

VAJK celebrates National Unity Day across J&K



VAJK office bearers posing for a photograph with participating teams.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of the Iron Man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Volleyball Association of Jammu & Kashmir (VAJK) organized a series of events across the Union Territory to celebrate National Unity Day (Rashtriya Ekta Divas) with great enthusiasm.

The main function was held at M.A Stadium, Jammu, where an exhibition volleyball match was organized between the SAI team and the M.A. Stadium team. The match witnessed thrilling rallies and exceptional sportsmanship, with the M.A. Stadium team showcasing superior skills to defeat the SAI team by 3-1 sets.

During the event, dignitaries fondly remembered Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's monumental contribution as a visionary leader who unified 562 princely states into one strong, stable, and sovereign nation.

Special reference was made to his foresight and commitment that ensured Jammu & Kashmir's integration as an inseparable and integral part of India.

The National Integration Pledge was administered by Ganik Sharma, Captain of the SAI team, to all players and participants, reaffirming their commitment to national unity and integrity. Speakers on the occasion urged the youth to strengthen the bonds of

Unity in Diversity by following the ideals of Sardar Patel and to collectively combat the menace of drug addiction spreading in society.

Prominent office bearers and dignitaries who graced the event included Kuldeep Magotra (CEO VAIK), H.S. Gill (Executive Vice President), Vijay Magotra (General Secretary), Romesh Sharma (Treasurer), Manmeet Singh (Joint Secretary), Subhash Shastri (Executive Member), and Parteek Kumar (SAI Volleyball Coach), along with a large number of volleyball lovers, players, and sports enthusiasts.

A similar event was also

organized by the Trikuta Volleyball Club (Girls) at the Play Field, Shastri Nagar, Jammu, under the supervision of Amarjeet Singh (Secretary, Jammu District Volleyball Association), Manpreet Kaur (President, Trikuta Club), and Mulkh Raj Sharma (Volleyball Coach, JKSC).

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from young girls, showcasing the growing popularity of volleyball among female players in the region.

President VAIK, Sidharth Daluja, highlighted the importance of celebrating such national occasions to make the younger generation aware of the invaluable contribution of great leaders like Sardar Patel in uniting the nation.

He appreciated the dedicated efforts of the organizers, office bearers of VAIK, players, and coaches for carrying out sports activities as per the annual calendar while also celebrating national events across Jammu & Kashmir.

The celebrations concluded with a strong message of national unity, integrity, and youth empowerment through sports—a fitting tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's legacy.

GGM Science College wins Inter-Collegiate Men and Women Badminton Tournament trophies

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Inter-Collegiate Men and Women Badminton Tournament, organized by Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ), was held under the supervision of Government MAM College.

Dr. Vinod Bakshi, the Chief Guest, congratulated the participants while emphasizing the importance of sports in overall personality development. He motivated the students to actively participate in sports alongside academics and assured them that the university is committed to working for the welfare of students and will continue its efforts in the future.

The final matches were played between SPMR College of Commerce and GGM Science College in the Men's section, and between GCW Gandhi Nagar and GGM Science



Harshit Sharma and Tejaswini Sharma, best players of the Badminton Men & Women Inter-College Tournament with Chief Guest, Dr. Vinod Bakshi.

College in the Women's section.

In the Women's final, GGM Science College defeated GCW Gandhi Nagar by 2-0, while in the Men's final, GGM Science College triumphed over SPMR College of Commerce by 3-0.

Harshit Sharma and Tejaswini Sharma, both from GGM Science

College, were declared the Best Players of the Tournament for their exceptional performances.

The matches were officiated by Arjun Sharma, Rahul Chawriya, and Davinder Singh, who ensured fair play throughout the event. Special appreciation was extended to Sukhdev, Sub-Inspector, Incharge

of the Indoor Badminton Hall, for his cooperation and support during the entire tournament.

The event was also graced by the presence of Kajal Premi, Physical Director, GCW Gandhi Nagar; Dr. Devinder Sharma, Physical Director, GGM Science College; and Neenu Sahwney, Physical Director, MAM College.

CLUJ fencing men & women teams set to participate in All India Inter-University Tournament at GNDU Amritsar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Inter-Collegiate Men and Women Badminton Tournament, organized by Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ), was held under the supervision of Government MAM College.

Dr. Vinod Bakshi, the Chief Guest, congratulated the participants while emphasizing the importance of sports in overall personality development. He motivated the students to actively participate in sports alongside academics and assured them that the university is committed to working for the welfare of students and will continue its efforts in the future.

The final matches were played between SPMR College of Commerce and GGM Science College in the Men's section, and between GCW Gandhi Nagar and GGM Science College in the Women's section.

In the Women's final, GGM Science College defeated GCW Gandhi Nagar by 2-0, while in the Men's final, GGM Science College triumphed over SPMR College of Commerce by 3-0.

Harshit Sharma and Tejaswini



Vice-Chancellor CLUJ and Dr. Vinod Bakshi along with participating teams.

Sharma, both from GGM Science College, were declared the Best Players of the Tournament for their exceptional performances.

The matches were officiated by Arjun Sharma, Rahul Chawriya, and Davinder Singh, who ensured fair play throughout the event. Special appreciation was extended to Sukhdev, Sub-Inspector, Incharge of the Indoor

Badminton Hall, for his cooperation and support during the entire tournament.

The event was also graced by the presence of Kajal Premi, Physical Director, GCW Gandhi Nagar; Dr. Devinder Sharma, Physical Director, GGM Science College; and Neenu Sahwney, Physical Director, MAM College.

Kathua, Samba district Athletics meet on Nov 2

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Kathua District Athletics Association and Samba District Athletics Association, under the aegis of J&K Amateur Athletics Association, shall hold district championships on November two.

While Kathua District Championship shall take place at Government Degree College Kathua, Samba athletics meet shall be conducted at Bawa Santokh Nath Stadium Smailpur.

Those interested participants have been advised to confirm their entries bringing along copy of Aadhar Card and Date of Birth certificate.

The competition shall be held in Under-14 (long jump, shot put, 60mtr.), Under-16 (long jump, shot put, 60mtr., 600mtr.), Under-20 (100 mtr; 200 mtr; 400 mtr; 800 mtr; 1500 mtr; shot put, long jump) and Open (100 mtr; 200 mtr; 400 mtr; 800 mtr; 1500 mtr; shot put, long jump) in both boys and girls sections.

Indica Mohan qualifies Ph.D

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indica Mohan, wife of Er. R a h u l G a g t o t r a a n d Daughter of K a n t a a n d Manohar Lal Dogra, resident of Luthi Jammu has been declared qualified for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Environmental Sciences by the Central University Jammu.

She researched on the topic "Physico-chemical analysis and Phytobial remediation of soil around brick kilns in Jammu district" under the supervision of Prof. Deepak Pathania of Central University of Jammu.

Volleyball Tournament under CAP by JKAP-8th Bn gets underway



Participating teams posing with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A volleyball tournament under the Civic Action Programme 2025-26 was organized by the JKAP-8th Battalion. On this occasion, a thrilling match was played between Bagga Zina Club, R.S. Pura and JK Police Public School, Miran Sahib, Jammu on Friday.

The Chief Organizer of the event, Suram Singh, (SSP) Commandant JKAP-8th Battalion, while addressing the participants, highlighted the vital role of Jammu and Kashmir Police in strengthening

police-public relations and fostering harmony through sports.

He emphasized that such tournaments not only promote physical fitness and discipline but also keep youth away from social evils by channelizing their energy positively.

The event witnessed an enthusiastic gathering, including staff members, players, and local dignitaries, who lauded the efforts of JKAP-8th Battalion for providing a constructive platform to young talent.

The tournament reflected the spirit of teamwork, discipline, and unity between the police and the public.

At the conclusion of the match, Bhupinder Singh, DySP JKAP-8th Battalion, distributed certificates to the players. The Commandant assured that similar initiatives will continue under the Civic Action Programme.

The ongoing tournament includes both boys' and girls' teams and is scheduled to culminate in the first week of November 2025.

National Unity Day celebrated with volleyball exhibition match in Poonch



Winner team receiving trophy.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Poonch District Volleyball Association, in collaboration with Shaheed DySP Manjit Singh Memorial Volleyball Club, celebrated National Unity Day with an exhibition volleyball match at Poonch.

Er. Poonab Shaikh, Xen PDD Poonch, graced the occasion as Chief Guest and lauded the efforts of Mohd Tariq, Chairman of the Shaheed DySP Manjit Singh Memorial Volleyball Club and Secretary of the District Volleyball

Association, for promoting sports and engaging youth from remote and border areas.

The event highlighted the spirit of unity and encouraged young players to participate actively in sports and community development.

Heritage School excels at Carmel Convent's Cultural Fest 'Sur Taal'



Heritage School faculty felicitating winner students.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Heritage School once again showcased its artistic brilliance by emerging as the Overall Winner at the interschool Singing and Dance Competition 'Sur Taal', organised by Carmel Convent School, Jammu, on 29th October 2025.

The vibrant cultural fest witnessed enthusiastic participation from several reputed schools across the city, each presenting their creative flair in a splendid celebration of music, dance and artistic expression. The

Heritage School team captivated both the audience and judges with their spectacular performances, marked by rhythm, grace and perfect coordination.

The Dance Team from Heritage School secured the 1st Position, delivering a power-packed and beautifully choreographed performance. The winning team included Siya Kaushal of IX A, Pavit Kaur of IX B, Hamreet of XI C, Sukmoor Kaur of XI C, Honey Ragotra of IX D, Khushi of IX D, Kashvi Choudhary of X B, Gurkir Kour

of X C, Suhana Dubey of X F, Shranya Sharma of X F, Prisha Makin of XI D, Mishti of XI C, Maitri of IX D and Sagrika of XI A. Their synchronized movements and energetic presentation earned them top honours in the event.

The Singing Team from Heritage School also delivered an outstanding performance, enthraling everyone with their melodious voices and musical harmony. The talented group comprised of Maanvi Sargotra from XI B, Chandan Mahajan from X A, Dhruv Bhardwaj from X D, Ananya Puri from X E, Grisha Angral from X F, Vedha Sadhotra from IX E, Dhriti Gupta from IX B, Aakshaya Sethi from IX A and Varun Sharma from X C.

The Heritage fraternity congratulates all the students and their mentors for their creativity, dedication and teamwork, which culminated in this remarkable success. Their achievement at 'Sur Taal' stands as a shining example of the school's commitment to fostering talent and promoting cultural excellence.

Samba Taekwondo meet from Nov 3

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Taekwondo Association of District Samba shall hold two-day district championship under the aegis of the J&K Taekwondo Association and in support with J&K Sports Council at Indoor Stadium, Samba from November three.

The event will feature exciting competitions across Sub-Junior, Cadet, Junior, and Senior categories, providing a platform for the young athletes of district Samba to demonstrate their skill, spirit, and sportsmanship.

Since, the JKTA Athlete License is mandatory for all participants, the Association shall not accept the entries without such license, a hand-out issued here today informed.

The participants are advised to report November two at 2 pm at Indoor Stadium, Samba for the weigh-in along with the necessary documents, informed president of the Association, Rajesh Pangotra.

Sudha Chib qualifies Ph.D

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sudha Chib, daughter of Subhash Chib and wife of R a n v i r Singh, resident of Village Samwan, Pallanwala, District Jammu, has been declared qualified for the award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Biotechnology by the University of Jammu.

Her research work titled "Studies on the genetic transformation of saffron for manipulation of apocrotenoid pathway" was conducted under the supervision of Prof. M.K. Dhar, Director AeSIR Ghaziabad, Faculty of School of Biotechnology, University of Jammu.



Gandhi Nagar to face Marh in U-19 boys Cricket final



Winner team posing for a photograph with officials.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Gandhi Nagar zone shall take on Zone Marh in the final of the ongoing inter zone district level under-19 boys Cricket tournament, organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) at Parade Ground, here.

Earlier, in the second semi-final of the event, Zone Marh defeated Zone Jammu by a

comfortable margin of 38 runs.

Batting first, Zone Marh made 155 runs for seven wickets in allotted 20 overs a side game. Mayank played fine innings of 47 runs. From Jammu zone, Manitway took three wickets to emerge as most successful bowler.

In reply, Zone Jammu bowled out for 117 runs in 16.5 overs. Gurtaj remained

top scorer with 46 runs. From Zone Marh, Sanshay took three wickets while Tamnay and Gurdeep shared two each.

The event was officiated by the technical panel including Sandeepan Sharma, Satpal Singh, Jagtar Singh, Vikram Dogra, Satika Sharma, Rajesh Choudhary, Jatinder Singh, Ajay Koul and Madan Mohan.

Saksham of GDC Kunjwani wins Powerlifting gold



GDC Kunjwani faculty felicitating winner student Saksham Bassan.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Saksham Bassan, a student of semester-V of the Government Degree College (GDC) Kunjwani won gold medal in the inter-college competitions of University of Jammu (JU) held under the banner of

Directorate of Sports, JU. Saksham contested in 93 kg weight category and bagged the top spot thus brought laurels to the institution.

Upon their return to the college, Saksham was felicitated by Principal, Dr

Manisha Kohli.

She congratulated them and also blessed them for their future. She also acknowledged the contributions of Malik Aijaz Iqbal, PTI of the college in motivating and encouraging the young athlete.