

Tarun Bajaj inaugurates POWERGRID's Intra-Regional Cultural Meet 'Abhiyvakti -2024'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AMRITSAR: Emerging artists from different parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab & Haryana states, in colourful dresses and colourful presentation marked the annual Intra-Regional cultural festival "Abhiyvakti-2024".

The cultural festival & traditional Handicrafts Exhibition was organized by Northern Region Transmission System-II of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd at Golden Jubilee Convention Centre, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar.

Tarun Bajaj, Executive Director, Northern Region Transmission System-II was the Chief Guest, who inaugurated the Handicrafts & Cultural Meet in presence of



Tarun Bajaj, Executive Director, Northern Region Transmission System-II inaugurating the Handicrafts & Cultural Meet.

large number of guests, POWERGRID employees and families.

The cultural festival encompassing talent from various States and UTs of Northern Region-II swayed the audience to the beats of colourful folk dances plays and songs highlighting rich composite

culture of the Region.

It was a major event for the employees and their family members as amateur talent of the Region gathered to highlight their cultural traditions.

In the programme, items drawn from different areas of the Region managed to depict

their cultural items namely Aisa Desh Hai Mera by Abdullahpur substation, Rangla Punjab by Amritsar substation, Ek Naya Shamshan by the artists of Kaithal substation, Adhuri Kahani by Kishenpur substation, Taj Mahal ka Tender by Chandigarh Substation, Sarhad ke Aar Par by Patiala Substation, Abhaya se Durga Tak by the artists of Moga substation, Ladakh key Vikas gatha ka jeshan by Ladakh Substation, Jigiri by artists of Hamirpur substation and Dhara 370 presented by the troupe of Regional Office Jammu.

Besides, a traditional Handicrafts Exhibition comprising crafts, arts, & fine arts, were displayed which had been made by the employees of POWERGRID

and their families.

Welcome address was delivered by Vinod P Baxla, General Manager (HR), NRTS-II.

Teams from RHQ, Jammu and Ladakh won first and second positions respectively whereas team from Abdullahpur was declared joint third with Team Moga. Consolation prize went to host Amritsar Team. At the end of function winners as well as participants of Cultural function were presented trophies and mementos by the Chief Guest and in Handicrafts Exhibition the participants whose items were selected as the first, second & third were also given away prizes by Tarun Bajaj. Sukhdev Singh DGM (Amritsar) presented vote of thanks.

Vaibhavi Sharma of DPS Jammu shines at national rhythmic gymnastics championship 2024

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Delhi Public School Jammu takes immense pride in announcing the stellar achievement of its student, Vaibhavi Sharma (Class XI-G), at the National Rhythmic Gymnastics Championship-2024 held in Surat, Gujarat. Vaibhavi has secured the prestigious title of second-best all-around gymnast in the junior category and has further added to her accolades by clinching a silver medal in the team event.

In the individual apparatus finals, Vaibhavi displayed exceptional skill and determination, earning two gold medals and two silver medals, raising the hopes of J&K and the nation for more laurels in the ongoing championship.

Vaibhavi's brilliance on the national stage continues her legacy of excellence. She has proudly represented India at



the Asian Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan (2024); Manila, Philippines (2023) and Pattaya, Thailand (2022)

Her outstanding performance solidifies her position as one of India's most promising young gymnasts.

The esteemed management of DPS Jammu, under the inspiring leadership of President-RCT, M.K Ajatshatru Singh, Kunwrani Dr Ritu Singh, Director, S.S.

Sodhi, along with Principal, Ruchi Chabra, and staff congratulated Vaibhavi on her remarkable achievements. They also extended their heartfelt wishes to her proud parents and encouraged her to continue striving for excellence in her future competitions.

Vaibhavi's extraordinary journey exemplifies the values of perseverance, dedication, and discipline nurtured at DPS Jammu, inspiring the entire school community.

Tejas and Tara: official mascots for Kho Kho World Cup 2025

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In a significant milestone for the upcoming Kho Kho World Cup, India has unveiled its official mascots: "Tejas" and "Tara," a charismatic pair of gazelles that embody the spirit and dynamism of this ancient sport.

The names "Tejas" and "Tara" hold profound significance. "Tejas" symbolizes brilliance, energy, and vitality, while "Tara" represents guidance and aspiration, like a shining star. Together, the names reflect the dynamism, inspiration, and excellence that resonate with the essence of the Kho Kho World Cup.

The chosen mascots represent the fundamental attributes of Kho Kho - speed, agility, and strategic prowess. Just as gazelles demonstrate remarkable agility and precision in their natural habitat, Kho Kho players showcase similar qualities on the court, making split-second decisions while maintaining grace under pressure.



The mascots' design features vibrant blue and orange outfits adorned with cultural motifs that celebrate India's rich heritage while emphasizing the sport's modern appeal. Their playful expressions and dynamic poses are crafted to resonate with audiences of all ages, particularly young sports enthusiasts.

The mascots will play a crucial role in promoting the World Cup, appearing in various promotional materials, digital content, and merchandise. They will serve as ambassadors of the sport, helping to introduce Kho Kho's unique appeal to a global audience.

Scheduled for January 13-19, 2025, the Kho Kho World Cup -- taking place under the aegis of the Sports Authority Of India (SAI) -- will showcase 21 men's and 20 women's teams from 24 countries across six continents at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi.

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JAMMU: Kabaddi boys and girls teams of Jammu and Kashmir will participate in collaboration with J&K Sports Council in the 50th Junior National Kabaddi Championship for boys and girls which is going to be held at Haridwar from 8th to 11th January 2025.

The selected boys and girls teams were given a formal send off by General Secretary of the J&K Amateur Kabaddi Association, Kuldeep Kumar Gupta from Kabaddi Stadium, Jammu. The members of the screening committee of Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council cleared both the teams in boys and girls section before participation in



General Secretary JKAKA, Kuldeep Gupta with other officials and selected teams at flagging off ceremony.

Junior National Championship.

The sports kits were also distributed to the players by the association members in the presence of Ajay Gupta, Dr, Jagandeep Singh, Physiotherapist, Surinder Mohan, Aman Singh, Sikanadar Lal, Nisha Devi and Archana

Koushal.

In the meantime, President of the Association, Anil Gupta conveyed his warm wishes to both the teams.

Selected boys are Rohit Singh (Captain), Vanshit Sharma, Mir Danish Manzoor, Deepak Kumar, Vansh Sharma, Moomim

Qayoom, Aqab Hussain, Rakesh Kumar, Rahul Chib, Shivanshu Singh Jasrotia, Karun Sharma and Ritik Singh. Mohd. Amin is the coach, Arshad Ahmed Rather is the physical trainer and Sikandar Lal is the manager of the team.

Selected girls are Divya Chouhan (Captain), Naysa

Singh, Kanika Sharma, Tajamul Islam, Varsha, Ishika, Rashika, Ayman Khurshed, Komal Sharma, Vaibhavi Sharma, Sania Rajput and Sherish Rashid. Nisha Devi is the coach, Arshad Ahmed Rather is the physical trainer and Archana Koushal is the manager of the team.

Hills View Rajouri enters final of 13th Police Martyr's NZ T-20

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In the ongoing 13th Police Martyr's Memorial North Zone T-20 Cricket Championship 2024-25, the second semi-final match was held at the Sports Stadium in Kathua on January 5th.

The match saw Hills View Rajouri take on Champions CC Chandigarh. Hills View Rajouri won the toss and opted to bat first, posting a challenging total of 176 runs for 4 wickets in 20 overs.

Dikshant Kundal played a crucial role, scoring 61 runs



A player receiving Man of the Match award.

off 44 balls, including 5 boundaries and 3 sixes. Ankit

also contributed with a quickfire 40 runs off 22 balls,

hitting 4 boundaries and 1 six.

Chasing a target of 177 runs, Champions CC Chandigarh struggled and could only manage 100 runs before being all out in 19.1 overs. Honey was the top scorer for Chandigarh with 25 runs from 20 balls, including four boundaries.

Hills View Rajouri emerged victorious by a margin of 76 runs, securing their spot in the final. Ankit was named the Man of the Match for his all-round performance, taking 3 wickets for 25 runs in his 4-over spell and scoring 40 runs.

Devotees security to be ensured across water, land and sky: DGP

■ SHAHZAD AKHTAR

MAHAKUMBH NAGAR : Ahead of the Mahakumbh Mela in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh Police conducted extensive mock drills to ensure robust security. DGP Prashant Kumar confirmed that full security measures, including AI-powered cameras and drones, are in place to safeguard the millions of devotees attending the event. Security arrangements are being made at all three levels of water, land and sky.

The Yogi government has completed prepara-

tions for the safety of devotees in Mahakumbh Nagar, Mahakumbh 2025. Security arrangements are being made at all three levels of water, land and sky. Uttar Pradesh DGP UP police Prashant Kumar reached Prayagraj on Sunday to check these security arrangements. During this, while talking to the media, he clarified that the safety of devotees is the priority of the state police and preparations have been completed at all levels for this.

DGP, police Prashant Kumar said that strong

security arrangements have been made on the instructions of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. We are committed to protect the devotees at all three levels of water, land and sky on the main bathing day. A large number of foreign devotees will also be present here. He said that preparations are being made on a war footing for the Mahakumbh for the last few months.

He said that all kinds of modern security equipment have arrived here so that there is no difficulty

of any kind here. Our water front has been strengthened more this time as compared to the previous Kumbh.

Prashant Kumar said that the number and capacity of ghats in the fair area has been increased so that devotees coming from whichever route, can take bath there and return through the prescribed route. He said that we are also working vigilantly on cyber related matters. How to secure this cyber system has also been ensured through various skilled agencies.

Regarding terrorist threats, the DGP said that our Para Commando Team of ATS has reached here. We are monitoring and taking action on all types of threats by considering them serious through departmental coordination and control room. He said that seven-tier security of Maha Kumbh has been ensured and a security cordon has been prepared from the international and interstate border to the Kumbh area. Apart from this, 40% more force has been deployed here than the last Kumbh.

Jammu Tawi Golf Club organises Golfing Day Out Women Putting Competition 2025



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JAMMU: Jammu Tawi Golf Course (JTGC), Sidhra in association with Directorate of Tourism Jammu organized "Golfing Day Out Women Putting Competition" on Sunday to inculcate competitive spirit among the lady golfers in Jammu.

A good number of Women Players Minakshi Kour Slatia, Dr. Farhat, Diksha Thakur, Ritu Slatia, Smridhi, Karuna, Ankita Shetty, Ria Arora, Shafiq Banoo, Mamta Wahi, Renu Sharma, Tanvi Gupta, Dhanvi Dubey, Pratima Sharma, Widhana Khan & Shridha Gupta participated in the competition with great enthusiasm and zeal.

Widhana Khan displayed some great skills

and lifted the trophy while Farhat was the runner-up. Third place was bagged by Pitna Sharma. Sunaina Sharma, Joint Director Tourism Jammu, who was Chief Guest on the occasion stated, "Putting contest is an innovative way to entice women players towards golf and nurture talent in women of Jammu and Kashmir."

Secretary, Jammu Tawi Golf Course, Manav Gupta said that several steps have been initiated to popularize the game of Golf in Jammu and such events of the same or higher scale will be organized on regular basis. National Golf Academy of India (NGAI) certified Professional Coach Rohit Gupta and several sports lovers were present to grace the occasion.

Shailendra Kumar and Pawan Parihar were adjudged as the overall winner and Runner up respectively of the tournament. S.M Yasin bagged the award for the straight drive (1 feet, 10 inches)

Jammu Tawi Golf Club organises Golfers Day out New Year 2025 Golf Tournament

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu Tawi Golf Course (JTGC) in collaboration with the Directorate of Tourism, Jammu organized a Golfers day Out, New Year 2025 Golf Tournament at Jammu Tawi Golf Course, Sidhra. Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary to Government Agriculture, Horticulture, Floriculture, Park & Garden, te off the first ball of the event. He was accompanied by Secretary Jammu Tawi Golf Course Manav Gupta.

As many as 96 players participated during the day-long tournament, who were divided into 24 four-balls.

Shailendra Kumar and Pawan Parihar were adjudged as the overall winner and Runner up respectively of the tournament. S.M Yasin bagged the award for the straight drive (1 feet, 10 inches)



Winner Shailendra Kumar and Pawan Parihar with other golfers and dignitaries.

es) at Hole No.6 and Shafat Sultan on the line at Hole no.14. The longest drive award went to Farooq Yasir (250mtr), Arindham Sudan (260Mtr) and Yousif Choudhary (250mtr:) at Hole no. 5, 8 & 10 respectively.

While, Closest to the pin went to Ankush Hans, Shabir Malik, Rohit Bhalla, Rajan Sharm at Hole No.7,13,17 & 2 respectively. While 2nd shot to closest to pin went to

Shailendra Kumar, Danish Khan and Arindham Sudan at Hole no. 4 &11. While Monster Putt went to Gurpreet Singh. Col. Basharat Bhat, Yousif Choudhary, Shailendra Kumar, Shafat Sultan, Omair Nisar Ganai and Pawan Parihar at Hole no. 18 and 9. While bull's eye went to Rakesh Gupta.

While in category of best in four ball are Shailendra

Kumar, Aijaz Qaiser, Sanjay Mahajan, Mubasshir Latifi, Hafiz Gillani, Yashvir Sudan, Rohit Bhalla, Azhar Majid, Adharv Rishi, Firdous Ahmed Masoodi, Shafat Sultan, Jaideep Singh Manocha , Aridam Sudan, Ankush Hans , Jaipal Singh, S.S Pathania, Pawan Parihar, Lt. Gen. Shamsher Singh , Er S.S Jamwal , Umesh Gupta, Sunil Gupta, Joginder Singh , Gurdeep Singh.

Congratulating the winners, Shailendra Kumar stressed the need for inculcating golfing culture among the younger generation. Appreciating Secretary, JTGC Manav Gupta and management of JTGC for successfully conducting the event, he said that such tournaments should be organized on a regular basis.

Later, Shailendra Kumar, Manav Gupta and Director Tourism Jammu Vikas Gupta presented trophies and mementoes to the winners, runner-ups and other players, who were adjudged best in different categories.

Manav Gupta thanked all the Golfers for participating in the tournament with great enthusiasm and zeal. He also thanked the staff and Management of Jammu Tawi Golf Course for making the event a big Success.