

## Principal JKPS Kunjwani calls on GOC-in-C Northern Command-An Inspiring Homecoming of Values, Vision & Service

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a deeply inspiring and heart-warming interaction, the Principal JK Public School Kunjwani, Rajesh Rathore, called on the GOC-in-C Northern Command, Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma, an illustrious alumnus whose journey stands as a beacon for generations of learners.

Rathore congratulated the Army Commander for bringing immense laurels and glory to his alma mater, UP Sainik School, Lucknow, and fondly reminisced about the stalwart teachers who shaped young cadets with indomitable spirit and unflinching self-belief.

He recalled how these mentors left no stone unturned in grooming students instilling discipline, resilience, and a robust skill-set that empowered them to conquer the future's inevitable hurdles.

Responding to Rathore's query on the attributes of a future-ready student, Lt Gen Pratik Sharma articulated a compelling vision for pro-



Principal JK Public School Kunjwani, Rajesh Rathore calling on GOC-in-C Northern Command, Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma.

gressive education. He emphasized that every forward-looking institution must equip learners with essential 21st-century competencies-critical and creative thinking, decision-making, problem-solving, communication, and collaboration-to thrive in an ever-evolving world. Underscoring the values of self-

reliance and self-discipline, the Army Commander stressed that every student should be groomed as an effective speaker and a prolific writer, capable of expressing ideas with clarity and conviction.

Highlighting the transformative power of sports, he added that each child must pursue at least one

sporting discipline, as the playground imparts life lessons in teamwork, perseverance, leadership, and grace under pressure.

He further observed that holistic grooming through co-scholastic pursuits, namely, Art, Craft, Music, Dance, and Clubs, equips students with creativity, confidence, and balance for a lifetime.

Advocating strongly for NCC in schools, Lt Gen Sharma remarked that it instills strength, discipline, courage, leadership, and patriotism, nurturing citizens who are service-oriented and nation-first in spirit.

The interaction concluded on a note of shared purpose-celebrating the timeless bond between alma mater and alumni, and reaffirming a collective commitment to shaping compassionate, competent, and courageous global citizens. The meeting stood as a powerful testament to how values sown in classrooms can blossom into exemplary service to the nation.

## Abhilove Kour wins gold at Asian Lacrosse Games 2025



Abhilove Kour family celebrating gold medal win at Asian Lacrosse Games 2025.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Abhilove Kour created history by becoming the only athlete from Jammu & Kashmir to be selected for India's national lacrosse team at the prestigious Asian Lacrosse Games 2025.

With lacrosse set to debut at the 2028 Summer

Olympics, her achievement holds even greater importance. Showcasing exceptional skill, determination, and teamwork, the Indian team delivered an outstanding performance throughout the tournament.

In a thrilling final match against Pakistan, India

clinched the gold medal, marking a proud and memorable moment for the nation. Abhilove's remarkable success reflects her dedication and hard work, inspiring young sportspersons across Jammu & Kashmir and elevating the region's presence on the Asian sporting stage.

## Asmita Khelo India City League in Judo begins



Participants posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two days Asmita Khelo India Women's League held at Indoor Sports Complex, MA Stadium, here involving around 150 young female judokas.

The League was organised by Judo Association of J&K under the aegis of Sports Authority of India. In the closing function, Manager Indoor Complex, Arshi Nad was special guest, who felicitated the winners in the presence of Vikas Dogra, Ritika Sathia and Jugal Kishore.

The technical panel comprised Manish, Rohit Sadotra, Aman Gupta, Avinash Sharma, Sajaan

Sharma and Tanvi T hakur under the guidance of organising secretary, Suraj Sharma.

Medal winners: GOLD: Myra, Anshika, Aardhya, Kavya, Mavi Manhas, Nayara, Sonakshi, Smalika, Sonakshi, Jiya, Nayara, Sonali, Many, Pinki, Chandani, Muskan, Guatri, Mehvish, Ankita, Mehak, Prachi, Manpreet Singh, Gouranshi Thakur, Janvi, Anaya, Babhani, Shruti, Shilpa Rajput, Many, Smakha Khajuria, Priya Sharma, Harshita and Angel. SILVER: Sanvi, Mehvish, Aarui Thapa, Mahita, Raffia, Yuvika,

Ridhima, Harnoup, Aarohi, Svasti, Yuvika, Nitadani, Shallu, Deepika, Bhumika, Anvee, Ahine, Ismita, Klushi, Smariti, Shivanshi, Monika, Janvi Sharma, Radhika, Manpreet Singh, Alisha and Varsha.

BRONZE: Stuti, Jasleen, Madalsa, Haraidh, Advita, Minarva, Nama, Kanak, Sharuti, Ridhima, Jeena, Ruh, Nirvana, Mehroon, Janja, Veronica, Tehins, Anu, Dhanasvi, Jeena, Ruh, Jasmin, Myra, Shajanvi, Raghav, Remesmee, Angelpreet, Palvi, Engeta, Diksha Bhagat, Aarti, Manvi Sharma, Driti, Shakti and Saanvi Sharma.

## Daily Rising Sun International School organizes Parent Orientation Programme

### STATE TIMES NEWS

VJAYPUR: Daily Rising Sun International School, Vijaypur, organised a Parent Orientation Programme on Saturday at Zaika Garden, Vijaypur.

The programme aimed at strengthening parent-school collaboration for the holistic development of students. The resource person for the programme, Dr. Chand Trehan, an eminent child psychologist (Director, Care North and CBSE Approved Counsellor), addressed the parents on various important aspects including child development, emotional well-being, positive parenting strategies and manage-

ing academic as well as behavioural challenges among children.

The event was graced by Yashpaul Sharma CEO Samba as the Chief Guest. Speaking on the occasion, Rajni Choudhary, Principal of Daily Rising Sun International School, Vijaypur, stated that the school is the first in District Samba to take such an initiative focusing on the mental health of students. He emphasized that the session would help to bridge the home-school gap and support parents in managing challenges such as exam stress, screen addiction and communication issues.



## Maha Shivratri celebrated with devotion at Shiksha Niketan School

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Primary Wing of Shiksha Niketan Jeevan Nagar School celebrated the holy festival of Maha Shivratri with great devotion and enthusiasm on the school premises under the guidance of Headmaster Harish Sharma.

The celebration aimed to highlight the spiritual message of the festival, emphasizing peace, self-discipline and control over anger.

The programme began with Shiv Pooja followed by the chanting of "Om Namah Shivaya," creating a serene and spiritual atmosphere. Students presented a prayer dedicated to Lord Shiva, while teachers and students performed devotional songs and a cultural dance depicting the teachings and greatness of Mahadev.

The school campus was beautifully decorated with flowers, rangoli and religious symbols, adding to



Shiksha Niketan School faculty paying obeisance.

the festive spirit.

Parushotam Lal Dubey, Prant Adhyaksh, Sanskrit Bharti J&K, who attended as the chief guest, appreciated the efforts of the school in organising the celebration in a meaningful manner. He congratulated the principal, staff and students for their active participation and encouraged them to uphold cultural values and traditions.

Principal Rameshwar Mengi addressed the gathering and explained the significance of Maha Shivratri, urging students

to practice honesty, discipline, kindness and respect in their daily lives. Teachers also guided children about the importance of fasting, meditation and devotion associated with the festival.

The event concluded with the distribution of prasad and a formal vote of thanks. The celebration left students inspired with the message that Maha Shivratri is not only a festival but a reminder to choose peace, positivity and spiritual growth in life.

## Shahbad Academy wins Martyrs Memorial Hockey trophy



Winner team posing for a photograph with officials.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Beating hosts Jammu and Kashmir Police 3-1 in the final, the young side of Shahbad Hockey Academy Haryana lifted the title trophy of the 5th Martyrs Memorial Hockey Tournament concluded today at K K Haklu Stadium, here today.

The winning team presented a title trophy and prize of Rs 1.5 lakh by the chief guest,

former Director General of J&K Police, Kuldeep Khoda in the presence of senior officers of the J&K Police, including organising secretary, Anand Jain.

The runners-up J&K Police received cash prize of Rs one lakh in the six-day event which was organized under the Civic Action Programme (CAP) under the patronage of Director General of Police, Nilin Prabhat.

Third place went to Punjab Police, who beat Jammu Central 3-2 to receive Rs 75,000 prize money. In total, a cash prize worth Rs 3.86 lakh presented in this tournament which was an approved event of the Hockey India.

Neeraj of Shahbad Hockey Academy Haryana was declared man of the tournament and presented Rs 10,000 cash award. The best

goal-keeper prize worth Rs 10,000 went to SPO Projbot Singh of J&K Police.

The chief guest eloquently emphasized the profound importance of sports in cultivating discipline, fostering teamwork, and nurturing a strong sense of camaraderie within the community.

This tournament was organized to honor the supreme sacrifices of brave martyrs, served as a powerful platform to promote sportsmanship and reinforce unity both within the Police and among the wider public.

Among other senior officers present were Manish Sinha, ADG Hqrs (PHQ) J&K; Anand Jain, ADG Armed J&K; Nitish Kumar, ADG CID J&K; Bhim Sen Tuti, IGP Jammu Zone; Suleman Chowdhary, IGP Traffic J&K and Vivek Gupta, IGP Railways J&K.

## Intramural Athletic Meet concludes at GDC Nowshera

### STATE TIMES NEWS

NOWSHERA: The week-long Intramural Athletic Meet at Government Degree College (GDC) Nowshera commenced on February 9, 2026, and concluded on Saturday with enthusiasm and sporting spirit under the guidance of Principal Dr. Farooq Ahmed.

The primary objective of the meet was to promote physical fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship among students, while encouraging youth to stay away from the menace of drugs and contribute towards building a healthy, drug-free society.

Around 200 students actively participated in various track and field events, demonstrating remarkable talent, discipline, and competitive zeal. The events included the 100m, 200m, and 400m races, Long Jump, Shot Put, Javelin Throw, Discus Throw, and a



Dignitaries felicitating a winner player.

Mixed Relay Race. The track events witnessed thrilling finishes, while the field events showcased the strength, endurance, and technical skills of the participants.

The valedictory function was graced by Principal Dr. Farooq Ahmed, ASP

Nowshera Baljeet Singh, and Inspector Arjun Magotra, SHO Nowshera. Addressing the gathering, the Chief Guest, Baljeet Singh, emphasized the vital role of sports in shaping character, leadership qualities, and teamwork among students. He appreciated the

dedicated efforts of the Physical Education Department, PTI Goutam Sharma, Dr. Javed Ahmed, Lecturer in Physical Education, and the entire faculty for the successful conduct of the event. Nearly 100 students participated in the concluding day's events with great zeal.

On the occasion, the Outstanding Achiever's Award was presented to Sana Fatima in the Girls' Category and Arjun Khokher in the Boys' Category for their exceptional performances across multiple events. Winners were awarded medals and certificates of merit.

The event was organized by Dr. Ruhi Gupta, HOD Sociology, and concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Prof. Romani Gupta, reaffirming the college's commitment to holistic student development.

## Khelo India NTPC City Archery meet begins

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The two-day Khelo India NTPC City Archery Tournament started today at Green Playfields Gandhi Nagar, here today under the banner of Archery Association of J&K.

The event was declared open by prominent sports promoter, Rajeev Sharma in the presence of president of the Archery Association, Vikram Singh.

The chief guest laid emphasis on channelizing the energy of the youth in a positive direction. He told the gathering that Archery was the only game in J&K which has given J&K two Arjuna Awardees in the recent past.

Over 100 archers are taking part in this event in Compound, Recurve and Indian Round in both boys and girls sections.

Among other prominent present were Dr. Taran Singh, Ajay Sharma and Pawandeep Kour. The competition is being conducted by Anant, Archery Coach, under the overall supervision of Darshana Devi.

The Results: Recurve Boys: Asif Ali, gold; Niteen Sharma, silver and Pariv Khajuria, bronze. Recurve Girls: Feriha, gold.

Compound Boys: Amit Thakur, gold; Anil Kumar, silver and Sangarsh Dev Singh, bronze. Compound Girls: Sheetal Devi, gold; Saima Kousar, silver and Romica Sharma, bronze.

Indian Round (Boys): Vinod Singh, gold; Nitish Bawa, silver and Bhawani Jasrotia, bronze. Indian Round (Girls): Swastika, gold; Meenu Choudhary, silver and Taniya Sharma, bronze.

## GDC Bishnah students excel in sports competition held at SKUAST-J

### STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Government Degree College (GDC) Bishnah organized an educational field visit to the three days Agriculture Summit and Kisan Mela at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J) from 11th-13th February 2026.

The field exposure programme was organized by the Institution's Innovation Council (IC) of the college in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Sports Committee and 8 J&K Girls Bn NCC Jammu of the college.

The visit aimed to provide students with practical exposure to advancements in agriculture, allied sectors, entrepreneurship, and sustainable technologies.

The Kisan Mela featured a



GDC Bishnah students receiving medal.

wide array of stalls set up by start-ups, progressive farmers, entrepreneurs, and various departments of SKUAST-J showcasing innovative practices. The exposure to start-up ventures inspired students to understand the role of innovation and entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector.

They interacted with young

entrepreneurs who shared their journeys, challenges, and strategies for converting agricultural ideas into successful enterprises.

In addition to academic and technical learning, students enthusiastically participated in rural sports competitions organized as part of the mela, including tug of war, volley-

ball, kabaddi, and other traditional games. In 100 meters race (girls), Sonia Thakyal of Semester 6th and Muskan of Sem 2nd got 1st position, and Riya Targotra of Sem 6th got 2nd position, Roshan Bibi of Sem 4 and Simran Devi of Sem 4th secured 3rd position. In 100 meters race (boys), Mohd Anwar of Semester 2nd got third position. Nitin Lakhotra of Sem 4 won Bronze medal in Shotgun event. The Kabaddi and Volleyball teams (boys) of our college got first and second position respectively.

The Principal of GDC Bishnah, Dr. Shalla Sanyal appreciated the efforts of IIC, IQAC, Sports committee and 8 J&K Girls Bn NCC Jammu for organizing such a meaningful exposure visit and emphasized the importance of experiential learning as well as sports in shaping the holistic development of the students.

## Rajesh Gupta flags deepening governance crisis in J&K

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior leader of the Jammu & Kashmir National Conference, Rajesh Gupta, on Saturday expressed serious concern over what he termed a "prolonged democratic vacuum" in Jammu and Kashmir. More than a year after its reorganisation, he said, the Union Territory continues to function without a fully empowered and accountable elected government operating under clearly notified business rules.

In a strongly worded statement, Gupta said the failure to formally define the powers and responsibilities of ministers, departments and legislators has rendered the administrative machinery directionless. "Elections may have been conducted, but governance without defined authority is governance without purpose," he remarked.

He alleged that files are moving at a slow pace and key policy decisions remain stuck in indecision due to procedural ambiguity. "When clarity is missing at the top, uncertainty trickles down to every office and every citizen," he added. Highlighting public sentiment, Gupta pointed to growing discontent over the unresolved issue of Statehood restoration. He said repeated appeals from civil society groups, political parties and trade bodies have yet to yield tangible results, deepening skepticism among the people. "Democracy thrives on transparency, accountability and empowered institutions. Without Statehood and clearly articulated business rules, it is ultimately the common citizen who bears the burden of uncertainty," he said.