

LG Ladakh declares open 6th Khelo India Winter Games in Leh

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Lt Governor Kavinder Gupta on Tuesday declared open the 6th edition of the Khelo India Winter Games 2026 at the state-of-the-art NDS ice hockey stadium here, marking another milestone in Ladakh's journey as India's emerging hub for winter sports.

The Games are being held over seven days and will conclude on January 26, coinciding with the celebration of Republic Day.

Teams from 19 states comprising 1,060 participants including athletes, technical officials, support staff, and volunteers, along with the Indian Army and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police, are participating in the Games, an official spokesman said.

He said the competitions include ice hockey, speed skating and, for the first time, figure skating.

Addressing the inaugural session, the Lt Governor said hosting the Games for the third consecutive year reflects the confidence reposed by the country in Ladakh's capability, commitment and preparedness to



Lt Governor Kavinder Gupta with others at opening ceremony of 6th KIWG in Leh.

organise major sporting events in challenging high-altitude conditions.

He said the Games are playing a crucial role in promoting winter sports, nurturing young talent, and strengthening the sporting ecosystem in the region.

Highlighting the significance of the inclusion of figure skating, Gupta said it marks an important step in the evolution of winter sports in India.

"Plans are underway to include additional disciplines such as curling in future editions to further broaden the scope of winter sports in the

country," he said.

The Lt Governor also underlined the importance of world-class infrastructure for the development of sports, stating that key venues including the NDS Ice Hockey Rink, Gupuk Pond and the Ladakh Scouts Regimental Centre Rink have been fully prepared for the Games.

He referred to the 24x7 Ice Hockey Rink worth Rs 53.58 crore at NDS Stadium, Leh as a landmark achievement and said construction of another modern Ice Hockey Rink in Kargil is progressing, which will further strengthen winter sports

infrastructure in the union territory.

"Where ice hockey and skating were once limited to 2-3 winter months, athletes can now practice year-round, significantly enhancing their skills and performance," he emphasised.

Gupta also highlighted Ladakh's recently launched comprehensive sports policy, positioning the UT as a winter sports powerhouse with talent identification at school level, inclusive environment for women and differently-abled athletes and four per cent job reservation for outstanding sports persons.

Guaranteed scholarships,

up to Rs 100 crore cash awards, excellence centres, advanced training facilities, coach incentives, sports-education integration, and sports tourism promotion are some other features of the policy, he said.

He said the policy will provide structured opportunities for youth to pursue sports professionally.

The Lt Governor highlighted the relationship between sports and tourism in Ladakh, citing successful events like climate cup football, Ladakh marathon, and Khelo India Winter Games.

"These mega events create employment, showcase Ladakh globally, and inspire youth to pursue winter sports professionally," he said.

The Lt Governor said under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has witnessed a transformative shift in its sports ecosystem.

"The inclusion of winter sports in the national sports framework and the organisation of international-level events in remote and high-altitude regions like Ladakh reflect the Prime Minister's inclusive and forward-looking vision," he said.

He said the continued encouragement and support of the prime minister have provided new opportunities and confidence to the youth of Ladakh.

NCC SW Cadets of GGM Science College shine with outstanding placements and awards

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a moment of immense pride for NCC SW Cadets of GGM Science College, Jammu bring laurels to College and the NCC fraternity, the 8 J&K Girls Battalion, under the inspiring guidance of Prof (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of College and the dedicated supervision of Associate NCC Officer (ANO) Dr. Shafia Saleem, has achieved remarkable success with its cadets Senior Under Officer (SUO) Archita Verma and Ex-Cadet Kushi Motten securing prestigious position for the post of Constable (General Duty) in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

In a distinguished recognition, Junior Under Officer (J.UO) Mehl Verma was honored with the prestigious Additional Director General's Certificate of Excellence and Medal for her outstanding performance in all spheres of training.

Prof. Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of the college expressed deep satisfaction with the cadets' stellar performance and lauded the relentless efforts of ANO Dr. Shafia Saleem.

Dr. Gupta stated that the dedication of our cadets and the exemplary mentorship provided by ANO Dr. Shafia Saleem and the entire 8



Principal GGM Science College, Prof (Dr) Romesh Kumar Gupta felicitating NCC cadets.

J&K Girls Battalion leadership have borne exceptional results. These achievements reflect the strong spirit, discipline, and training ethos of our NCC unit.

Earlier Commanding Officer Col. Muneesh Jasrotia commended the cadets for their hard work and perseverance.

These selections are a testament to the grit and capability of our young cadets. They have not only made their families and institution proud but have also brought honor to the entire battalion and the NCC organization.

ANO Dr. Shafia Saleem shared her pride in the cadets' accomplishments, emphasizing the holistic

development and rigorous training regimen followed by the unit. Seeing our cadets succeed at the national level is our ultimate reward. We are committed to nurturing more such talented individuals who can serve the nation with distinction.

The 8 J&K Girls Battalion continues to set benchmarks in NCC training, producing disciplined, skilled, and motivated youth ready to contribute to the nation's security and development. Congratulations to all the successful cadets, their proud parents, and the institutions. The NCC Girls Wing GGM Science College wishes them the very best for their future endeavors.

1st Police Martyrs Volleyball Tournament concludes Shaheed DySP Manjit Singh Memorial Volleyball Club Poonch lifts trophy



DySP Manjit Club receiving trophy from the Chief Guest at Poonch.

STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Shaheed DySP Manjit Singh Memorial Volleyball Club, Poonch, emerged as champions of the 1st Edition of the Police Martyrs Volleyball Tournament after defeating Shaheed Mumtaz Club Chandak in straight 3-0 (25-15, 25-17, 25-12) sets. The tournament was organised by District Police Poonch at the Degree College Ground, Poonch, amid great enthusiasm, patriotic fervour, and overwhelming public participation.

The tournament was conducted as a solemn tribute to the brave police martyrs who laid down their lives in the service of the nation. It witnessed spirited participation from 12 teams representing

different areas of District Poonch, highlighting the district's vibrant sporting culture and the youth's growing inclination towards positive and constructive activities. The primary objective of the event was to promote sportsmanship, discipline, teamwork, and communal harmony, while honouring the supreme sacrifices of fallen police heroes.

The final match attracted a large gathering of spectators, including senior police officers, prominent citizens, sports enthusiasts, families of martyrs, and members of the police fraternity. Throughout the tournament, matches were played in a highly competitive yet disciplined environment, marked by mutual respect among

teams and a high standard of play, truly reflecting the spirit of sports.

Addressing the gathering during the concluding ceremony, SSP Poonch Shafket Hussain, congratulated all participating teams for their commendable performance and exemplary sportsmanlike conduct. He appreciated the efforts of the organising committee for ensuring the smooth and successful conduct of the tournament.

The SSP emphasised that the sacrifices of police martyrs would always remain a source of inspiration and guidance for the nation and the police force.

Highlighting the importance of sports in youth engagement and character building, SSP Shafket

Hussain underlined that such initiatives play a vital role in steering young minds away from social evils, particularly drug abuse.

He reaffirmed that District Police Poonch remains firmly committed to building a drug-free society through strict enforcement, sustained awareness campaigns, and active community participation, while promoting sports as an effective medium for discipline, unity, and national integration.

The tournament concluded with the distribution of trophies, medals, and certificates to the winners and runners-up by the Chief Guest, Krishan Lal Sharma, marking the successful culmination of the inaugural edition.

The chief guest also handed over a cash prize of Rs 30,000 to winner and Rs 20,000 to runner up team.

On the occasion, District Police Poonch announced that the Police Martyrs Volleyball Tournament will be organised annually, reaffirming its continued commitment to youth empowerment, community policing, and preserving the legacy and honour of police martyrs.

GDC Khour organises Essay Writing and Singing Competition

STATE TIMES NEWS

KHOUR: As a part of celebration of 150 years of National Pride "VANDE MATARAM," NCC wing in collaboration with NSS organized a series of events under the patronage of Prof. (Dr) T.K. Sharma, Principal GDC Khour. The events include mass singing of national song, essay writing and singing competition on theme "Vande Mataram"

The events were held to encourage the students to promote patriotism and national pride. The mass singing saw enthusiastic participation from students along with staff members.

Over 30 students participated in essay writing competition with full zeal and



enthusiasm, showcasing their writing skills and expressed their thoughts and feelings about the nation in essay writing.

The singing competition featured melodious performance of the song "Vande Mataram" by the students, showcasing their vocal talent and patriotic spirit.

The essay writing competition was judged by Prof.

Pooja Kumari, HOD English. Cadet Sohani Sharma of Semester 4th bagged first position while Diksha Keshav and Sanjana Sharma of Sem. 4th scored second and third position respectively.

The singing competition was judged by Dr. Sapna Naranja, HOD Dogri. Cadet Rishu Bharti and Cadet Laxmi Devi of Sem 1st

got first and second position respectively in singing.

Prof. (Dr) T.K. Sharma, Principal GDC Khour praised the participants for their efforts and encouraged them to continue exploring and celebrating India's rich cultural heritage. He emphasized the significance of "Vande Mataram" as a symbol of India's freedom struggle and national identity. He highlighted the song's role in inspiring India's freedom and its message of unity and patriotism. The event was conducted by Lt. Shivani Sharma in coordination with Prof. Sunil Kumar, Head, Department of Physical Education. All faculty members were present on the occasion.

CLUJ releases university wall calendar 2026

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ) today released its University Wall Calendar - 2026 in a ceremonial function held at the Vice-Chancellor's Secretariat. Brig. Anil Gupta (Retd.), Member Administrator, JKCA graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and formally unveiled the calendar in the presence of the Vice-Chancellor, Deans, Principals and other officers of the University.

Prof. Chandrasekar stated that the calendar reflects the academic spirit, institutional milestones and cultural ethos



of CLUJ serving as a symbolic representation of the University's vision and aspirations for the year ahead.

Speaking on the occasion, Brig. Anil Gupta emphasized the importance of staying connected with the University events and activities. He

added that the wall calendar is going to be a useful medium for our students, faculty and staff to stay informed about the important dates and events across the year. He further announced that the New Year University-2026 wall Calendar would be available

for distribution among students, faculty and the staff.

The ceremony was attended by the all Deans of the University, all Principals of the Constituent Colleges, COE, all Directors of the University, FA/CAO and Registrar of CLUJ. The Vice-Chancellor, Sr. Prof. Chandrasekar personally distributed copies of the wall calendar to all attendees marking the occasion with warmth and collegiality.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to Brig. Anil Gupta for his distinguished presence and encouragement.

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GOVERNMENT OF UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT INFORMATION OFFICER
NANDINI HILLS, SAMBA

Expression of Interest
Expression of Interest/Short term Dasti Quotations are invited for hiring professionals for the purpose of celebrations of 26 January 2026 in District, Samba. The requirements are shown as under:

S. No.	Particulars	Quantity	Location
01	Videographer	01	Rani Suchet Singh Stadium, Samba.
02	Aerial Videographer	01	
03	Photographer	01	

Terms and Conditions:
Rates quoted should be inclusive of all taxes and levies. Quotations must be signed by the vendor. No cutting or over writing is allowed in quotations any such alterations render the quotation legally invalid. Quotations should be provided in sealed envelopes to the office of the District Information Officer, Samba. The firm quoting the genuine amount shall be preferred for providing services.
NO: DIO/S/2025-26/245 Date:20/01/2026
DIP/J-10452/25 Dated:- 20/01/2026
Sd/- Ekshu Sharma, JKAS District Information Officer Samba

J.K. PUBLIC SCHOOL, PANJTIRTHI
A Roadmap Towards Your Child's Bright Future

ADMISSIONS OPEN
With effect from 14th January, 2026
For Classes: Pre-Nursery to Class X
Session: 2026-27

Let every moment of your child's learning phase be a celebration in your life.

Why Choose Us?

- Matchless curriculum where academics are never compromised.
- No compromise on discipline and etiquettes.
- Semester system for continuous evaluation, and better results, thus reducing burden on the child.
- Second Saturdays reserved for educational visits
- Literary activities and moral value sessions conducted every Saturday.
- J.K.P.S. is a school with a difference, where Physical Activities, Co-curricular activities and Academics go hand in hand.
- We do not believe in punishing children. Every child is counselled and dealt with psychologically.

Morning Assembly Routine:

- Prayer
- National Anthem
- Enhancement of General Knowledge.

For Any Enquiry, Contact:
0191-2566108, 0191-2543633
Timings: 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.