

# Tawi Trekkers explores Sagoon-Purmandal trek

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In keeping with its policy of promoting lesser frequented beauty spots and heritage sites of Jammu and to create an adventure, heritage and pilgrimage circuit in the Surinsar-Mansar-Purmandal area, Tawi Trekkers J&K, the pioneer trekking club of the UT, conducted a reconnaissance trek from Sagoon (five kms from Surinsar towards Mansar) to Purmandal.

Only four senior members of the club including its president, Ram Khajuria; senior sports journalist, Sanjeev Sharma; an international sport climber and a trained mountaineer; Shilpa Charak and Bindeep Singh who are the principal organisers of the



Participants at Sagoon village on Surinsar-Mansar Road.

'One Day Short Trek Series Programme' being organised by the club, participated in the day-long exploratory trek. The trekkers enjoyed the two kilometres gentle ascent

through the pines up to village Bral, a small calm and almost a sleepy village. The route offered panoramic views of Sagoon village with sacred Trikuta hills in the

background.

A pleasant descent of another two kilometres took the trekkers to a sacred Bral Mata temple, a serene place which has an image of 'Goddess Bral' and naturally formed Shivlingams. The temple is located at a supremely picturesque place which overwhelmed the trekkers with its divine aura.

Another comfortable trek of about three kilometres through calm and cool dense forest with awesome views of deep ravines led to village Padal, a sprawling village of about 45 houses with a primary school comprising two rooms only. Further one kilometer of trail through the village fields was quite refreshing.

Passing through a house the trekkers were pleasantly surprised to learn from a young girl that she was a student of class 11th and had been trekking 10 kilometers (to and fro) daily to attend her school at Purmandal. The revelation was, of course, a good learning experience for the trekkers who were on a 12 kilometers exploratory trek.

From Padal to the bed of holy Devak it was all descent of about two kilometers on a sandy tractor road. However, for the next three kilometers up to Purmandal, it was quite exhilarating to criss cross the shallow waters of holy Devika, flowing calmly in the serene surroundings of two sandy walls of Shivalik hills rising high on both the sides.

# Three-day intra-mural sports festival concludes at GDC Sunderbani

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SUNDERBANI: The three-day intra-mural sports festival organized by the Department of Physical Education and Sports, Government Degree College (GDC) Sunderbani concluded on Wednesday with distribution of prizes among winners and participants. A good number of college students participated in the festival.

Principal of the College, Prof. Minne Sharma acknowledged the efforts of the in-charge sports Rafiq Ahmad Rather (Librarian) who organized this intra-mural sports festival and encouraged the students to



Principal, Prof. Minne Sharma honouring a winner student.

discover their talent and become elite performers in future. The closing ceremony ended with prize distribution to winners and runners-up teams.

Prof. Rakesh Kumar, Prof. Rabinder Kumar, Prof. Sham Lal, Prof. Mohd Azam and a large number of students were present on the occasion.

# Arun Trust felicitates Handball Coach Dev Raj



Arun Sharma Sports and Social Welfare Trust members felicitating Chief Handball coach of SAI, Dev Raj.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Arun Sharma Sports and Social Welfare Trust on Wednesday felicitated chief Handball coach of Sports Authority of India (SAI), Dev Raj on his retirement from the National sports body at MA Stadium, here.

Senior National and International Handball players of J&K, under the banner of the Arun Sports Trust visited the office of the SAI STC Jammu from

where Dev Raj superannuated. Officials and coaches of SAI and J&K Sports Council (JKSC) were among others present.

"Dev Raj has been instrumental in producing many National and international players from J&K, so he deserves such felicitations and appreciations. He has been dedicated to his services throughout his career as Handball coach," said member trustee of Arun Sports Trust and executive member

of the Handball Federation of India (HFI), Ashutosh Sharma.

Earlier, Deputy Director of the SAI STC Jammu, Nadeem Ahmed Dar was all praise for the retiring chief coach and appreciated the gesture of Arun Sports Trust for the love and affection shown for their coach.

Among others present were Divisional Sports Officer of JKSC, Ashok Singh, Chief Basketball coach of SAI, Aman Sharma; Managers of JKSC, S P Singh and Satish Gupta, retired SAI Cricket coach, Varinder Sharma and retired SAI Handball coach, Sudesh Kumar as also prominent Handball players, Kartar Dogra, Chandan Singh Chowhan, Bachan Dogra, Ashish Sharma, Kapil Sagotra, Sanjeev Sharma, Gourav Sharma, Rohit Badan, Sanjay Manhas and Anil Dogra.

# Soham Kamotra, alumnus of DPS Jammu wins gold in Commonwealth Chess C'ship 2022

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Soham Kamotra, alumni of Delhi Public School Jammu (Batch 2021-22), an ace level and a top FIDE Chess Player brought laurels to the Alma mater and his parents by winning a gold medal in Commonwealth Chess Championship 2022 held at Sri Lanka from November 13-23, 2022. He remained unbeaten with points out of 9 ahead of the competitor from South Africa in the final game and clinched the 1st rank, winning the coveted gold.

It is noteworthy that Soham is the 1st player from Jammu & Kashmir to get International Chess Master Norm in a Championship held in Abu Dhabi and is one of the highest rated Chess Players of J&K. Earlier this year, Soham also emerged as the National Chess Champion in the National Under-18 Chess Championship held at Pollachi, Tamil Nadu.

Principal DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chhabra, staff and students congratulated Soham and his parents for the glorious achievement. She said that it is a proud moment for all of us that Soham has set a winning trend in Chess for all other Sports Stars in the school. She also felicitated Soham with a memento and gold medal. President RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC, Dr. Ritu Singh and Director, S.S Sodhi congratulated Soham, his parents and extended their best wishes for all his future endeavours.

# PSPS GCW Gandhi Nagar organises poster-making competition



PSPS GCW Gandhi Nagar students and faculty members during Poster-Making Competition.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Red Ribbon Club of Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Govt. PG College for Women Gandhi Nagar Jammu in Collaboration with J&K AIDS Control Society on Wednesday organised Poster Making Competition on the theme "Equalise: Achieving Equity to end HIV/ AIDS".

Twenty-two students participated in the event with full zeal and enthusiasm. The stu-

dents made Eye - Catching Posters relevant to this year's theme.

Students, the ambassadors for creating awareness in society exhibited their talent by mingling colors with imagination. The 1st, 2nd and third Prize along with two certificates of merit were given to the students for their creativity.

Prof Minu Mahajan, the Principal of the College

appreciated the students and team for investing their time and energy for this Social Cause.

The event was adjudged by Prof Shafia Sheikh, HOD Urdu dept. and Prof Renu Sehgal, Associate Professor, Music dept. The whole Programme was Coordinated by Prof. Suman Bala along with team members Prof. Abhinav Sharma and Dr. Kusum.

# Mayor Jammu enlightens KCPS students on corruption-free India



Mayor Jammu, Rajinder Sharma addressing students at KCPS Jammu.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Students of KC Public School were enlightened about the corruption-free India by Rajinder Sharma, Mayor of Jammu Municipal Corporation on Wednesday morning in a special assembly.

More than 300 students from the senior wing of the school attended the session. The speech by the Mayor

was initiated under the Corruption-free India Campaign led by JMC.

Rajinder started his speech by quoting from Prime Minister's speech on 76th Independence Day wherein he urged all the countrymen to come together to defeat the demon of corruption.

Addressing the students as the future policy-makers, he inspired them to be the torchbearers of the noble initiative and also stressed upon the need to inculcate

moral virtues like honesty, loyalty, integrity which will enable them to differentiate between right and wrong and will help them to follow the path of righteousness.

Chairman Raju Chowdhary, Managing Director Arti Chowdhary, Vice Chairman Arjun Chowdhary and Principal Amarendra Kumar Mishra thanked the Mayor and appreciated the initiative taken for inspiring the youth of our nation to be the change makers of tomorrow.

# Education key to prepare youth for transforming India as global human resource hub: Rana

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JANDRAH: Highlighting the huge push given to education after the implementation of National Education Policy, Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Wednesday exuded confidence about Jammu and Kashmir benefitting from the initiative in a big way.

"Education holds the key to youth empowerment and preparing them for transforming India into the world's largest human resource hub", Rana said while addressing parents and teachers at the Annual Day of National Academy High School, Jandrah in Nagrota Assembly constituency.

He expressed happiness over the immense interest being evinced by the parents in shaping the destiny of their children by ornamenting them with the treasure of wealth. He called for greater teacher-parent synergy for sound academic foundation



National Academy High School Jandrah faculty presenting memento to senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana.

of children and said inter-personal relationship between the two should form an important component of the learning process. Amid pulls and pressures of the modern times, the involvement of parents and teachers has assumed added and crucial significance in shaping the academic destiny of youngsters. He expressed the hope that alongside academics, schools would pay matching attention towards extra-curricular activities, sports and

personality development, which constitute important ingredients of the overall growth of students.

"Grooming young minds is a crucial challenge, not only for parents and students but also the management, which has to generate a conducive atmosphere for youngsters to grow in harmony", Rana said and appreciated the growing role of the private sector in the field of education.

He said healthy competition between schools would

ultimately benefit the youngsters and place them in good stead in meeting the challenges of modern times with confidence. While parents can play a supportive role in shaping the future of their children, it is actually a teacher who has to perform the role of a guide, philosopher and role model, he maintained.

Ranjeet Singh, Chairman National Academy High School briefed Rana about the academic excellence and strides taken in the extra-

curricular activities by the school.

Sanjeev Singh Principal, presented an annual report and highlighted the achievements registered by students in various fields.

On the occasion, students presented a variety programme, depicting different facets of the pluralistic ethos of Jammu and Kashmir.

Prominent among those present at the Annual Day function included BJP leader Som Nath Khajuria, Tehsildar Dansal Dhruv Gupta, Naib Tehsildar Puran Singh besides Lal Kishore Sarpanch Nagrota, Anil Sharma Sarpanch Jandrah, Rimal Singh Sarpanch Krishanpur, Balbir Singh, Sarpanch Kathar, Ramesh Chander Niab Sarpanch Nagola, Pritam Singh, Kishori Lal, Sunil Gandotra, Sanjeev Sharma, Baldev Singh, Capt. Rajinder Singh, Chain Singh and others.

# Kabaddi trials from Dec 6

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: General Secretary of J&K Amateur Kabaddi Association, Surinder Mohan Gupta on Wednesday informed that the selection trials for 32nd Sub-Junior National Kabaddi Championship in boys and girls section are going to be held from December 6 to 8, 2022 at Unique Public Higher Secondary School, Lower Gadigarh at 4:00 pm under the supervision of Ravinder Singh Bali, NIS Kabaddi Coach.

"The weight category for boys and girls sections will be below 55 kg weight," he said.

Gupta asked all the affiliated districts and clubs of the state to send their registered players for trials with two passport size photographs, photocopies of their Aadhaar Card, Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India registration Card, domicile certificate of J&K, Medical Fitness Certificate from authorized doctor along with negative report of COVID Test.

The 32nd Sub-Junior National Kabaddi Championship for boys and girls is going to be held at Bokaro Steel City, Jharkhand from December 27 to 30, 2022, he said adding that those who have not registered with the AKFI will not be eligible to participate in the selection trials.

# KC College of Education holds alumni meet 'The Reunion 2022'



Principal, Dr Sanjay Tickoo posing for photograph with alumni members during a meet.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: KC College of Education organised Alumni Meet 'The Reunion 2022' on Wednesday. At very onset, the Alumni were accorded a welcome by Rita Jamwal, Convenor, Alumni Committee. It was followed by deliberations on the significance of Alumni as an important Human Resource by Taranjeet Kour, Assistant Professor.

Over 100 alumni, offline as well as online, attended

the event which marked by inspirational speech by Dr Sanjay Tickoo, Principal of the College, who urged Alumni to not only simply stay in touch with the college but contribute towards its improvement and upliftment also. On this occasion election of Alumni body, to be registered in court, was held for the post of President, Secretary, treasurer and members. Saloni Gupta, Roshni Salgotra, Ansar Ahmed were elected as President, Secretary and

Treasurer respectively whereas Shagun, Akshata, Vaishali and Anamika as members. The programme was further marked by a variety programme comprising songs, folk dances and Bhangra by present batch of teacher trainees. The highlight of programme was a short-skit based on care of elderly people. The alumni were given memoir as token of love and goodwill. The vote of thanks was presented by Rita Jamwal.

# Prof Rajni Kant elected National President ICA

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 49th National Seminar on Crystallographic organized by the Department of Physics, University of Jammu in collaboration with the national committee on crystallography for Indian Act Science Academy (INSA) and the international union of Crystallography concluded on Wednesday at General Zorawar Singh, Auditorium.

The seminar was inaugu-



rated by Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor, University

of Jammu, Prof. J.P Singh and Dr. Shekhar C Mande (former DG-CSIR).

In the annual general body of the Association, Professor Rajni Kant, the convener of the seminar has been elected as the National President of the Indian Crystallographic Association (ICA) for a period of three years starting from Dec 2022-2025.

It is a historic moment for the University of Jammu to have Prof. Rajni Kant, Dean

Research Studies and Dean Faculty of Sciences, as the national position which once remained occupied by Prof. Krishan Lal (Former President-INSAs), Prof. M Vijayan (former President-INSAs), Dr. Shekhar C Mande (former DG-CSIR), Prof. T.P.Singh (Distinguished Research Professor of DST-SERB, AIIMS, New Delhi) and many more of similar stature.

# City Vending, City Resource Mobilization Finance plan to come into force soon: Mayor JMC

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To meet the growing challenges faced by Jammu Municipal Corporation regarding Rehri menace within the jurisdiction of JMC and to improve the economic conditions of JMC, a sustainable City Vending Plan for Jammu city and City Resource mobilization finance plan was discussed in a meeting held under the chairmanship of Mayor Jammu, Rajinder Sharma, here today.

The meeting was attended by all members of the Executive Committee of JMC, Commissioner JMC and concerned officers of JMC working on these proposals of JMC

and officers from Smart city.

Commissioner JMC, Rahul Yadav briefed about the roadmap for implementation of the proposals on the ground so as to meet the day to day challenges at its own.

"To allow for a visionary and better facilities to Jammuites and for the future of brighter Jammu there is a need for vision document by all the allied departments and our efforts should be to give a relief from rehri menace to the general public" said Mayor while addressing the officers. We are also working on to improve the financial position of JMC, he added.

A threadbare discussion was held regard-

ing exploring the ideas to work out a framework for making Jammu a place with a better living infrastructure.

Mayor directed the engineering wing of JMC to expedite the work of repair of JMC Flats at Sabzi Mandi, Parade.

The Mayor said that Committees of Councillors will be formed for transparent and efficient solutions of all issues pertaining to JMC such as Rehri phari, overflowing of nallahs, hoardings, towers, illegal constructions. The Mayor asked all stakeholders to work together to create an attractive atmosphere, clean Jammu to live with better facilities to Jammuites.