# Historic Mahavir Dangal enthralls Akhnoor, top wrestlers from India, abroad in action at Pangiari

Russian wrestler Tamerlan Tapseiv clinches main bout

AKHNOOR: The historic annual Mahavir Dangal was organised with great enthusiasm at Pangiari Dangal Ground, Akhnoor, attracting a large gathering of spectators and wrestling enthusiasts from across the region. The event was organised by Mahavir  ${\bf Committee,}$ Pangiari, under the leadership of President Darshan Chib, along with committee members Ganesh Sharma. Sanjay Sharma, Bhagwan Sharma, Golu Malaysia, Ravi Sharma, Sonu Kumar and others. More than 100 bouts were held, making it one of the largest dangals in the area. Security arrangements were effectively managed by Jammu Police, ensuring smooth and peaceful conduct of the event.

MLA Akhnoor Mohan Lal Bhagat graced the occasion



MLA Akhnoor Mohan Lal Bhagat along with wrestlers.

those present were SHO Akhnoor Rajesh Jasrotia, Mandeep Chib, President Yuva Rajput Sabha, former Sarpanches Ashwani Bral, Sharma, Dev Raj Bhagat and Suman Chib, BJP Sohal-Sungal

Mandal Shamsher, President Vikram Chib and Rajan Singh Happy Dass. Several dangal committees from nearby areas also attended the event, adding to its intense display of strength

grandeur. The dangal is considered among the biggest in the region, with the top 11 bouts carrying a cash prize of Rs 2.5 lakh each. The wrestling contests witnessed thrilling performances by top wrestlers from different parts of the country and abroad. In the first major bout, Neeraj of

Rohtak faced Chota Saddam

of Hoshiarpur, with the con-

test ending in a tie after an

bout saw Major of Dera Baba, Punjab, take on Hubaev of Russia, in which Major emerged victorious. In another high-voltage

contest, Umesh of Mathura horns Harshvardhan Sadgir of Maharashtra, with Harshvardhan being declared the winner. The main and most awaited bout of the day was fought between Sikander Sheikh of Maharashtra and Tamerlan Tapseiv of of Russia, in which Tamerlan emerged victorious, drawing loud applause from the spectators and bringing the grand Mahavir Dangal to a thrilling conclusion.

Speaking on the occasion,

Mahavir Dangal Committee President Darshan Chib thanked MLA Mohan Lal Bhagat for development works worth Rs 5 lakh carried out around the dangal ground and appealed for more developmental works in

Addressing the gathering, MLA Mohan Lal Bhagat said that dangals play a vital role in keeping the youth engaged in sports and away from the menace of drugs. He appreciated the efficient arrangements made by the organising committee and assured that the Pangiari Dangal Ground would be developed into a Mini Stadium, emphasising the need to revive and promote traditional sports.

## Vijay Diwas observed at Govt Boys' Model Hr Sec School Rajouri



Lt. Sriprabha G Nair of 41 Field Regiment, Kargil educating students.

#### **■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAJOURI: Government Boys' Model Higher Secondary School, Rajouri organised an impressive programme to mark Vijay Diwas, commemorating the liberation of Bangladesh on 16 December

On the occasion, Lt. Sriprabha G Nair of 41 Field Regiment, Kargil, addressed the students and highlighted the historical significance of

Vijay Diwas and the decisive role played by the Indian Army in the 1971 war. She shared valuable insights into the sacrifices and bravery of Indian soldiers and emphasised the importance of patriotism and national service.

A highly informative documentary showcasing the brief history of the 1971 war and the Indian Army's contribution was also screened for the stu-

Lt. Sriprabha G Nair motivated students to join the Indian Army and encouraged them to contribute positively towards the welfare of society.

Principal M. M Wani presented the school brochure to the guest, highlighting the institution's curriculum and achievements. The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Vikrant Sharma, and the event was attended by faculty members of the institution.

# Make Katra residents stakeholders, not casualties of development: Rattan Lal

## Police, GDC Samba organise awareness lecture



**STATE TIMES NEWS** 

SAMBA: District Police Samba, in collaboration with Government Degree College (GDC) Samba, successfully organized a major awareness lecture today at 12:00 PM as part of the nationwide Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan (Drug-Free India Campaign). The initiative aimed to educate and sensitize students about the severe risks associated with drug abuse and actively promote a healthy, addiction-free future.

The program was executed under the guidance of College Principal, Prof. Dr. Meeru Abrol, who praised the District Police for selecting the educational campus as a crucial venue for such awareness drives. In her address, Dr. Abrol stressed the necessity of these programs within academic settings; urging students to remain disciplined and committed to fostering a drug-free communi-

G. R. Bhardwaj, Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP), delivered a powerful and

ing the devastating physical, psychological, and social ramifications of drug addiction. His address successfully inspired students to make positive, life-affirming choices.

Further emphasizing the collective responsibility in this fight, DySP Shri Arjun Chib highlighted the critical partnership required between law enforcement, educational institutions, and the youth to effectively combat the

The session featured contributions from Inspector Asha Nand and Ms. Pallavi Rajput, who served as Resource Persons. Inspector Asha Nand concluded the event by summarizing key messages and encouraging the students to become ambassadors of awareness in their own neighbourhoods.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from both students and faculty. It was seamlessly coordinated by Dr. Pappinder Bhagat (N-CORD Convenor), with organizational support from committee members Prof. Mamta Bhagat, Prof. Nidhi Sharma, NCC ANO's, and Prof. Kamlesh Bala (NSS PO).

KATRA: The Jammu and National Kashmir Conference Provincial President Jammu, Ratan Lal Gupta, on Sunday reiterated the party's demand that the genuine concerns of the people of Katra must be taken into consideration before proceeding with the proposed Katra ropeway project. Gupta was addressing a

one-day Youth Convention at Katra, where he was the chief guest. He exhorted the youth to strengthen and carry forward the vision and mission of Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah, which is firmly rooted in the principles of secularism, welfarism, and inclusive development. Er. Khursheed Ahmad, MLA Gulabgarh, attended the convention as the guest of honour. The Convention was organized by Mr. Jugal Kishore Zonal President Udhampur Reasi Zone YNC and Baldev Thappa Vice President Zonal Udhampur Reasi Zone YNC.

In his address, Ratan Lal Gupta expressed serious concern over what he termed the



JKNC Provincial President Jammu, Ratan Lal Gupta during workers' convention at Katra.

sidelining of legitimate demands of the local population by the SMVD Shrine Board management led by the Lieutenant Governor. He said the proposed alignment of the ropeway threatens the livelihood of thousands of people in Katra, including ponywalas, porters, small shopkeepers and other marginal stakeholders whose survival depends on the movement of pilgrims.

"These people have been an integral part of the pilgrimage ecosystem for centuries. They do not earn millions or build fortunes; they merely make a humble living.

having their bread and butter snatched away. The concerned management must rise to the occasion and ensure that the genuine concerns of locals are addressed before moving ahead with the project," Gupta said.

He stressed that development should not come at the cost of livelihoods and urged the authorities to keep channels of communication open with the local population. "The locals must be made stakeholders in every development initiative. Their voices cannot and should not be ignored," he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Er. Khursheed Ahmad, MLA

opment in the hilly and remote areas of Jammu has unprecedented momentum under the Omar Abdullah-led government. "For the first time, people in far-flung and hilly regions are witnessing tangible development in terms of road connectivity, power supply, healthcare and education. Areas that were neglected for decades are now on the development map, ensuring digni-

he said. Addressing the gathering, S. Tejinder Pal Singh Aman Provincial President Jammu YNC called upon the NC youth cadre to gear up for the forthcoming Urban Local Body and Panchayat elections whenever they are held. "While opposition parties have nothing concrete to show, they are resorting to confusion and misinformation because they are unnerved by the rapid strides being made by the Omar Abdullah-led government, especially in far-flung areas of Jammu. Our ministers, MLAs and office bearers are

ty, opportunities and a better

quality of life for the people,"

grievances. The youth must reach every household and highlight the good work and proven track record of the NC government," he said.

The convention witnessed enthusiastic participation from NC youth workers and party leaders, who reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening the party at the grassroots level. Among those who were

present in the meeting included: Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, Rai Kumar Sharma District President Reasi. Rakesh Singh Raka Vice President Central Zone, Farooq Mughal Senior leader, Tariq Butt Zonal Secretary Udhampur Reasi Zone, Sher Singh Vice President District Reasi, Vikramjeet Singh Vice President District Reasi. Ashok Mehta, Charan Dass, R. K Suri Vice President District Reasi, Pawan Kumar District President Reasi YNC, Amarnath District President SC Cell Reasi, Rattan Lal Block President, Vishal Singh Parihar Vice President Jammu Province YNC and other party functionaries actively resolving public also present.

# DC Doda reviews initiatives aimed at mental healthcare, protection of women and child & labour Welfare

## STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: District Development Harvinder Singh chaired a meeting to review initiatives aimed at Mental Healthcare and Suicide Prevention. Protection of Women's Rights, besides the mechanism in place for the prevention of Child and Labour.

The meeting, held in Mini Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex, focused on assessing challenges, prevailing strengthening inter-departmental coordination and ensuring effective implementation of government initiatives aimed at safeguarding mental well-being, women's safety, child rights and public welfare. The DDC emphasized the

importance of awareness gen-

eration, timely intervention and a proactive grassrootslevel approach to address mental health issues and prevent suicides

The functioning of the One Stop Centre, resolution of matrimonial disputes and support mechanisms for women in distress were also discussed. with instructions to strengthen coordination among departments for timely assistance. Stress was laid on strict adherence to laws and welfare schemes meant for the protection and empowerment of

He directed the designated counsellors to regularly visit and inspect schools, interact with students, listen to their grievances and submit detailed inspection reports to the administration. The remedial mechanism for resolving issues

The meeting also reviewed Task Force Committee on Child and Labour. Directions were issued for conducting special drives against child labour and ensuring strict enforcement of relevant laws.

The meeting was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC)Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP), Chief Planning Officer (CPO), Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Education Officer (CEO), District Social Welfare Officer (DSWO), Assistant Labour Commissioner (ALC), Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) of the district and other concerned officers and

# **Kishtwar admin formulates action** plan to curb child labour



#### STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pankai Kumar Sharma chaired a meeting of the District Level Task Force Committee (DLTFC) to review and strengthen measures for the regulation and prohibition of child labour in the dis-

The meeting focused on the effective enforcement of the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, which prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years and regulates the working conditions of adolescents. The meeting decided to initiate formulation of a comprehensive action plan to

The DC emphasized the need for a well-defined

strategy and directed the concerned departments to chart out a detailed calendar for district-wide awareness drives aimed at sensitising the public about the legal and social consequences of child

The DC stressed inter-departmental coordination and proactive field-level action to ensure a child-labour-free district with special focus on education, rehabilitation and community participation. The meeting was attended by key members of the DLTFC, including ASP Kishtwar, Pardeep Singh; DSWO Kishtwar, Tariq Parvez Qazi; ALC Kishtwar, Mamta Sudarshan. Member Secretary; ZEO Kishtwar; Chairperson, CWC Kishtwar, Sheetal Sharma and other concerned representatives

## DLSA Reasi hosts awareness events on Legal Services Unit for children

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

REASI: The District Legal Services Authority Reasi today organised two outreach programs to generate awareness about the Legal Services Unit for Children.

The twin events were held under the guidance of Khalil Ahmed Choudhary, Chairman, District Legal

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Services Authority (Pr. District and Sessions Judge Reasi) and DLSA Secretary Pooja Gupta.

An awareness event was held at Legal Literacy Club Pouni. The program was attended by the staff and students of the Government Higher Secondary School

Pouni. Assistant LADCs Niharika Bamotra, Ranjeet Singh and Dheeraj Singh Thakur were the resource

persons Another program was organised at Government Middle School Sherpur Katra where Assistant LADCs Bhumika Rajput and Rishav Sharma were the resource persons.

The objective of the programs was to generate awareness regarding the legal services available for children in distress.

### for steering University towards excellence despite challenges STATE TIMES NEWS

related to child pressure and

problems faced by married

women were also deliberated

The DDC instructed the

officers to ensure that helpline

numbers function effectively

and be accessible to the public.

He further directed that

Action Taken Reports on

grievances and decisions be

submitted to higher authori-

ties within stipulated time-

RAJOURI: Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU) celebrated its 22nd Foundation Day with great enthusiasm and fervour at the University campus. The event was graced by Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education, Shantmanu, as the Chief Guest.

Shantmanu, congratulated the University on completing 22 years of its establishment and lauded the consistent efforts of the University administration in steering BGSBU towards excellence despite various challenges. He appreciated the innovative initiatives undertaken by the University and assured full support from the administration for its continued growth and develop-

Speaking on the occasion, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Jawaid Iqbal, congratulated the entire University fraternity and appreciated the dedicated efforts of the



BGSBU celebrates 22nd Foundation Day; Shantmanu lauds admin

ACS Higher Education, Shantmanu and others during the event.

faculty and staff towards the holistic development of the insti-

He reaffirmed the University's commitment to work with renewed vigour to transform BGSBU into a centre of academic and research excellence.

Registrar, BGSBU, Abhishek Sharma, highlighted the significant achievements of the University recorded during the past year. These included a

steady rise in admissions, securing grants under Capex, establishment of smart classrooms and various infrastructure development initiatives

He also highlighted the ongoing renovation of hostels and other

developmental works taken up by the University. On the academic front, the

implemented NEP-2020 and

Registrar informed that the University has successfully

organized a Central Induction Programme for the newly admitted students to ensure a smooth academic transition.

During the event, a University Compendium, showcasing the achievements of BGSBU over the last one year, was formally released.

The University also launched Community Connect Programme, Smart Classrooms and unveiled a website in local language, aimed at strengthening

regional outreach. On the occasion, the University also felicitated the distinguished alumni serving in various prestigious positions.

The event concluded with a Vote of Thanks presented by Prof. T. T. Xavier, Principal, Nursing College, BGSBU.

Among others, ADDC Rajouri Sheraz-ul-Haq, Malikzada Basharat Hussain, senior officers, academicians and other dignitaries attended the function.