

# Satish attends Devika Champions League finals at Udhampur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
UDHAMPUR: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Information Technology, Transport, Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma, on Sunday attended the final match of the Devika Champions League at Udhampur, a major grass-roots sporting initiative aimed at promoting competitive sports and nurturing young talent in the region.

The finals witnessed enthusiastic participation from teams representing different areas of the district and attracted a large gathering of youth, sports lovers and local residents. The vibrant atmosphere at the venue reflected the growing momentum of organized sports activities across Jammu and Kashmir. Addressing the gathering, Satish Sharma reiterated the Government of Jammu and Kashmir's firm commitment towards building a strong, inclusive and sustainable sports culture throughout the Union Territory. He emphasized that sports



Sports Minister, Satish Sharma being honoured at a programme.

play a pivotal role in shaping disciplined, confident and healthy youth, while also acting as an effective instrument for social integration and nation-building. The Minister stated that the government under the leadership of Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah is implementing a comprehensive sports development strategy, with a special focus on expanding access to quality infrastructure, professional coaching and competitive platforms for young athletes. He said that creation of dynamic sports infrastructure across Jammu

and Kashmir-particularly in rural, border and far-flung areas-remains a top priority of the government. Modern playgrounds, indoor sports complexes, stadium upgradation projects and community-level sports facilities are being developed to ensure that no talent remains untapped due to geographical limitations. Satish Sharma highlighted that district-level leagues such as the Devika Champions League serve as an important link between grass-roots participation and professional sporting opportunities. Such tour-

naments, he said, not only help in talent identification but also promote teamwork, discipline, leadership and a spirit of healthy competition among youth. The Minister appreciated the efforts of the

organizers, district administration and sports associations for successfully conducting the league and providing a well-structured platform for young sportspersons. He encouraged sports bodies and civil society organizations to continue partnering with the government in strengthening the sports ecosystem. Interacting with the players and officials, the Minister motivated the athletes to pursue sports with dedication and perseverance, assuring them that the government remains fully committed to extending institutional support, scholarships, training exposure and career opportunities for promising players.

# Major General Anupinder Bevli inspires EBSB Cadets at NCC Training Academy Nagrota

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
NAGROTA: The NCC Training Academy, Nagrota, resonated with renewed zeal and patriotic fervor as Major General Anupinder Bevli, VSM, Additional Director General (ADG), NCC Directorate Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh, accompanied by Brig D N Pandey, Group Commander, Jammu NCC Group paid an inspiring visit to the ongoing Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) Camp - Jammu for SD/SW cadets of Rajasthan and JK&L Directorates.

The much-awaited visit proved to be a shot in the arm for the young cadets, who assembled with palpable enthusiasm to draw inspiration from the senior officer's vast experi-



ADG, NCC Directorate JK&L, Major General Anupinder Bevli with NCC cadets and other dignitaries.

ence and visionary leadership. Major General Bevli was received with full ceremonial protocol, symbolizing the timeless values of service, honour, and commitment that define the ethos of the National Cadet Corps.

A key highlight of the visit was the ADG's interaction with the EXPA Team. He deeply appreciated the mentors - All of

them former NCC cadets themselves - for their continued and selfless contribution in imparting life skills, leadership qualities, and curiosity among the cadets. Praising the inquisitive spirit of the trainees, he remarked that curiosity coupled with character is the cornerstone of excellence. He reiterated that NCC cadets are the torch bearers of tomorrow, entrusted with the vital responsibility of shaping a strong,

united, and progressive India.

The visit culminated with an interaction at the firing range, where the JD/JW cadets showcased their remarkable precision and focus. Their impressive performance earned special appreciation from the ADG, making the moment both memorable and morale-boosting.

Major General Bevli's motivational words struck a chord, urging cadets to aim high, stay grounded in

integrity, and wear patriotism not just on their sleeves but in their actions. The visit proved to be a morale booster and a defining moment, one that will remain etched in the annals of NCC Training Academy, Nagrota.

Day-5 of EBSB-Jammu, kindled a renewed spark-fueling dreams, strengthening resolve, and inspiring cadets to march forward as exceptional leaders of tomorrow.

# J&K Taekwondo Championship to begin today

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Taekwondo Association shall hold four-day 28th J&K UT Taekwondo Championships at the Indoor Hall, Bhagwati Nagar, here today.

The event is being held under My Youth My Pride. In support with J&K Sports Council (JKSC) in different age and weight



groups under the guidance of qualified technical

penal, a handout issued by the Association here today informed.

Earlier, a final decision with regard to the event was taken in a meeting held under the chairmanship of Rajesh Pangotra, president of the Association. For further information, participants may contact Anuj Sharma (9018920009), organizing secretary.

# Chancellor's Trophy: JU beat KU for Volleyball title

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
JAMMU: Hosts University of Jammu (JU) on Sunday trounced equally good University of Kashmir 3-2 in a neck of neck contest in the title clash of Volleyball in the ongoing sports meet for 3rd Chancellor's Trophy at JU main campus, here.

Training by two sets, JU fought back to secure consecutive three sets and the match in a charged atmosphere with spectators from both sides in support at the Volleyball courts this afternoon.

Earlier, in the semifinals, decided today, University of Kashmir beat Cluster University of Jammu 3-2 (19-25, 25-18, 25-21, 22-25; 15-11) and University of Jammu blanked University of Ladakh 3-0 (25-18, 25-21, 25-17).

Meanwhile, all other events, the semifinals decid-



Winner JU team posing with officials.

ed with the results the teams qualified for the finals. Some of the finals were slated for this evening and remaining tomorrow morning.

The finals shall be followed by the valedictory function wherein the topper of the points table shall be awarded the Chancellor's Trophy.

Other Results: Semifinals: TABLE TENNIS: Men:

University of Jammu beat SMVDU Katra 3-0; IUST Awantipora beat Cluster University of Srinagar 3-2.

BADMINTON: Women: University of Jammu beat University of Kashmir 2-0; Cluster University of Jammu beat SMVDU Katra 2-1. KABADDI: Men: University of Jammu beat BGSSU Rajouri by 15 points; Cluster University of Jammu beat SMVDU

Katra by 11 points. KHO-KHO: Women: University of Jammu beat BGSSU Rajouri by 12 points; Cluster University of Jammu beat Central University of Jammu by seven points. BASKETBALL: Men: Central University of Jammu beat Cluster University of Jammu 22-18; University of Jammu beat MIET 32-12. Women: University of

Jammu beat Cluster University of Jammu 22-18; MIET beat University of Kashmir 20-12. HANDBALL: Men: of Jammu beat MIET 40-12; Central University of Jammu beat Cluster University of Jammu 22-18. Women: University of Jammu beat University Kashmir 10-02; University of Ladakh beat Cluster University of Jammu 4-3.

Today's semifinals officiated by the technical panel comprising Ravish Vaid, Vikas Karlopia, Gagan Kumar, Raj Kumar Bakshi, Ranbir Singh, Dr. Inderjeet Singh, Harinderpal Singh, Rishiv Sharma, Richa Mandla, Sakshi Dabgotra, Jeevan Lal, Arjun Sharma, Mena Ragesh, and Anil Singh. who ensured fair play and strict adherence to the rules and regulations of the respective games.

# Kathua hosts Inter-District UT Level Thang-Ta Tournament

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
KATHUA: The Department of Youth Services and Sports, J&K UT, today inaugurated the Inter-District UT Level Thang-Ta Tournament at the Sports Stadium Kathua (Indoor Complex).

The tournament is being held under the directions of Director General Youth Services and Sports, Anuradha Gupta, and the guidance of Joint Director of Jammu, Vinakshi Koul.

Athletes from 10 districts of Jammu and Kashmir are participating in various age groups for both boys and girls, showcasing their martial arts



skills and sportsmanship.

The event is being supervised by District Youth Services and Sports Officer Kathua, Sunil Singh Sambyal,

ensuring smooth conduct of the championship. The tournament aims to promote traditional martial arts and encourage youth participation in sports.

# Young gymnasts secure medal haul at 69th National School Games DG YSS applauds athletes, coaches for stellar national performance



Medal winners posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
JAMMU: The gymnastics team from J&K, delivered an exceptional performance at the recently concluded 69th National School Games championship, securing a prestigious haul of medals across age categories. The athletes brought laurels to the Union Territory through impressive achievements in both the Under-19 and Under-17 age categories. In the Under 19 Girls cate-

gory, Muskan displayed outstanding skill and composure to clinch the Gold Medal in the Ball Event. Adding further glory, Manya secured two Silver Medals, one in the Ribbon Event and another in the Overall Individual category, highlighting her consistent and high level performance. In the Under-17 category, Vaibhavi Sharma emerged as a key performer by winning a Gold Medal in the Hoop Event. She also added two

Silver Medals, one as Overall Individual and another in the Team Event, which she won jointly with teammates Aditya Choudhary and Triza Balal Thapa, showcasing excellent coordination and team spirit.

Director General of YSS, Anuradha Gupta, has congratulated the players and their dedicated coaches for this great feat. "These outstanding achievements are a reflection of sheer determina-

tion, rigorous training, and discipline. I congratulate our talented gymnasts and commend their coaches for their exceptional guidance. This success shows our commitment to nurturing sporting excellence in Jammu & Kashmir," she stated.

These milestones are the result of the hard work and perseverance of the sportspersons, combined with the dedication and tireless efforts of their coaches. Equally significant has been the strong commitment and continuous support of the Directorate of Youth Services & Sports, which made these achievements possible by providing the necessary platform, infrastructure, and encouragement. The credit for this notable success also goes to the dedicated coaching staff, with the Under-19 team coached by Kamal Singh and the Under-17 team trained under the guidance of Seema Mehra, whose mentorship played a vital role in shaping these achievements.

# Poonch Police inaugurates 1st Police Martyrs Volleyball Tournament

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
POONCH: In a heartfelt tribute to the brave police martyrs who laid down their lives in the line of duty for the nation, Poonch Police on Sunday inaugurated the 1st Edition of the Police Martyrs Volleyball Tournament at the Degree College Ground, Poonch.

The tournament witnessed enthusiastic participation from 12 teams representing various areas of District Poonch, marking a significant initiative aimed at promoting sportsmanship, youth engagement, and community cohesion.

The inaugural ceremony was presided over by SSP Poonch, Shafket Hussain, who flagged off the tournament amid applause from players, officials, and a large gathering of spectators. Addressing the gathering, the SSP paid rich tributes to police martyrs, highlighting their supreme sacrifice for the safety, peace, and sovereignty of the nation.

Referring to martyr Amjad Pathan, who was recently martyred in an encounter with terrorists in Udhampur, SSP



SSP Poonch, Shafket Hussain posing with other dignitaries and participating teams.

Poonch stated, "Our martyrs embodied unparalleled courage, dedication, and selflessness. They laid down their lives so that we may live in peace. Today, we honour their legacy not merely in words, but through actions that inspire discipline, unity, and national pride among our youth."

Emphasizing the role of sports in nation-building, SSP Poonch urged the youth of the district to remain resolute against the menace of drugs and to channel their energy into constructive pursuits such as sports.

"Drugs destroy dreams and futures. Sports build character, discipline, teamwork, and resilience," he remarked.

He issued a stern warning to those involved in drug peddling, reiterating that strict legal action will be taken, including attachment of properties, and assured the public of Poonch Police's zero-tolerance policy towards narcotics.

SSP Poonch further announced that the Police Martyrs Volleyball Tournament will be made an annual event, reinforcing the commitment to a drug-free and sports-oriented Poonch.

The inaugural function was attended by prominent citizens, local representatives, sports enthusiasts, families of martyrs, and members of the police fraternity. Cultural performances and motivational messages added to the patriotic fervour of the occasion.

The tournament reflects Poonch Police's continued efforts towards community policing, youth empowerment, and honouring the sacrifices of fallen heroes. Matches commenced immediately after the inauguration, with teams displaying high spirits, discipline, and competitive zeal.