

LG inaugurates 6th edition of Kashmiri Pandit Premier League Power of sports can transform nation: Sinha



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at inaugural ceremony of 6th edition of KPPL at M.A Stadium, Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday called upon the players and youth to dream big and define clear goals in life and make them reality with hard work, dedication and perseverance.

"The power of sports can transform individuals, society and the nation. We must believe in ourselves, promote shared values, embrace the challenges and

stay focussed to foster national identity and unity," the Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of 6th edition of Kashmiri Pandit Premier League (KPPL) at M.A Stadium, Jammu. In his address, the Lieutenant Governor extended his felicitations and best wishes to all the participating players and

everyone associated with the Kashmiri Pandit Premier League. The Lieutenant Governor reaffirmed that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Government of India and UT Administration is committed to the welfare of Kashmiri Pandit Community. The Lieutenant Governor also commended the Lalitaditya Sports

Education and Health Organization, for its dedicated efforts towards promotion of sports. He asked the members of the Organization to partner with schools and government departments in other states/UTs to connect with youth. He further emphasised on developing a long-term empowerment roadmap and integrating skill training and career preparation for the youth

from Kashmiri Pandit Community, building on the success of initiatives like the LG Special Camp. Ashish Kachroo, Vice President, Lalitaditya Sports Education and Health Organization; Vinay Koul, General Secretary; Ankur Bagati, Coordinator; P N Tickoo, Deepak Raina, Raman Raina and other members of the organisation, prominent citizens and sportspersons were present.

The inaugural ceremony was also attended by Shiv Kumar Sharma, DIG Jammu-Samba-Kathua Range; Dr Rakesh Minhas, Deputy Commissioner Jammu; Dr. Arvind Karwani, Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants) J&K; Nuzhat Gul, Secretary, J&K Sports Council and senior officials of Civil and Police Administration.

10th Jammu District Men and Women Powerlifting and Deadlift C'ship held



Winners posing for a photograph with officials.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 10th Jammu District Men and Women Powerlifting and Deadlift Championship (Unequipped) 2025 was successfully organized by the Powerlifting Association of J&K under the banner of the Indian Powerlifting Federation (IPF) at Cuts & Curves Fitness Club, Upper Roopnagar, Jammu. The championship witnessed outstanding performances from athletes across multiple weight and age categories. In the Men's Sub Junior Category, medals were secured by Aneesh Verma (Gold), Vishushant (Gold), Keshav Sharma (Silver) and Aryan Pandoh (Gold). The Junior Category featured strong competition, with Brijesh Rajput

(Gold), Pranav Sharma (Silver), Manav Singh (Gold), Keshav Khajuria (Silver), Saksham (Gold) and Nitish Verma (Silver) emerging as winners. In the senior segment, Som Raj clinched Gold, while in the Masters Category, Mehul Dubey and Gurudyal Singh secured Gold medals. The Women's Category saw commendable performances with Nandini (Gold) in the Junior division and Apporva Amla and Neha Salaria claiming Gold in the Senior Category. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Rakesh Kumar, Commonwealth Medalist and Chief Guest, who also serves as the General Secretary of the Powerlifting Association of J&K.

Kupwara Volleyball meet begins



Participating teams posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The 37th District Volleyball Championship, organised by Volleyball Association Kupwara under the aegis of Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir got

underway at Hill Grange School Handwara. The event, wherein eight teams in boys section are taking part, was declared open by DDC Rajwar, Sulaiman, who was chief guest. Principal Hill Grange School Handwara was

guest of honour. Speaking to the gathering, the chief guest appreciated the efforts of the District Volleyball Association Kupwara and extended his gratitude to the Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir and the

J&K Sports Council for their continuous support in promoting sports at the district level. The opening match of the tournament won by Ramhal Volleyball Club, who beat Magam Volleyball Club in straight sets of 25-19, 25-22.

Brilliant Aquib Nabi powers J&K to 13-run victory over formidable Madhya Pradesh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KOLKATA: Aquib Nabi's brilliance with both bat and ball powered Jammu and Kashmir to a 14-run victory over formidable Madhya Pradesh in the last league match of the ongoing Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy at Eden Gardens Kolkata today. Despite this emphatic victory, J&K could not make it to the knockout stage because of the net run-rate.

Put into bat, J&K scored 150/9 in the stipulated 20 overs. Aquib Nabi top scored with quick-fire 32 runs off 21 balls studded with 2 fours and 3 sixes, while Abdul Samad contributed 27 runs and Yudhvir Singh chipped in with 12-ball 18



A player receiving Man of the Match award.

runs. Skipper Shubham Khajuria and Lone Nasir Muzaffar contributed 14 runs each. Tripuresh Singh took 3 wickets, while Mohd Arshad Khan and Shivam Shukla bagged 2 wickets each for Madhya Pradesh.

In reply, Madhya Pradesh managed to score 137 runs, thus losing the match by 13 runs. Harsh Gawali, Harpreet Singh and Venkatesh Iyer contributed 33, 32 and 23 runs to the total respectively.

Aquib Nabi led J&K's pace quartet and emerged pick of the bowlers, capturing 3 important wickets by conceding 19 runs in his 4 overs, while Sunil Kumar also bagged 3 wickets. Yudhvir Singh and Lone Nasir Muzaffar claimed 2 wickets each. All the four bowlers delivered their best when it mattered the most. "What a spectacular win. Defended successfully 150. Credit goes to the bowlers led by Nabi & excellent fielding. Well played the Team. Many mouths will get shut by this great fight back. Heartiest congratulations to the cricket lovers of J&K," said Brig Anil Gupta, Member-Administration JKCA after the victory.

JKPS Panjtirthi student excels in Major Kudo Championships



Principal JKPS Panjtirthi Suman Banbah felicitating winner student.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Satvik Gupta of class 8th of JKPS Panjtirthi participated in the 16th Kudo National

Tournament 2025-26 and 6th Kudo Federation Cup organised by Kudo International Federation India (KIFI) and Kudo

International Federation and Akshay Kumar 17th International Kudo Tournament 2025 -26 organised by Nippon Budo Sogo International India, KIF and KIFI. The Principal of JKPS Panjtirthi Suman Banbah congratulated the jakiian and added, "Keep believing in yourself and continue striving for excellence. This is just the beginning of many great achievements ahead!" She added, "These tournaments aim to promote discipline, physical fitness, self-defence skills, and international sporting exchange, providing a platform for young athletes to showcase their abilities at National and International levels."

Sports Council organises Dangal on Dec 17

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To promote those popular sports of the region, Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council (JKSC) in collaboration with J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association, shall hold International Dangal and Rustam-e-Jammu Kashmir title on December 17 at MA Stadium, here. This was stated by president of the J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association, Shiv Kumar Sharma. He informed that the first of its kind event is being organized under the overall supervision of Secretary JKSC, Nuzhat Gul in technical support with the Association. "Apart from Rustam-e-Jammu Kashmir title, the event shall also feature competition in open categories among the prominent wrestlers from across the country and abroad. For the maiden Rustam-e-Jammu Kashmir title, those wrestlers in above 85 kg weight group are only eligible to compete," disclosed Sharma. The organisers shall award the winners with attractive cash prizes. While Rustam-e-Jammu and Kashmir title winner shall be awarded with a cash prize of Rs. 50,000 in addition to title trophy in the shape of "Gurj and Patta" other positions holders shall also be rewarded suitably. Runners-up to get Rs 30,000 while third and fourth position holders to receive Rs 20,000 and Rs 15,000 respectively. Further, those interested eligible wrestlers for the Rustam-e-Jammu and Kashmir title have been advised to submit their Aadhaar card and bank account details to Ram Paul Sharma (87130-88893), vice president of the Association on or before December 12 to confirm participation. The competition shall start by 12 noon and the entry for the spectators and wrestling lovers shall remain free.

DYSS holds UT level Softball tourney

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) organising two-day inter-district UT level Under-14 boys Softball Tournament at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sports Complex, Katra, here. The tournament was inaugurated by Dhruv Gupta, Assistant Chief Executive Officer SMVDSB Katra and Director Sports amidst interaction with the participating teams and officials. Earlier, the chief guest and other distinguished guests and teams were extended a formal welcome by district (DYSS) officer, Tarsem Singh. The opening day witnessed teams qualifying for the semifinals stages Teams qualifying for the semifinals are



Players in action at softball match.

district Srinagar, Kulgam, Pulwama and Budgam. The Quarterfinals: Srinagar bt Bandipora 13-03; Kulgam bt Kupwara 17-04; Pulwama bt Jammu 10-06; Budgam bt Udhampur 08-02. Earlier, in total, 11

teams from as many districts turned up for the two-day event. The matches officiated by the technical penal including Opinder Pal, Madan Mohan, Rakesh Kumar, Dheeraj Jamwal, Naina and Mohit.

J&K announces 11-member archery team for Senior Nationals



Selected teams posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: After the completion of selection trials and screening by the J&K Sports Council, an 11-member Archery Team has been finalized for the Senior National Archery Championship scheduled in Hyderabad from 10th to 19th

December 2025.

The selected archers include Rakesh Kumar, Anit Thakur, Hritik Sharma, Pankaj Kumar, Ronica Sharma, Sunaina Devi, Deepa Shan, Somya, Niteen, Pariv, and Vinod. The players were photographed along

with Iqbal Singh, Divisional Sports Officer Jammu, Krupali Singh, Manager New Indoor Sports Complex MA Stadium Jammu, and Sunil Sharma, Hony General Secretary, Archery Association of Jammu & Kashmir.

Boxing selection trials on Dec 19

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Amateur Boxing Association (JKABA) shall hold selection trials for the UT senior teams taking part in the 9th Elite Men and Women National Boxing Championships at Noida from December 30, 2025 to January 9, 2026. The trials shall be organised by the Association at Boxing Ring, Indoor Complex, MA Stadium, here on December 19 under the guidance of selec-

tion penal, a handout issued here today informed. Those eligible boxers are informed to report to Anil Wadhwa, senior Boxing coach (7006031537) on or before December 18 along with necessary documents including date of birth certificate, medical book (if already issued by BFI), Sports Council medical form duly certified by Medical Officer, Domicile certificate, bank account details and four passport size photographs.

CLUJ's volleyball team flagged off for North Zone Inter-University Tournament

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ) flagged off its Volleyball (Men) Team for the North Zone Inter-University Tournament, to be hosted by the Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh, from 9th to 12th December 2025. A special send-off ceremony was held on campus, boosting the morale of the participating athletes.

The team was formally flagged off by Ankur Mahajan, Registrar CLUJ, who extended her best wishes and highlighted the significance of sportsmanship, discipline, and determination in shaping well-rounded individuals. She also appreciated the growing sporting culture within the University.

The ceremony was graced by Prof. D. S. Manhas, Dean Students' Welfare, and Dr. Vinod Bakshi, Director,



Physical Education, whose continuous efforts have played a pivotal role in strengthening the University's sports ecosystem. Dr. Bakshi, who will mentor the team technically throughout the tournament, has been instrumental in identifying and nurturing talented players.

The University team includes skilled and dedicated players: Jatin Rayaan, Udhay Kumar, Amit Kumar, Mohd Asif,

Chaitin Singh, Nitin Manhas, Aftab Ahmed, Nitin Singh, Rajat Singh, Ayush Mahajan, and Nehal Kumar. Their selection reflects not only their talent but also the University's commitment to fostering sporting excellence.

In his message, Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) K. S. Chandrasekar appreciated the efforts of both the players and the Department of Physical Education. He emphasised

that participation in national-level tournaments builds confidence, enhances exposure, and reinforces the University's dedication to youth development through sports. He expressed hope that the team would bring laurels to the institution.

The entire University fraternity conveyed their best wishes to the team as they embark on this prestigious event, carrying the pride and aspirations of the Cluster University of Jammu.

J&K finish runners-up in NZ Asmita Weightlifting event

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir finished runners-up in the North Zone Asmita Khelo India Weightlifting event which concluded at Modi Nagar in Uttar Pradesh today.

As per the reports reaching here, J&K

won three bronze medals in different weight categories to be declared overall runners-up in the Zonal event.

The 16-member J&K women's team was selected for the participation in the North Zone meet considering their performance in the Asmita Khelo India

League held at Jammu.

The Asmita Khelo India League is an initiative of the Sports Authority of India through various sports associations at the State/UT and National level with the sole aim to promote sports among women folk.