

JK Public School Panjtirthi celebrates Global Family Day



Toddlers of JK Public School Panjtirthi performing various activities during Family Day celebration.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: JK Public School on Wednesday celebrated Global Family Day. The vivacious learners

of class Ist virtually observed Day to express prominence of love, peace and care among the families.

Jakiians edified the viewers by expounding the importance of families, people, societies as well as cultures around the world.

They lauded and appreciated the responsibilities of every single family member in their lives. Jakiians corresponding-

ly enthralled the viewers through different Performances on the theme "Togetherness and Affection of a Family.

They further highlighted the values essential for a peaceful and affectionate family. The Principal of JKPS

Panjtirthi said, "A family is like branches on a tree, that grows in different directions yet the root remains the same.

Today's Celebration has revived and rekindled the importance of love and affection among the members of a family."

DYSS celebrates National Youth Day across J&K Speakers throw light on life, teachings of Vivekananda, Aurobindo

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: On the directions of Principal Secretary, Youth Services and Sports Department, Alok Kumar and Director YS&S, Gazanfar Ali, while adhering to Covid protocol, the Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) celebrated National Youth Day on Wednesday on the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda with great enthusiasm and national spirit across all the district headquarters of the Union Territory and the Directorate Office, here today.

The 5-day National Youth Festival also took off today at Puducherry, which was virtually inaugurated by Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi. The officers, the field staff and the youth in particular took part in various activities online as well as offline.

After the PM's speech, a



Participants performing Yoga Asanas in snow-clad ground.

day-long programme of activities was organised at District Headquarters of twin divisions, which included meditation & yoga; forest bathing- to improve mental wellness and increase awareness towards ecology and climate change; Swachh Bharat Abhiyan for clean and green India; Youth summit by iconic speakers; Keynote address by youth icons; Panel discussion; Indigenous sport (Martial Art) and finally

cultural items. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Director Youth Services and Sports Jammu, Jitender Mishra said that the philosophy of Swamiji and the ideals for which he lived and worked serve as a great source of inspiration for the Indian youth.

He said majority of population of the country comprises of youth, so, it is very important that our youth are physically and mentally strong.

"Youth empowerment is all the more necessary so that their positive energies are channelized in such a way that they can contribute their best in nation building," added Mr Mishra.

He also threw light on Swami Vivekananda's message for the youth, which is-"Arise, awake and stop not till the goal is achieved".

The speakers said that it was Aurobindo who carried forward the legacy of Vivekananda.

The participation was limited to 25 persons at each venue owing to the adherence of COVID -19 protocols.

Earlier, the Prime Minister's virtual inauguration of the programme was attended by the Physical Education Officers, PEMS, PETs, ReKs, NYCs and students via virtual mode.

PDТА celebrates National Youth Day



Taekwondo players posing with officials during National Youth Day celebrations at Poonch.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
POONCH: Poonch District Taekwondo Association (PDТА) celebrated National Youth Day in collaboration District Unit of Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council Here at Sports Stadium Poonch. Sunil Gupta, State Spokesperson BJP was the Chief Guest on the occasion while Paramjeet Singh, District General Secretary was the Guest of Honour. Nirdosh Kumar Incharge Manager Sports Stadium Poonch, Makhana Lal (President PDТА), Premprakash Luthra (Sr

Vice-president PDТА) were among the Special Guests. Speaking on the occasion, Sunil Gupta congratulated all participants on the occasion of National Youth Day and assured every possible help for development of Taekwondo in Poonch. Paramjeet Singh, District General Secretary BJP, congratulated youth of Poonch for bringing laurels to Poonch by winning medals at National and international level. He lauded efforts of Rajinder Singh for providing excellent platform to Poonch youth by imparting

them free training in Taekwondo. Earlier Rajinder Singh, Taekwondo Coach welcomed the gathering. Few Taekwondo bouts were also held by young budding players and medals were distributed among all the players by the Chief Guest. Others present on the occasion included Adv Ronik Sharma, Ravinder Singh General Secretary District Athletic Association, Kewal Krishan PEM, Rohit Kumar Boxing Coach, Amit Sharma Joint Secretary PDТА and Ashiq Hussain.

Jayant, Saini added to India's ODI squad for South Africa tour; Washington ruled out

■ **AGENCY**
MUMBAI: Indian off-spinner Washington Sundar was on Wednesday ruled out of the upcoming three-match ODI series against South Africa after testing positive for COVID-19 and Jayant Yadav was named as his replacement for the assignment starting January 19. Pacer Navdeep Saini was also added to the ODI squad as a backup for pacer Mohammed Siraj, who is recovering from a hamstring injury. Squad: KL Rahul (Captain), Jasprit Bumrah (vice-captain), Shikhar Dhawan, Rituraj Gaikwad, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Shreyas Iyer, Venkatesh Iyer, Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper), Ishan Kishan (wicket-keeper), Yuzvendra Chahal, R Ashwin, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Deepak Chahar, Prasidh Krishna, Shardul Thakur, Md. Siraj, Jayant Yadav, Navdeep Saini.

Arif Khan included in Target Olympic Podium Scheme



■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: The Sports Ministry's Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) has approved the inclusion of Alpine Skiing athlete Mohammad Arif Khan in the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) Core group, until the Winter Olympics, scheduled to be held in Beijing, China next month. Khan will take part in the Slalom and Giant Slalom events of Winter Olympics. He has also been approved an amount of Rs 17.46

Lakh under TOPS towards training in Europe and procurement of equipment, ahead of the grand event in China. Khan is presently training in Austria, where he is accompanied by his coach and Physio. The MOC approved the 35 days European training camp for Arif, which commenced after his qualification for the Winter Olympics. He confirmed the slot in giant slalom during a competition in Montenegro in December last year.

A month earlier, he earned the slot in the Slalom event as well. With this feat Khan achieved the unique distinction of becoming the first Indian to win direct quota spots in two different Winter Olympics events, besides being the first athlete from the country to seal a berth at the Winter Olympic games 2022.

The Gulmarg J&K-based athlete had won two gold medals, in the Slalom and Giant Slalom events, at South Asian Winter Games, held in Uttarakhand in 2011.

Moreover, Arif Khan had earlier participated in both the editions of Khelo India Winter Games held in Gulmarg J&K.

Pertinently, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha earlier sanctioned Rupees Ten Lakhs in favour of Arif Khan to undergo advanced training.

Jammu-based golfer Subhankar Sharma has been included in the TOPS Development Group.

Jammu gets world class football facility in private sector

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Football lovers of Jammu have been gifted with first of its kind world class playing facility in the private sector. The upcoming modern playing arena has been set up within the Municipal limits of the Jammu Smart City.

The synthetic football playing facility has been developed by an Engineering graduate and football enthusiast on the campus of an educational institution with the sole

aim to attract the youngsters towards the game. Near completion, presently on the trial run, the new generation five-a-side competition facility for the modern day game of called Futsal, shall be open very soon. As and when open for use, the modern football turf shall be made available for both young trainees and Futsal events on hourly basis on the lines of facilities already available in Delhi and Chandigarh.



Educational institutions celebrate National Youth Day

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Educational institutions celebrated National Youth Day, also popularly known as 'Yuva Divas', to mark the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. To commemorate birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda as National Youth Day, the Department of Students Welfare, University of Jammu organised an online Lecture on topic 'Spiritualizing Life & Living' by Prof Arvind Jasrotia, Dean, Faculty of Law & Registrar, University of Jammu. Prof Manoj K Dhar, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu was the Chief Guest during the virtual event, which was attended by a number of students, scholars, teachers, officials

and members of civil society. Speaking on the occasion, Prof Dhar congratulated Dean Students Welfare and his team for successfully organising such a programme of high relevance. Prof Vishav Raksha, Chairperson Campus Cultural Committee presented formal vote of thanks. Dr Garima Gupta, Assistant Dean, SW conducted the event under guidance of Prof Prakash C Anthal, Prof Vishav Raksha, Prof Sanjana Kaul, Prof B K Bajaj and Dr Pritam Singh. NSS unit of GGM Science College under patronage of its Principal Dr Ravender Tickoo and guidance of NSS PO Dr Deepali Mahajan, in collaboration with Vivekananda Kendra- a spiritually ori-

ented service organization Jammu Kashmir Chapter, organized two-day National Youth workshop on National Youth Day. Dr Rakesh Raina, Deputy Head Vivekananda Centre Jammu started the workshop with Omkar prayer followed by a Geet on teachings of Swami Vivekananda while Aaghav and Neeru spoke on teachings of Swami.

Govt. College for Women Bhagwati Nagar also organised a webinar on the topic 'Life and Achievements of Swami Vivekananda' to commemorate National Youth Day. Dr Shakun Sharma, Assistant Professor Sociology, GDC Marh was the resource person on the occasion who deliberated on the teachings and philoso-

phy of one of the greatest philosophers and spiritual leaders of nation, Swami Vivekananda. She made students aware about the Vedantic ideals, significance of meditation & Yoga and value of national regeneration. Prof Minnie Sharma, Principal, also addressed the students and motivated them to work towards nation building to fulfill dreams of Swami Vivekananda. NSS unit of Government College of Engineering & Technology, Jammu on Wednesday organized an online Digital Poster making competition to celebrate 'National Youth Day 2022' on birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. The event held under the patronage of college Principal, Dr Sameru Sharma. While

addressing participants, she said that National Youth Day is celebrated every year as a mark of respect to Swami Vivekananda, a towering spiritual philosopher. A total number of 45 participants from different colleges of J&K UT participated in the event with great enthusiasm and zeal. They beautifully presented their idea on the theme Youth's Contributions to Society through their posters. The event was organised by NSS volunteers under the guidance of NSS Programme Officer Dr Raman Gupta. The Principal congratulated NSS team for organizing such kind of event. She further declared that all participants will get e-certificates for participation.

GHSS Batote students shine in 6th Jeet Kune-Do Martial Art Federation Cup



Winner girls posing for a photograph.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: The students of Government Higher Secondary School Batote, Ramban and Senabathi brought laurels to the J&K by winning medals in 6th Jeet Kune-Do Martial Art Federation Cup held at Delhi. Lalita Devi, Indra Devi, Tamana, Harshita and Darshna Devi won gold medals while Neha Devi and Beena Devi got silver medals. A total of 21 students participated from JK UT. The students trained under the supervision of Rajinder Singh, Kabil Singh, Mamta Devi and Darshna Devi.

STC Jammu holds indigenous games

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: In connection with the National Youth Festival, the STC Jammu of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) organised indigenous games of Tug of War and Yoga at K K Hakhu Stadium, here on Wednesday. The National Youth Festival in India is celebrated every year on January 12 to commemorate the birth anniversary of youth icon Swami Vivekananda. The Youth Festival is celebrated in all the 36 States/UTs of India and to create awareness about the indigenous game of India, one of the activities planned for the day. The STC Jammu involved the entire staff, coaches and athletes of STC Jammu. A Tug of War match played between staff and the coaches while the Yoga session involved everyone.