

JK Public School Kunjwani shines at 69th National School Games 2025-26

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JK Public School, Kunjwani has brought laurels to the institution and the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir with the outstanding participation of its students in the 69th National School Games 2025-26 in Football and Athletics.

Samridhi Sharma, a student of Class XI, proudly represented Jammu & Kashmir (UT) in the Under-17 Girls Football event of the 69th National School Games, held at Ranchi, Jharkhand, from 18 Dec to 22 Dec 2025. Her selection and participation at the national level reflect her dedication, discipline and sporting excellence.



JK Public School Kunjwani faculty felicitating winner students.

In another remarkable achievement, Mohd Shoiab Khan of JK Public School, Kunjwani represented

Jammu & Kashmir (UT) in the Under-17 Boys Athletics at the 69th National School Games,

held at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, from December 13 to 17, 2025. His participation at this prestigious

national platform is a matter of pride for the school and the region. Shashi Chaudhary,

Director, JK Educational Society, and Rajesh Rathore, Principal, JK Public School, Kunjwani,

congratulated both the students for their commendable achievements and for representing the Union Territory

at the National level. They appreciated the students' hard work, perseverance and sportsmanship, and wished them continued success in their future endeavors.

The school management also lauded the dedicated efforts of the coaches Eliza Sotra and Shiv Dev Singh, whose guidance, training and motivation played a pivotal role in preparing the students for National-level competition.

JK Public School, Kunjwani continues to encourage holistic development by promoting sports alongside academics, nurturing young talent, and fostering a spirit of excellence and discipline among its students.

Kanwal Tigers defeats Royal Goodwill CC in BIG JKPL 2025-26 opener

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JAMMU: The BIG Jammu Kashmir Premier League (JKPL) 2025-26 was inaugurated on Friday with great enthusiasm at the University of Jammu Ground.

The professionally managed league is being organised by 92.7 BIG FM, with HexaMed Diagnostics as the Title Partner, City University as the Powered By Partner, Kanwal Spices and Oxford Hospital as Associate Partners, JK Sports Time as the Live Streaming Partner, and Pepsi as the Beverage Partner.

The opening match of the tournament witnessed



A player receiving Player of the Match award.

an impressive performance by Kanwal Tigers, who registered a convincing six-wicket victory over Royal Goodwill Cricket Club. Batting first after winning the toss, Royal

Goodwill CC put up a competitive total of 164 runs, setting a challenging target of 165 for the Tigers. Their innings featured steady contributions from the top and middle order,

keeping the contest evenly poised at the halfway stage.

In response, Kanwal Tigers displayed confidence and composure while chasing the target. The chase was anchored by a brilliant all-round performance from Ankush Bandal, who played a match-winning unbeaten knock of 72 runs. Bandal also made a valuable contribution with the ball, picking up a crucial wicket to restrict the opposition. His outstanding display earned him the Player of the Match award and set the tone for his team's campaign in the league.

The league was officially inaugurated by Satish

Sharma, Sports Minister, Jammu & Kashmir. Addressing the gathering, the Minister praised 92.7 BIG FM for organising a well-structured cricket league and highlighted the role of sports in addressing social challenges.

"Cricket has the power to positively channel the energy of our youth. At a time when drug abuse is a growing concern, initiatives like this league inspire youngsters to choose sports over harmful activities. Playgrounds must become spaces of discipline, fitness, and hope," he said, assuring full government support for youth-oriented sports initiatives.

The opening match attracted a large crowd of spectators, creating a lively and festive atmosphere at the venue. Dr. Nigam Gupta, Managing Director, HexaMed Technologies, was present on the occasion.

Vikrant Sharma, Cluster Head - North, 92.7 BIG FM, along with R.J. Juhie, expressed gratitude to the Minister, sponsors, officials, media, and supporters for making the inauguration a grand success.

With several exciting fixtures lined up, the BIG JKPL 2025-26 promises high-quality cricket, youth empowerment, and a strong social message through sport.

20th National Matsogi-Do Championship 2025 to be held at JU from Dec 28

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 20th National Matsogi-Do Championship 2025 will be organised from 28 to 31 December 2025 at the Gymnasium Hall, University of Jammu. This four-day national-level event is expected to bring together around 1,200 players, nearly 70 technical officials, and 30 volunteers representing different states from across India. The championship aims to promote Matsogi-Do at the national level and to identify talented athletes for future international competitions.

A total cash prize of Rs 4,50,000 will be awarded to winners in various categories. Outstanding performers from the championship will also be selected



Matsogi-Do Association of J&K President TS Tony briefing media at Jammu.

for upcoming international events, the details of which will be announced soon. All necessary arrangements for accommodation, food, and transportation of players and officials have been completed to ensure the smooth and professional conduct of the tournament.

The schedule of the championship has been carefully planned. On 28 December 2025, the opening ceremony will be held along with weight checks and draw fixtures. On 29 December, competitions for all sub-junior categories, both boys and girls, will take place. The

third day, 30 December, will feature all junior and senior boys' categories. The final day, 31 December, will be dedicated to all girls' categories, including group fights, followed by the closing ceremony.

The championship is being organised with the generous support of Jodhamal Public School,

Unique International Public School, and the Ajay Choudhary Foundation, Kathua. The organisers have extended a warm invitation to sports lovers, parents, and media representatives to attend and witness this grand celebration of Matsogi-Do, which is set to mark a significant milestone in the promotion of martial arts in the country.

GNHC, Khelo India A win Hockey titles

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Guru Nanak Hockey Club (GNHC) Jammu and Khelo India A won the men and women titles respectively in the District Jammu Hockey Championship which held at K K Hakhu Stadium, here.

In the men's final, GNHC defeated Bandhurakh Hockey Club via tie breaker. The closely contested match ended in a 1-1 draw. Saksham Sharma guided GNHC to first lead by striking in the 19th minute by converting a penalty corner into goal. The equalizer came in the fourth quarter of the game in 53rd minute when Gurpreet Singh scored a field goal. Tied at 1-1 draw, the final ended in a 5-3 result in favour of GNHC in penalties.

Similarly, in women category, Khelo India A defeated Sahara Club making it a one-sided 5-0 contest. Anju scored two goals while Komal, Dhani and Janvi netted one each.

Before start of the final, the teams introduced with Rajeev Sharma, for-



Winner teams posing for a photograph with officials.

mer member J&K Sports Council, who assured the players all possible help.

Later, chief guest, Balvinder Singh, vice president of Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee gave away the prizes to the winners and runners up teams.

Earlier, Dr. Taran Singh, general secretary Hockey J&K presented a brief note of the event. He thanked J&K Sports Council for the support and encouragement.

Among others present were Ravi

Raj Singh (treasurer Hockey J&K); Manjeet Singh (vice president Hockey J&K); Dr Harbinder Singh, Head Hockey Coach University of Kashmir; Tejinder Singh, secretary Hockey J&K; Manjit Singh, Kashmir Sikh Sangat; Jaswant Singh, Iqbal Singh, Satbir Singh Kala, Jaswinder Singh Kuku, Janak Singh, Rajinder Singh Sudan and Charanjit Singh.

Senior BSF umpire, Guruvachan Singh, Minakshi, Guruvachan Singh and Sahil Kumar were the umpires.

VC CLUJ flags off Men's Badminton Team for NZ Inter-University Tournament

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Vice-Chancellor of Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ), Sr. Prof. (Dr.) K. S. Chandrasekar, on Friday flagged off the Men's Badminton Team, which is set to represent the University in the North Zone Inter-University Tournament scheduled to be held at CT University, Ludhiana, from December 30, 2025, to January 4, 2026.

During the flag-off ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor



VC CLUJ, Sr. Prof. (Dr.) K. S. Chandrasekar and Dr. Vinod Bakshi posing for a group photograph with Men's Badminton Team.

wished the team success and emphasized the importance

of hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship.

He encouraged the players to perform to the best of their abilities and uphold the pride of the University at this prestigious inter-university event. The event highlighted the University's focus on promoting sports and encouraging students to excel at both national and inter-university levels.

The ceremony was also attended by Dr. Vinod Bakshi, Director of Physical Education and Sports, who

acknowledged the consistent efforts and rigorous training of the team. He appreciated the commitment of the athletes and expressed confidence that the team would demonstrate outstanding performance and discipline throughout the tournament.

The University community expressed its best wishes to the team and hoped for their success in the upcoming North Zone Inter-University Tournament, reflecting the spirit of teamwork, dedication, and excellence.

District Kathua Taekwondo meet begins

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: District Kathua Taekwondo Championship, organised by Taekwondo Association of Kathua, got underway today at Indoor Hall, Sports Stadium, here.

The event was declared open by Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rajesh Sharma, who was the chief guest, while Atul Pangotra was guest of honour.

The championship is being conducted under the leadership of Shri Amit Kumar Badeulia, secretary of the district association in support with Pushap Thakur, Pankaj Spolia, and Vishesh



DC Kathua, Rajesh Sharma with officials and participants.

Thakur. Around 150 participants in various weight groups and age categories are contesting for the top honours. Those

winners of this district championship shall take part in the upcoming 28th J&K UT Taekwondo Championships.

Yawer, Murugan guide J&K to big win over Assam

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Brilliant century from Yawer Hassan and impressive five-wicket haul from Murugan Ashwin today guided J&K to a big 142 runs win against Assam in the ongoing Vijay Hazare Trophy at Niranjan Shah Stadium, Rajkot today.

Earlier, put into bat, J&K, after riding on a superb batting display by Yawer (138), scored a big total of 341 runs for three in the 50 overs game.

Yawer showed elegance to emerge top scorer with brilliant 138 studded with 13 fours and four sixes. Qamran Iqbal (55), Shubham Khajuria (39), Rydhman Sharma (35) and Abdul Samad (24) were other main contributors to the total.

Denish Dass and Ayushman Malakar took two wickets each, while Avinav Choudhury and Rahul Singh claimed one



Yawer Hassan and Murugan Ashwin posing with the Vijay Hazare Trophy.

wicket each.

In reply, Assam bundled out for 199 runs, thus losing the match by a big margin of 142 runs. Skipper SC Ghadigaonkar top scored with 53 runs off 51 balls studded with 8 boundaries, while Denish Das and Saurav Mousum contributed 33 and 25 runs to the total respectively.

For J&K, Murugan Ashwin spun web around the rival batsmen and captured five wickets, while Yudhvir Singh

took two. Abid Mushtaq, Lone Nasir Muzaffar and Abdul Samad claimed one wicket each. Yawer Hassan was adjudged player of the match for his fabulous innings.

Meanwhile, member administration JKCA, Brig Anil Gupta complimented the team. "Overall, an outstanding display of team work. The tougher matches are yet to follow. Keep up the momentum and play from match to match. Congratulations to one and all," said Brig Anil Gupta.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Heritage School turned its amphitheatre into a space filled with celebration, memories and heartfelt emotions as it hosted the Farewell Ceremony for the graduating Class XII students of the Batch of 2025-2026.

The elegantly curated event marked an important milestone, celebrating the students' journey from their formative school years to the threshold of new global opportunities.

The programme began with a graceful welcome address, followed by a melodious music medley that took the audience through timeless tunes. One of the most awaited highlights of the ceremony was the ramp walk, where the outgoing students walked the stage with confidence, poise and individuality, reflecting the self-belief and values nurtured by the school.



Students and faculty members participating in the Farewell Ceremony.

The cultural segment unfolded as a vibrant showcase of talent and creativity. Energetic dance performances captivated the audience with their rhythm and coordination. This was followed by a jury interaction round, after which the much-anticipated farewell titles were announced. Abhay Gupta was crowned Mr Heritage, while Akula Punj was declared Ms Heritage. Vanika Parmar received the title of Ms Elegancia, and Arihant Singh

was honoured as Mr Maverick, drawing enthusiastic applause from the gathering.

Adding a light-hearted and nostalgic touch, Class XI students presented a fun award segment inspired by the popular sitcom Friends. The seniors were conferred titles based on iconic characters and memorable situations from the show, creating moments of laughter and fond reminiscence. A special performance by the Student Council further highlighted

the spirit of leadership, unity and responsibility nurtured over the years.

The Principal addressed the students with words of encouragement and wisdom, motivating them to face future challenges with confidence, integrity and resilience while upholding the core values of the institution. The celebrations reached a joyful peak with the felicitation of the title holders through sashes, tiaras, gifts and a ceremonial cake cutting.

The event concluded with a

heartfelt vote of thanks by the Head Boy and Head Girl. Quoting the iconic line from Dead Poets Society, the Head Girl reminded her peers that "words and ideas can change the world," inspiring the graduating batch to believe in the power of their voice, thoughts and vision.

The farewell ceremony was a fitting tribute to the Class of 2026, leaving the students with cherished memories, strong values and best wishes as they embark on a new chapter of their lives.