

## Ranji Final: Pundir, Hassan help J&K gain control



J&K skipper, Paras Dogra in conversation with KV Aneesh of Karnataka after later entered into an argument on day-two of the Ranji trophy final at KSCA Stadium in Hubli, Karnataka.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Despite early dismissal of Qamran Iqbal, Shubham Singh Pundir and Yewar Hassan put J&K in a commanding position in the face of valiant knocks from skipper Paras Dogra, Abdul Samad, Kanhaiya Wadhawan and Sahil Lotra, who together bring J&K to a position where the victory seems visible. Already crossed the magical 500 mark with score on board 527 runs with four wickets still

intact in 156 overs of play at the end of day-two. High spirited J&K still have got the power in the tailenders. Aquib Nabi and Yudhvir Singh to take the score to new heights. Sahil Lotra (57) and Abid Mushtaq (20) were at the crease when rains halted the play and the umpires decided to call it a day due to bad light with a deficit of 24 overs in first two days of play. Batting confidently, both these young cricketers, have already added

56 runs for the seventh wicket stand. Since the winners of the Ranji Trophy could be decided on the basis of first innings lead, in the case of a drawn game, first timers in the title clash, J&K look better placed to take the glittering silver trophy home for the first time ever. The day-two witnessed three crucial partnerships of over hundred runs for J&K with highest being 139 between Shubham Singh Pundir and

Yewar Hassan for the second wicket. Earlier, Shubham (121) and Abdul Samad (61), who resumed the day's play from overnight score of 284 for two, could not do well in the light of some tight bowling spells from India bowler, Prasadh Krishna with the results, soon J&K were at 307 for four. Then came inform Kanhaiya Wadhawan and skipper, Paras Dogra (retired hurt yesterday), who, though took time to settle down, played brilliant cricket virtually taking the all important game away from eight-time champion, Karnataka to a position from where the win seem quite visi-

ble. Kanhaiya and Dogra together added 110 runs for the fifth wicket stand. Earlier, during the day, out of frustration, K V Aneesh of Karnataka argued with J&K skipper, Paras Dogra, which attracted the attention of the umpires, who intervened to sort out the matter. However, Paras brought the matter to the notice of Karnataka skipper, Devdutt Padikkal. From Karnataka, Prasadh was the most successful among the bowlers, who took three wickets for 90 runs in 29 overs. Vidyadhar Patil, Shreyas Gopal and Shikhar Shetty shared apiece each.

SCOREBOARD	
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir 1st Innings</b>	
Qamran Iqbal c Rahul b Prasadh Krishna	6
Yawer Hassan c Rahul b Prasadh Krishna	88
Shubham Pundir c sub (KV Aneesh) b Patil	121
Paras Dogra (c) b Gopal	70
Abdul Samad c †Krishna b Prasadh Krishna	61
Kanhaiya Wadhawan † c Rahul b Shikhar Shetty	70
Sahil Lotra not out	57
Abid Mushtaq not out	20
<b>Extras</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>527/6</b>

## J&K teams shine at 46th Sub-Junior National Volleyball Championship



J&K boys team posing with officials after winning the match.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir boys and girls teams delivered spirited performances at the 46th Sub-Junior National Volleyball Championship being held at Polba in Hooghly, West Bengal from February 24 to March 1, 2026, showcasing determination and fighting spirit on the national stage.

As per report reaching here, the J&K boys team, after facing a tough challenge in their opening match against Gujarat, went down by 3-1 sets (25-23, 17-25, 17-25, 21-25). Despite the loss, the team displayed resilience and strong coordination, particularly in the closely contested first set. Bouncing back in style, the boys registered a commanding 3-0 victory over Pondicherry with an

impressive scoreline of 25-17, 25-14 and 25-20. The dominant win reflected the team's sharp attacking play, solid defense, and improved teamwork. Players Sourav Verma, Muzamil Ahmed and Faissal Amin stood out with their energetic performances, contributing significantly to the team's morale-boosting victory. Their confidence and composure on the court drew appreciation from supporters and officials alike. In the girls section, the J&K team also put up a commendable fight against Uttarakhand. Although they lost 3-1 (25-18, 19-25, 25-20, 25-22), the players displayed grit and determination throughout the match. The team fought hard to level one set and kept the contest com-

petitive till the end. Gantanya Sharma and Reena Jan were particularly impressive, showing excellent skill, coordination and fighting spirit against a strong opponent. Both teams have demonstrated immense potential and sportsmanship in the championship. Their performances have brought pride to Jammu & Kashmir and reflect the growing strength of volleyball in the Union Territory. The Volleyball Association of J&K, under the leadership of Patron Raj Daluja and President Sidharth Daluja, extended congratulations to both the boys and girls teams for their commendable efforts and best wishes for the upcoming matches-keep up the great performance and continue to make J&K proud.

## CLUJ organizes Inter-collegiate Gatka Tournament in GGM Science College



Principal GGM Science College, Dr. (Prof.) Romesh Kumar Gupta posing with dignitaries and participants.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ) organised the Inter-Collegiate Gatka (Men & Women) tournament on Wednesday at

GGM Science College Jammu. Dr. (Prof.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal GGM Science College was the Chief Guest and Dr. Vinod Bakshi, Director

Physical Education & Sports, CLUJ was the guest of honor on the occasion. The tournament was organized under the overall supervision of Dr. Vinod

Bakshi. In Men's section GGM Science College remained overall winner with 09 points. Govt. SPMR College of Commerce got 2nd place with 07 points and Govt.

MAM College got 3rd place with 04 points. Gurnaz Singh of Govt. MAM College played excellent game for his college and declare best player of the tournament.

In women section GCW Gandhi Nagar remained overall winner with 10 points. Govt. SPMR College of Commerce got 2nd position with 08 points and Govt. MAM College got 3rd position with 03 points.

Jhanvi Singh of GCW Gandhi Nagar played excellent game for her College and declared best player in women section.

The competition was officiated by Lovpreet Singh, Mandeep Singh, Simrandeep Kour, Samarpal Singh, Harneet Singh, Harpreet Singh and Ravinder Singh.

## Poonch spikers help LPU win Bronze in Volleyball

### STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Three promising boys from district Poonch helped Lovely Professional University (LPU) secure bronze medal in the All India Inter-University Volleyball Championship.

As per the reports reaching here, Musharraf Khan, Ayaz Ahmad Madni and Ayous Kumar were part of the LPU men team that lost in the semifinals and then won the hardliner to finish third in the national varsity event.

Important to mention here that all these three boys are the product of Shaheed DySP Manjit Singh Memorial Volleyball Club Poonch and



Poonch spikers representing LPU win Bronze in Volleyball.

presently pursue their studies from LPU.

"We are proud of the youngsters, who have made their presence felt in the prestigious

event. They have brought to the Club and district Poonch in general and the UT of J&K in particular," said chairman of the Club, Mohd Tariq.

## CUJ organizes workshop on 'Patent and Copyright Filing Procedures'



Participants at workshop on 'Patent and Copyright Filing Procedures'.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Institute Innovation Council (IIC) of the Central University of Jammu conducted a workshop on Patent and Copyright Filing Procedures in India at the SDCSS (ISRO Building), Seminar Hall, on the university campus. The workshop witnessed the active participation of 87 research scholars, who presented their innovative ideas and raised queries before intellectual property (IP) and copyright experts, demonstrating keen interest in translating their domain-specific research into legally protected intellectual assets. The high turnout highlighted the growing enthusiasm for innovation among scholars and indicated a need for larger venues for future sessions. The workshop was held under the patronage of Prof. Sanjeev

Jain, Vice-Chancellor, and supervised by Prof. Rakesh Kumar Jha, President, IIC. Dr. Vinita Sharma, Convenor, IIC, along with Prof. Pawan Kumar, Associate Dean (Research), coordinated the event, supported by IIC staff member Naveen Kumar and student volunteers, ensuring smooth interactions between participants and experts. The first session was delivered by Sangeeta Nagar, Senior Scientist, Patent & Design at M/s S.S. Rana & Co., and recipient of the Nari Shakti Puraskar from the President of India. She explained the history and basics of patents, patentability criteria, and relevant government policies and schemes. She also shared insights on software and departmental resources, as well as future training opportunities for startups and

MSMEs. The second session, conducted by Pooja Thakur, Associate Partner, Copyright and Trademark at M/s S.S. Rana & Co., focused on copyright and trademark law. She differentiated between patents, copyrights, and trademarks, explained AI tools, fair use and fair dealing, and discussed various forms of trademarks including sound, three-dimensional, artistic marks, and digital signatures. Practical guidance on trademark registration, search reports, and protection strategies for products, services, and software-based innovations concluded the session. The workshop provided participants with a comprehensive understanding of IP frameworks in India, empowering scholars to protect and commercialize their innovations effectively.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: The semi-final matches of the Open District Cricket Tournament, organized by District Administration Kathua in collaboration with the Social Welfare Department under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, were played today here at the Sports Stadium amid enthusiastic participation of youth and presence of senior officers.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma felicitated the winning teams and appreciated the players for their discipline, sports-

manship and competitive spirit. He reiterated that such tournaments provide a constructive platform for youth engagement and strengthen the campaign against drug abuse under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan. In the first semi-final, Sub-Division Hiranagar defeated Sub-Division Bani. After winning the toss, Bani elected to bat first and scored 89 runs in the stipulated overs. The target was successfully chased by Hiranagar in 12.1 overs with the loss of five wickets, securing a place in the final.



DC Kathua, Rajesh Sharma felicitating winning teams.

In the second semi-final, Sub-Division Billawar registered a convincing 67-run victory over Sub-

Division Basohli to book their berth in the final. ADC Kathua Vishavjeet Singh and Chief Planning

now compete in the final match scheduled to be held at Sports Stadium Kathua on February 26, 2026.

## Open District Cricket Tournament Winners to clash in final on February 26

## International Alumnus connects with students of TBS, JU



Rounak Langhe, a distinguished MBA alumnus of 1991 batch, being honoured.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Business School (TBS), University of Jammu, successfully organized an insightful lecture on "Business Opportunities in Jammu", under its Alumni Connect Lecture Series, under its Alumni Connect Lecture Series. The lecture marks a significant step towards strengthening alumni-student engagement and fostering meaningful knowledge exchange.

The lecture was delivered by Rounak Langhe, a distinguished MBA alumnus of 1991 batch and an accomplished investment professional with over two decades of experience. Currently, Langhe is working as Chief Investment Officer & Portfolio Manager at Durham Asset Management Inc., Canada. His career has been dedicated towards building and managing investment portfolios aimed at delivering superior growth and long-term value. During his address, Mr. Langhe spoke extensively on the emerging business opportunities in the Jammu region and encouraged students to identify local potential, innovate, and take confident steps towards their entrepreneurial journey. The lecture provided valuable insights and practical orientation to students, motivating them to explore entrepreneurship and contribute to regional economic develop-

ment. Earlier, speaking on the occasion, Prof. Amisha Gupta, Director TBS, shared that the primary objective of the Alumni Connect Lecture Series is to provide students an opportunity to connect with their alumni and benefit from their rich professional experiences, industry exposure, and understanding of current business trends. She further added that The Business School has always been defined not merely by its academic excellence, but by the strong sense of community and shared values that connect members beyond their years on the campus. She added that the alumni of TBS are among its greatest strengths and wherever our alumni may be-academia, industry, research, public service, or entrepreneurship-they continue to carry forward the legacy of the School. Prof. Alka Sharma, Dean Faculty of Business Studies presented a formal vote of thanks and added that the Alumni Connect Lecture Series is envisioned as an ongoing platform that will continue to bring distinguished alumni back to campus, enabling students to learn from real-world experiences and build lasting professional connections. The event was graced by the presence of TBS faculty, scholars and students and was coordinated by Dr. Shelleka Gupta, Assistant Professor, TBS.

## Army defends Khelo India Winter Games Team Championship

### STATE TIMES NEWS

GULMARG: Army won an overall nine goal medals including eight in the Gulmarg leg to defend their team championship title in the Khelo India Winter Games, here on Wednesday. Himachal Pradesh finished as the runner-up with four goal medals on the final day of the competition.

The closing ceremony the KIWG will be held at the Golf Course here on Thursday, hosted by the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council and managed by the Sports Authority of India. The first leg of KIWG was held in Ladakh from January 20-26.

On the third day of the competition, Army and Himachal Pradesh won equal number of four golds medals apiece while hosts J&K won their first gold.

Karnataka's veteran skier Bhavani Thekkada Nanjunda, who had clinched a hat-trick of gold medals in last year's KIWG, finished at the top of the podium in Nordic women's sprint across 1.5kms.

Bhavani has participated in each of the six editions of the KIWG.

Zubaid Ahmad Lone brought cheer to Jammu and Kashmir by winning the men's giant slalom race in the snowboarding competition. He warded off a stiff challenge from Army's Vivek Rana.

J&K finished with a gold and a silver and 10th spot in the medal standings.

While Armyman Mayank Panwar was the slalom man of the Games with a pair of gold medals, Army showed complete domination in the Nordic (cross-country) events.

In the 15kms Nordic skiing race, Mohammad Ali (34:21.49 secs) led an Army 1-2-3 with Padma Nangail (34:36.74 secs) winning the silver medal and Sunny Singh (35:16.83 secs) claiming the bronze.

Three skiers finished with double gold medals in this year's KIWG as CRPF's Kajal Kumari Rai was joined by Panwar and Himachal Pradesh's Preeti Thakur, who topped in both the slalom and giant slalom races in snowboarding.

## Indian deaf team wins inaugural ADCA T20I Asia Cup



### STATE TIMES NEWS

CUTTACK: The Indian deaf cricket team beat Sri Lanka by six wickets to win the inaugural Asia Cup T20 tournament here on Wednesday. The Indian side had earlier beaten Sri Lanka by four

wickets in the first match of the competition before recording a commanding 10-wicket victory over Nepal. Sri Lanka won the third match of the competition by six wickets against Nepal. In a reverse fixture, Sri

Lanka crushed Nepal by 157 runs while the team from the island nation made India work hard for a narrow one-run win.

India, however, crushed Nepal in their next match by nine wickets to make their place in the final. Sai Akash was adjudged Player of the Match in the final for his 14-ball 27 and two wickets. Sri Lanka's Gimadu L Malkam was declared the best batter as well as payer of the series for scoring 196 runs. His compatriot Gilhan Lasidu D' Silva was named the best bowler for his 10 wickets in the competition.