# Sheetal gets Duggar Gaurav Adventure Award

JAMMU: Duggar Gaurav Adventure Award for the Year 2023 shall be conferred by Tawi Trekkers J&K to Sheetal Devi, the 'Best Para Women Archer of the Year'.

This was unanimously decided in a specially convened meeting of core members of the Tawi Trekkers chaired by patron of the Club, Ashwani Sharma, former MLA at PCJ, here on Sunday.

Other prominent persons who deliberated in the meeting included Zorawar Singh Jamwal co chairman of the Club; Rahul Sharma, Patron; Ram Khajuria, president; Mridhu Padha, vice president; Shawetica Khajuria, general secretary; Sakshi Magotra, joint secretary; Vivek Chauhan, Principal, Oriental Academy Senior Secondary School, Jammu; Sumit Khajuria, vice presi-



Members of Tawi Trekkers J&K posing for a group photo after the meeting.

Association of J&K; senior members, Seema Kharval. Shashi Kant, international sport climber Shivani Charak and mountaineer Shilpa Charak. Rakesh Goswami and Sonam Sidharth, president and general secretary

Mountaineering Association, Jammu and Sanieev Sharma. managing editor of Sportsline were the special invitees in the meeting.

The Award shall be presented to Sheetal Devi in a grand function to be held on the

to be celebrated in the first week of February, 2024. A colorful souvenir depicting achievements of Sheetal Devi and also Shivani Charak, the first woman of J&K to participate in the Asian Games as well as achievements of other prominent members of the

club in mountaineering, sport climbing and trekking shall also be released on the occa-

It may be mentioned here Duggar Gaurav that Adventure Award was instituted by Tawi Trekkers J&K in 2021 to showcase exceptional achievements of sports persons of Jammu region in adventure sports especially mountaineering and sport climbing.

Normally, only one award shall be given annually but the Club may increase the number of awards in a particular year and may also confer the award to prominent persons of other games and fields for their exceptional achievements. Accordingly, in 2021, the first year of institution of the Award, all the 11 Everest heroes belonging to Jammu were honored with Duggar Gaurav Adventure Award on October 2, 2021 at Amar Singh Club, Jammu.

## J&K Sr Women's team leaves for Kerala



J&K Sr Women's team posing with officials before leaving for Kerala.

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: To participate in Senior Women's One-Day Tournaments, 22-member J&K Senior Women's team including Support Staff, left for Trivanthripuram, Kerala on Sunday.

The team will play six matches in the league phase of the this prestigious tour-

Vigyan Darshan Program to ISRO

the match against Rajasthan on January 4, 2024.

The team includes Sandhya Sayal (Captain), Chitra Singh Jamwal (Vice Captain), Rubia Syed, Sarla Devi, Shivanti Gupta, Anju Tomar, Bisma Hassan, Lalita (WK), Igra Rasool, Zeenat Ramzan (WK), Rudrakshi Chib, Sanjana, Noorain and Bushra Ashraf. The Support Staff includes Rajesh Dhar (Manager), Rajni Sharma (Co-Manager), Chetan B Dhingra (Head Coach), Nayna Kashyap (Bowling Coach), Satika Sharma (Trainer), Mujtaba Wani (Video Analyst) and Dr Lovely

### Unique CA beat Bhawani CC in 12th Vidya Bharti J&K Ladakh organises first **Police Martyr's North Zone T-20**



Chief Guest presenting Man of the Match award.

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATHUA: Unique CA Delhi outplayed Bhawani CC Delhi by five wickets of Group D match of the Sports Stadium Kathua, Man of the Match.

12th Police Martyr's Memorial North T-20 Cricket  $\mathbf{Z}$ one Championship 2023-24 at here on Sunday.

Earlier, Unique CA Delhi won the toss and decided to field first. Bhawani CC Delhi, batting first, scored 103 runs for the loss of ten wickets in 19 overs. Kunal was the top scorer with 40 runs off 22 balls with two boundaries and four sixes and Shivam made 25 runs off 27 balls with two boundaries and a

In reply, Unique CA Delhi chased the target making 106 runs in 12 overs with the loss of five wickets. Sparsh Beniwal, who took three wickets in his 2.1 overs spell giving four runs, was declared as

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: With the support of Union Minister, Dr. Jitender Singh and Coordinated by Minister of Railways and Chairman ISRO Som Nath and Director Sudhir Kumar, the students and Incharge Teachers of Vidya Bharti J&K Ladakh organised its first Vigyan Darshan Program to ISRO in which 51 young scientists and 10 Acharyas from eight schools of Bhartiya Shiksha Samiti Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh under Vidva Bharti Akhil Bhartiva Shiksha Sansthan started its Journey towards the Vigyan Darshan 2024 at Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Shri Harikota and

Bhushan General Secretary

# Sameer Krishan Saproo Officiating Secretary & Coordinator of the pro-

BVM School students and others posing for a photograph at Jammu.

The contingent was flagged off by President Vidya Bharti JK Ladakh Ved Bhushan Sharma in the presence of Pardeep Kumar, Vidya Bharti Akhil Bhartiya Adhikari, Hari

gramme, Pardeep Singh Prant Vigyan Sanyojak, Vijay Chillingpaji Prabhari Ladakh, Ram Krishanji, Ramesh

Sharma, All Prant Samiti Members, Senior Principals of BVN Leh, BVM Amphalla BVM Udhampur and Prant Sanyojak Parchaar and others Incharge Teachers were pres-

annual feature. The program started from December 31, 2023 and it will be concluded on January 9, It is worthwhile to mention that 19 Scientists in ISRO are Ex Students of Vidya

Vidya Bharti JKL arranged

this program for the exposure

of scientific talent among stu-

dents and science teachers

and are planning to make it

Bharti who participated in the Chandrayan Mission. Vidya Bharti JKL is running 37 schools in Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh under the guidance of 500 teachers working with missionary zeal and at present nine thousand students are studying in

### Indian pacers' creativity will be tested in Cape Town: Allan Donald

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

CAPE TOWN: The Indian pace bowlers were not patient on a good bowling surface during the opening Test against South Africa, a virtue they will need in abundance on a batting paradise at Newlands, where spinners will have little role to play, reckoned legendary Allan Donald.

India lost the first Test by an innings and 32 runs after conceding 408 in the first innings on a spicy Centurion track that offered steep bounce and enough lateral movement.

"I know South Africa pro bly got the better of the conditions, no questions about that. They pitched the ball in a 5 and 5.5 meter area and gave it a chance to do something off the deck

But what they did better than India they were more patient in that area and even they used the short ball a little bit more in the second innings," Donald, a fearsome pacer of his generation, decoded India's defeat in an exclusive interview to PTI.

The 57-year-old, who took 330 wickets in just 72 Tests, feels Indians were waiting for things to happen.

"For India, there was one debutant (Prasidh Krishna). I thought (Jasprit) Bumrah, but Indian bowlers searched too much for things to happen.

They quickly reverted to shorter balls and then lost their length a bit on the shorter side and then got opened up on either side square leg, off side and SA batters capitalized."

ane Town, it will hard work and there will be a lot more energy from both teams. Cape Town will be hard work and it will bring honesty out of both the attacks," the White Lightening' said.

What is it that makes Cape Town way more difficult than Centurion?

"You need to be more creative in Cape Town as wickets are a lot more flatter and partnerships will stretch and that's traditionally as someone who knows it will be tougher Tests," he added.

Donald says if India envisage any chance of restoring parity, they need to use the new ball judiciously.

"The massive emphasis is on the new ball because traditionally if there's a South westerly blowing across Newlands, then you know that is going to dry the pitch up.

But not in any way or form I think the pitch will turn."

That assessment of Donald isn't great news for veteran off-Ravichandran spinner Ashwin, who is all set to be benched.

"There might be some little bit (assistance) available for spinners later on but it's not going to happen. India in South Africa, there's no way that will bring Indian spinners into it. So, you can forget that part.

"But your first innings bowling could reward you, if you pitch the new ball a bit fuller and try to swing it for the first 25 to 30 overs. And then start

mixing your pace," he noted. Once the Kookaburra ball gets old, then India would need what Donald calls a "battering ram" or a "bully" who will ramp it up with short balls.

"When the partnership stretches longer, you need to have two guys who need to bowl short and full. Your spinner will keep one side nice and tight while seamers operate from one end. As the game goes long and the partnership stretches. reverse swing comes into effect."

India haven't had a lot of success in the Rainbow Nation' but Sachin Tendulkar is one batter, who has scored four Test centuries in five tours to the country. "It's not an easy place to combat. We see that daily in South Africa, the ball does nip around more than it does in Australia or England. If your footwork isn't 100 percent then you are in trouble," Donald

#### Khajuria led 15-member JKCA team selected

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Senior Men's Selection Committee of Jammu and Kashmir Cricket



The team is being led by Shubham Khajuria while the other members include Qamran Iqbal, Vivrant Sharma, Fazil Rashid (WK), Abid Mushtaq, Sahil Lotra, Nasir Lone, Abdul Samad Shubham Singh Pundir, Musaif Ajaz, Umran Malik, Abhinav Puri, Umar Nazir, Augib Nabi, Rohit Sharma.

Apart from these 15 players, Waseem Bashir has been picked as a net bowler. The team has been selected the Senior Men's Selection Committee comprising of Vidhaya Bhaskar (Chairperson), Mahajan, Vijay Sharma and

Arshad Bhat.

## VBSY celebrations: Jashan Chilla-i-Kalan illuminates Pulwama with cultural splendor

### STATE TIMES NEWS

PULWAMA: In a vibrant celebration on Sunday, Jashan Chilla-i-Kalan adorned Pulwama district, resonating with the spirit of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY). The event, held at the Administrative Complex Pulwama, marked a significant cultural landmark and showcased the rich history and heritage of the district.

The festivity, part of various ongoing activities in the district, drew a massive gathering. Deputy Commissioner Pulwama. Dr. Basharat Qayoom accompanied by ADDC Pulwama, SSP Pulwama, and other officials, graced the occasion, emphasizing the importance of preserving cultural roots.

Within the Administrative Complex, traditional stalls displayed an array of products, beautifully depicting the cultural traditions of the area. A notable attraction was the live demonstration of arts and crafts, featuring



DC Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom at cultural programme.

pottery, Sozni embroidery work, and paper mache crafts done on a live platform. Students brought historical events to life, enriching the atmosphere with their performances

The event unfolded with a live presentation of various arts, including traditional pottery and cultural performances. Local artists and students showcased the region's heritage through paintings and cultural expressions.

The DC while inaugurating the event articulated the significance of preserving cul-

tural heritage. The aim of hosting such events is not only to cherish our rich traditions but also to embrace new avenues, including digital governance while celebrating our heritage, he stated.

Highlighting the transformative journey of the region. he acknowledged the concurrent efforts of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in reaching beneficiaries and implementing schemes effectively.

The celebration encapsulated a blend of cultural richness, historical significance, and a commitment to modern governance.

### FIH Hockeys World Cup: Simranjeet to lead India men; Rajni to captain women's side

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Simranjeet Singh and Rajni Etimarpu will lead the men's and women's sides respectively as Hockey India on Sunday named the Indian teams for upcoming Hockey5s World Cup to be held in Muscat, Oman.

While the Hockey5s Women's World Cup will be held between January 24 and 27, the men's event is slated from January 28 to Experienced goalkeeper

Rajni will have defender Mahima Chaudhary as her deputy, while Mandeep Mor will be the vice-captain of the men's team.

The women's team also comprises Bansari Solanki as the second goalkeeper, with Akshata Abaso Dhekale and Jyoti Chhatri

as defenders. midfielders, Among Mariana Kujur and Mumtaz Khan have been named while Ajmina Kujur, Rutaja Dadaso Pisal and Deepika Soreng have been named as forwards.

The Indian Women are grouped in Pool C along with Namibia, Poland and the United States.

A total of 16 teams will participate in the Hockey5s Women's World Cup which includes Fiji, Malaysia, the Netherlands and hosts Oman in Pool A, while Australia, South Africa, Ukraine and Zambia are in Pool B and Pool D features New Zealand, Paraguay, Thailand and Uruguay.

"The team comprises young players with enough international experience and understanding of the challenges of playing a prestigious event such as the Hockey 5's World Cup," coach Soundarya said in a HI release.

"We are well prepared and are upbeat ahead of the tournament.'

The Indian men's team, led by Olympic bronze medallist Simranjeet, includes goalkeepers Suraj Karkera and

Prashant Kumar Chauhan. Mandeep Mor will be joined by Manjeet in defence, while midfield features Mohd Raheel Mouseen and Maninder Singh and forward-line comprises Pawan Rajbhar, Gurjot Singh and Uttam Singh along  $_{
m with}$ captain

Grouped in Pool B, India will play against Egypt, Jamaica and Switzerland to make the knockout rounds.

Simranjeet.

The other teams in the include the frav Nigeria, Netherlands. Pakistan and Poland in Pool A and Pool C features Australia, Kenya, New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago while Pool D includes Fiji, Malaysia, Oman and the United States.

"We have chosen a very balanced team with youth and experience for this exciting format of hockey," coach Sardar Singh said.

"Several players in this squad already have the experience of playing this format and are eager to perform well. We have worked hard for this tournament and look forward to finishing on the podium.

### Sandeep Chattoo prominent businessman and owner of Real Kashmir FC dies

### STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Sandeep Chattoo, a prominent businessman and the owner of Real Kashmir Football Club (RKFC), died in Gurugram after suffering a severe heart attack, his family said on Sunday. Chattoo was 57.

He is survived by his mother, wife, and two children. According to the family, he experienced chest pain in the afternoon, following which he was swiftly taken to a hospital in Gurugram, where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

His last rites are scheduled to take place in Jammu. Primarily a hotelier, Chattoo is widely acknowledged for his pivotal role in reinvigorating football in the insurgency-affected Kashmir valley. The inception of RKFC, affectionately known as the 'Snow Leopards', dates back to 2016 and is cred-

The idea to establish the football club stemmed from the aftermath of the catastrophic floods in 2014, during which Chattoo observed a significant amount of untapped talent, much of which was at risk of getting lost to delinquent activi-

Recognising football as a potential avenue to redirect the energies of the region's youth, Chattoo, the proprietor of a 4star boutique hotel, initiated the club.

RKFC achieved significant success, notably winning the second division I-League in 2018. In December 2020, the club further solidified its accomplishments by securing victory in the 123rd edition of the IFA Shield. As the lone representative from Jammu and Kashmir, the

club has garnered international acclaim, with a documentary about their journey winning in the prestigious 'Single Documentary' category at the British Academy Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Film Awards Scotland, in addition to receiving accolades at the UK 'Broadcast Awards'.

The untimely demise of Chattoo marks a significant loss for the football community, particularly in the context of his pioneering contributions to the sport in the region.

### Telugu Yoddhas clinch last-gasp win over Odisha Juggernauts

### **■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

CUTTACK: Telugu Yoddhas held their nerves in the final 59 seconds to script a thrilling 29-28 win over defending champions Odisha Juggernauts in the Ultimate Kho

Kho here on Sunday. In an evenly-contested match, skipper Pratik Waikar claimed the most points (10)

for the winning side. Also, Aditya Ganpule, Avdhut Patil and Akash Tagore spent more than five minutes on the mat, clinching crucial dream run

bonus points for the Yoddhas. The Juggernauts were defending initially and made a frantic start, gaining three dream run bonus points in the opening turn.

The Yoddhas, however, bagged only 10 points before coming up with a bright performance, especially defensively during the second turn. The group of Avdhut Patil, Pratik Waikar and Aditya Ganpule collected four dream run bonus points for the Yoddhas. On the other hand, the Juggernauts could merely scalp only a one-point lead in the

12 points during the attack. The Juggernauts then came up with a dream run bonus point during the third round, which allowed the Yoddhas to achieve 14 points in the attack

opening inning despite having accumulated

# Gujarat Giants Beat Bengal Warriors in PKL

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NOIDA: Young Parteek Dahiya scored 25 points as Gujarat Giants defeated Bengal Warriors 51-42 to register their sixth win in the Pro Kabaddi League Season 10 here on

For Bengal Warriors, Nitin Kumar and Maninder Singh scored 12 and 11 points respectively.

Gujarat Giants' Rakesh initiated a smart raid early, giving the men in orange a slender lead.

Just after the 10-minute mark, Parteek came up with a big raid, following which skipper Fazel Atrachali effected an 'all out' off the next move, giving the Gujarat Giants a fiveParteek took the game by the scruff of the

neck, effecting another 'all out' to give the Giants a solid 13-point lead.

By the team the teams went into the break, the Giants led the Warriors 28-17. Going into the final phase of play, the

Warriors trailed the Giants by seven points, and the contest was keenly poised. Parteek scored another 'all out' for the

Giants as the lead stood at seven points with just five minutes of play left. Nitin and Maninder led the charge for the

Warriors in the closing moments, but the Giants had enough in the bank and walked off the mat with a comfortable nine-point win.