reasons for the debacle.

"This is embarrassing display by team India at home. Lot to ponder over by the decision

makers. Well done New Zealand on such a terrific performance.

"Had a solid conversation with @iamyusufpathan bhui yesterday. He made a valid point about domestic cricket - we're either playing on grassy pitches or flat tracks, but rarely on turning surfaces anymore. Plus, top players aren't playing domestic cricket. This could hurt us in the long run."

Former India batter Sanjay Manjrekar added, "And with that we come to the end of a long phase of rank turners in India."

Reactions also came from overseas with former England captain Michael Vaughan saying the Indian batters now struggle like most teams against spin.

"To win in India is incredible but to deliver a clean sweep is remarkable... has to be the greatest ever Test series victory. India now have a group of batters that struggle like most teams against spin..." Vaughan wrote.

Former West Indies pacer Ian Bishop posted: "Amazing from New Zealand. A population of less than 6 million. No Kane Williamson. They have conquered an unenviable task, and both men's and women's teams have had an historic and proud few weeks."

The win was doubly special for New Zealand who had land-

Carrom Federation Cup in January

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: All India Carrom Federation shall be hosting 29th All India Federation Cup Carrom Tournament from January 5 to 8, 2025 at Nellore Club, Dargamitta, Nellore in Andhra Pradesh.

The Jammu and Kashmir Carrom Association shall also take part in the event. Subsequently, to raise the UT team, the Association has initiated the process to raise the J&K team for the National event, a handout issued here today informed.

tion of the newly faculty members was also organised.

All the faculty members not only introduced their respective Departments but also motivated and guided the freshers to aim for a life which is filled with discipline, punctuality, truth, honesty, truth and other moral values.

The faculty members who were part of the Induction cum Interactive meet were Dr. Mohinder Nath Sharma, Dr. Sudesh Kumar, Nisha, Dr. Sapna Devi, Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia, Dr. Hilal Bhatt, Dr. Nishu Rajput, Dr. Anju Bala, Dr. Bably, Dr. Yograj and Namita.

The programme was conducted by Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia and the formal vote of thanks was given by Dr. Mohinder Nath Sharma.

DG Sports assesses preparation of J&K team's Judo Camp

Coaches hopeful of a better show than previous year

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director General Youth Services and Sports, Rajinder Singh Tara took stock of the preparations of the J&K Judo team for the upcoming 68th National School Games, commencing from November 7 with the opening ceremony at MA Stadium here.

The DG Sports was accompanied by Joint Director Youth Services and Sports Jammu, Vaid Prakash and Accounts Officer Directorate of Youth Services and Sports, J&K, Sunil Kumar Sharma.

On the occasion, Tara interacted with the players and the coaches and served strict instructions to the coaches with regard to making the players practice well, sleep well and eat well during the camp.

While assuring the campers of all help from the Department, Tara advised the players to leave no stone unturned in keeping J&K's flag high at the national scene.

Dangal organised at Khandwal

Sonam Aulakh calls upon Sports Minister to give priority to traditional sports

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The age-old tradition of Dangal (wrestling) made a vibrant return to Khandwal Panchayat. The community gathered in large numbers to witness the event, which brought a renewed sense of unity and excitement.

Ex-Sarpanch and senior BJP leader Sonam Deep Singh Aulakh attended as the Chief Guest, adding to the prestige of the occasion.

The event was meticulously organized under the leadership of Panch Bodh Raj, who holds the role of Pradhan of the Dangal Committee.

In his address, Sonam Deep Singh Aulakh spoke passionately about the importance of traditional sports such as wrestling,



Ex-Sarpanch Sonam Deep Singh Aulakh with wrestlers and others at a Dangal.

hockey, and Kabaddi, particularly in rural heartlands.

"These sports are more than just games; they are part of our heritage and an essential means to engage our youth, steering them away from drug addiction and promoting their physical and mental health," Aulakh remarked, earning wide-

spread approval from the audience.

Aulakh also called on J&K Sports Minister Satish Sharma to prioritize traditional sports, emphasizing their value in fostering a healthy and active society.

Looking ahead, he announced that more such events are planned across the rural belt of Jammu and Kashmir, signaling a concerted effort to rejuvenate interest in cultural and physical activities.

"Supporting and expanding these sports is crucial for ensuring that our young people have constructive outlets that not only benefit their health but also strengthen community bonds," he added.

The successful organization of this Dangal not only revived a beloved sport but also ignited hopes for a broader revival of traditional sports across the region.

Panch Bodh Raj's dedicated efforts in organizing the event were also lauded, showcasing a collective desire among community leaders to reconnect the present generation with their cultural roots.

The address resonated with the crowd, who welcomed the idea of reviving and supporting traditional sports in the region.

Aulakh's commitment to hosting more such events in rural areas was seen as a hopeful step toward preserving these beloved practices and reinforcing their role in fostering resilience and a positive future for the youth.



Director General Youth Services and Sports, Rajinder Singh Tara interacting with Judo players.

While motivating and encouraging the players, the DG Sports asked the players to be dedicated, determined and disciplined to achieve goals.

The coaches on the occasion were hopeful of better show of the team than 67th National School Games hosted by J&K last year.

The Jammu and Kashmir Judo team is being trained by a galaxy of coaches including Varinder Sharma, Danish

Sharma, Pankaj Sapolia. Raman Sharma and Pankaj Kumar.

On the occasion, the Director General along with other dignitaries interacted with the players of J&K Volleyball team before their departure.

It may be recalled that the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports is going to organise 68th National School Games in historic four sports disciplines on the trot.

Kulgam Volleyball Championship begins



Participating teams posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Organised by the District Kulgam Volleyball Association, District Championship got underway at Government Higher Secondary School Chowgan under the banner of Volleyball Association Jammu and Kashmir and sponsored by Jammu and

Kashmir Sports Council.

In total, 14 teams, including six in girls section, taking part in this championship. The event was declared open by Mohd Amin, Tehsildar Chogam, who appreciated the efforts of the Kulgam Volleyball body, especially secretary, Nelofer Habib. Prominent among others

present were Bashir Ahmed, Manager Kulgam Stadium and Abdul Rehman, Principal Higher Secondary School.

The Results: Unique Spikes beat GHSS Cheowgam 3-1 (25-19, 25-15, 19-25, 25-21); Kund Warriors beat Outlaws 3-0 (25-22, 25-18, 26-24).

Parthavi, Vanshika, Hemant win gold, Indian boxers return with 17 medals from U-19 World C'ships

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Parthavi Grewal, Vanshika Goswami and Hemant Sangwan punched their way to gold as Indian boxers made a strong impression, clinching a haul of 17 medals at the inaugural U-19 World Championships organised by World Boxing in Colorado, USA.

It was the female boxers who stole the show with as many as 10 of them standing on the podium at the age group tournament.

While Parthavi notched a dominant 5-0 win over Netherlands' Aaliyah Hoppema in the women's 65kg final Vanshika emerged victorious in the woman's +80kg category against Germany's Victoria Gatt by Referee Stops Contest (RSC) one minute and 37 minutes on Saturday.

In the next bout, Hemant clinched India's sole gold medal in the



men's category by securing a 4-1 split decision victory over the USA's Rishon Sims in the 90kg category. Nisha (51kg), Supriya Devi Thokchom (54kg) and Kritika Wasan (80kg) lost their respective finals to sign off with silver medals.

This significant medal count was highlighted by the contributions of 11 Khelo India Athletes (KIAs), of which eight are SAI National Centre of Excellence (NCOE)

trainees.

The medallists also included three NCOE trainees who are non-KIAs, all training out of NCOE Rohtak.

Medal-winning Khelo India Athletes: Boys - Sumit, Lakshay Rathi, Krish Pal (all NCOE Rohtak), Aryan, Rishi Singh.

Girls - Krishna Verma (NCOE Aurangabad), Chanchal Chaudhary, Nisha, Vini, Akansha

Phalaswal (all NCOE Rohtak), Supriya Devi.

Medal-winning NCOE Athletes:

NCOE Rohtak - Parthavi, Vanshika (Gold), Chanchal, Nisha, Vini, Akansha, Kritika (Silver), Krish Pal, Sumit, Lakshay Rathi (Bronze).

NCOE Aurangabad - Krisha Verma (Gold).

Overall medal winners: Gold: Krishna Verma (F75kg), Parthavi Grewal (F65kg), Vanshika Goswami (F+80KG), Hemant Sangwan (M90kg).

Silver: Nisha (F51kg), Supriya Devi Thokchom (F54kg), Kritika Wasan (F80kg), Chanchal Chaudhary (F48kg), Anjali Singh (F57kg), Vini (F60kg), Akansha Phalaswal (F70kg), Rahul Kundu (M75kg).

Bronze: Rishi Singh (M50kg), Krish Pal (M55kg), Sumit (M70kg), Aryan (M85kg), Lakshay Rathi (M90+kg).