

## MC Bhaderwah clinches U/17 title; Block Changa lifts U/19 trophy



Participating teams posing for a photograph.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
Municipal Committee (MC) Bhaderwah emerged victorious in the Boys Under-17 category, while Block Changa lifted the Boys Under-19 trophy at the Inter-Block District Level Cricket Championship "Leagues of Classics", the final matches of which were held on Friday.

The third day of the second phase of the tournament featured high-octane cricketing action at Government Degree College Bhaderwah and University Campus Bhaderwah, drawing enthusiastic participation and support from players and spectators alike. The championship is being organized by the District Youth Services and Sports (YSS) Doda under the aegis of the Directorate of Youth Services and

Sports J&K, with the objective of promoting athletic excellence, discipline, teamwork and a vibrant sporting culture among the youth of the district. The Under-17 final saw an exciting contest between MC Bhaderwah and Block Thathri. After winning the toss, MC Bhaderwah opted to bat first and posted a competitive total of 133 runs. Humam Ahmad delivered an outstanding performance, scoring a blistering

61 runs off 28 balls, while Salman provided strong support with 51 runs off 26 balls. For Block Thathri, Umar claimed one wicket.

Chasing the target, Block Thathri fought hard but fell short, enabling MC Bhaderwah to secure a convincing 19-run victory through disciplined teamwork and strategic gameplay.

The Boys Under-19 final between Block Changa and Block Assar turned into a nail-biting encounter that was ultimately decided in a Super Over.

Demonstrating remarkable composure under pressure, Block Changa emerged victorious to claim the U/19 championship title.

The tournament was smoothly conducted and officiated by an experienced panel of Youth Services and Sports officials, including PELS, PEMS, PETS, REKS, TRs, ground staff and NYCs, ensuring fair play and professional management throughout the event.

## GGM Science College observes National Science Day with academic zeal



GGM Science College faculty and students during a programme.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Science Club of GGM Science College, Jammu, in collaboration with the Department of Zoology, celebrated National Science Day with great enthusiasm and intellectual vibrancy on the college campus. The programme aimed to foster scientific temper among students and underscore the transformative role of science in national development.

The event commenced with a formal welcome address by Dr. Brinder Kumar, Convener of the Science Club, who extended a warm welcome to the Worthy Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, faculty members of the Departments of Zoology and

Botany, and the participating students. He highlighted the significance of National Science Day in commemorating India's scientific achievements and inspiring young scholars to pursue research and innovation.

In his presidential address, Principal Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta emphasized the indispensable role of science and technology in nation-building. He encouraged students to cultivate a scientific outlook and actively contribute towards the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. He remarked that innovation, research, and technological advancement are the cornerstones of sustainable growth and global competitiveness.

The keynote address was

delivered by Dr. B.P. Singh, Head, Department of Botany, on the theme "Women in Science: Catalysing Viksit Bharat." He eloquently highlighted the remarkable contributions of women scientists and stressed the importance of ensuring inclusive participation and leadership opportunities for women in scientific domains to achieve holistic national progress.

The programme was graced by Dr. Rahul Kaith (HOD Zoology), Dr. Rohit Bhardwaj, Dr. Sapna, Dr. Sumera, Dr. Majid, and Dr. Syed Mujtaba. The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Rohit Bhardwaj, expressing gratitude to all for making the celebration a grand success.

## Hockey trials from March 6

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Hockey Jammu and Kashmir shall hold two-day selection trials to pick up probable for the 16th Hockey India Sub Junior Men National Championship which is going to be held at Rajgir in Bihar from April 1 to 12.

The selection trials shall take place on March six and March seven at KK Haku Hockey Stadium here from 3:00 PM onwards, a handout issued by Hockey J&K said. The coaching camp for those selected boys shall be held March nine to March 29 at the same venue. Those interested players have been advised to report the venue following the given dates.

"Players born on or after January one 2010 are only eligible to participate in trials. Players should bring with them Hockey India registration card, Adhaar card, bank account details and date of birth certificate," informed general secretary Hockey J&K, Dr. Taran Singh.

## IIM Jammu concludes Advanced Management Development Programme under ESDP-DCMSME, GoI



**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management Jammu concluded its five-day residential Advanced Management Development Programme (MDP) on Friday at the Jagti Campus. The programme was conducted from 23rd to 27th February 2026 under the Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme (ESDP) of the Development Commissioner (MSME), Ministry of MSME, Government of India.

The diverse cohort comprised established entrepreneurs committed to scaling their enterprises and contributing to regional and national economic growth. Prof. Rajesh Sikka, Co-Chairperson, Executive Education & Consultancy (EE&C), stated that the Advanced MDP was designed to strengthen managerial mindsets, sharpen strategic capabilities, and expose participants to contemporary business frameworks. He appreciated the rich industry experience of the participants, which significantly enhanced peer learning.

Highlighting the Institute's rapid rise as a new-generation IIM, he noted that IIM Jammu is among the early first-, second-, and third-generation IIMs to secure two prestigious international accreditations within a year. He also emphasized the

Institute's growing engagement with MSMEs and collaborations with policy bodies such as NITI Aayog, encouraging participants to remain connected for continued academic support.

Dr. Ramsvarup Bhaskar presented a summary of the programme, outlining key sessions on strategic management, financial planning, marketing, digital transformation, operations excellence, and leadership. He described the MDP as a steppingstone for MSME leaders to build resilient, growth-oriented enterprises through adaptability, innovation, and continuous learning.

The programme was coordinated by the Executive Education & Consultancy Office, whose team ensured seamless execution. Participants lauded the practical orientation of sessions and valuable faculty insights, noting enhanced confidence and strategic clarity.

The initiative reaffirmed IIM Jammu's commitment to entrepreneurial capacity building and strengthening India's MSME ecosystem, contributing to inclusive and sustainable economic growth. The ceremony concluded with a group photograph distribution and a formal vote of thanks by Pardeep Saini.

## Multimedia Exhibition 'Viksit Bharat' concludes at Udhampur

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: The Multimedia Exhibition organized by the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Field Office Udhampur, in close coordination with Field Office Doda concluded here today. The event successfully merged the soulful heritage of India with a modern roadmap for economic and social progress, leaving the audience inspired and deeply informed about the nation's developmental trajectory.

The valedictory function commenced with a divine Ganesh Vandana, followed by a stirring rendition of the National Song, Vande Mataram, performed by the senior artists of the Central Bureau of Communication. The musical ensemble featured Neeraj Verma on Tabla, Varinder Gazal singer on harmonium, Sumil Kumar on flute, Ram Lal & Sunita Attri singers. The performance was nothing short of captivating, soul-stirring and a combination of culture demonstrating themes of Government of India.

Programme Officer ICDS Subash Chander was the Chief Guest. He delivered an

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Programme Officer ICDS Subash Chander alongwith others at a programme.

insightful keynote address that deeply resonated with the attendees. He highly appreciated the Central Bureau of Communication for its meticulous work. "This organization plays a pivotal role in bridging the gap between the government and the public," he emphasized and added that such multimedia exhibitions are essential tools for mass awareness. He also lauded the artists and experts, stating that the integration of culture and technology at the venue provided a unique platform to the youth to understand the future of "Viksit Bharat."

A significant segment of the concluding day focused on Startup India by Pooja Jamwal - representative from the social welfare department. She highlighted how the initiative, which

began on January 16, 2026 has become a milestone for overcoming job shortages and creating sustainable opportunities.

The success of companies in quick credit management and e-commerce-such as PhonePe, Flipkart, Meesho and Zepto-were cited as vibrant examples of how startups are the need of the hour in the internet age. She also shed light on Mission Aroma and the "Purple Revolution" as transformative forces for rural upliftment. "In regions like Jammu, the cultivation of lavender, rose and other aromatic plants is being recognized as a primary way to cope with employment requirements in rural India

and also boosting the local economy," she noted. Alongside these agricultural shifts, she also highlighted the initiatives like Mission Shakti and other welfare schemes designed to empower women and vulnerable sections of society.

Ankita, representing the Health Department, provided a comprehensive explanation of India's three-tier healthcare system. "The primary level is supported by the Ayushman Card, while the secondary level is bolstered by the Sehat Card, which covers full family health insurance and includes a specific 5+5 lakh top-up for patients over 70 years of age at empanelled hospitals. At the tertiary level, the importance of the ABHA card and the creation of unique digital health IDs were emphasized

to streamline specialized medical care," she informed. The exhibition also featured insights from Pooja Pathania, an expert in handicrafts, who discussed the potential for self-employment through traditional arts and earlier in the day, Vikram Uppal explained visitors through the interactive multimedia stalls.

Painting Competition, Theme based Cultural items were the other attractions of the day long programme. The proceedings concluded with a formal vote of thanks presented by Gurnam Singh.

## Kanchan Thappa awarded Ph.D

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab, has awarded the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) to Kanchan Thappa, daughter of



Janak Raj, for her research work entitled "The Study of Motor Competence among the School Children of the Jammu Region in Relation to Their Physical Activity Status."

Her research work was carried out under the guidance of Dr. Baljinder Singh Bal, Associate Professor, and the co-supervision of Dr. Sukhdev Singh, Professor (Retd.). She is a two-time gold medalist and has also cleared the UGC-NET and JKSET examinations, reflecting her outstanding academic excellence.

The degree has been awarded in recognition of her significant contribution to the field of Physical Education and Sports Sciences.

## Athletics trials on Mar 1

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Amateur Athletics Association shall conduct trials to select athletes for the 3rd National Open Relay Championships to be held on March 28 at Chandigarh. The selection trials shall be held on March one (Sunday) from 9 am onwards at Jammu University Athletics Tracks, a handout issued by the Association here today mentioned. For further queries with regards to selection trials, athletes may contact Nirmal Singh (7889401211).

## "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" is vision to reinforce emotional, political integration across states: Billawaria

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party Jammu & Kashmir convened a meeting under the "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" campaign, aimed at fortifying national unity and expanding meaningful organizational outreach across regional boundaries, reaffirming its unwavering commitment to the vision of one nation, one spirit.



BJP J&K General Secretary, Baldev Singh Billawaria speaking in a meeting.

The programme was chiefly addressed by BJP J&K General Secretary and J&K Convenor for the campaign, Baldev Singh Billawaria, along with General Secretary Gopal Mahajan, Senior BJP leader from West Bengal and Bengal Convenor for the campaign, Anupam Malik, and BJP J&K Co-Treasurer and Co-Convenor Ek Bharat

remains steadfast in its mission to unite citizens beyond geographical boundaries, fostering a spirit of shared identity and collective progress. He called upon party functionaries to adopt well-structured, result-oriented strategies to connect with Bengali residents in J&K, ensuring that they feel valued, heard, and actively engaged in the demo-

cratic process. He also focused on enhancing coordination with residents of West Bengal presently working in Jammu & Kashmir. He further stressed that disciplined coordination, booth-level outreach, and dedicated teamwork will be key to achieving electoral success.

Anupam Malik, shared detailed insights into the prevailing political landscape of West Bengal. He highlighted the importance of building strong interpersonal connections with voters, particularly migrant communities, and encouraged sustained engagement through dialogue and grassroots mobilization. He also shared strategic preparedness for the forthcoming West Bengal Assembly elections.

## Armed Police Headquarters J&K bids farewell to officers



Anand Jain, ADG Armed J&K with others at farewell function.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A farewell ceremony was held at the Conference Hall of the Armed Police Headquarters (APHQ), J&K, Jammu, where a formal farewell was accorded to the retirees, Ab Hamid, DySP (Pers), and Tej Krishan, SI, on the occasion of their superannua-

tion. The ceremony was presided over by Anand Jain, ADG Armed J&K, and was attended by senior officers, including Vinod Kumar, DIG IR Jammu; Sameer Sharma, DIG AP Jammu; and Dalip Kumar, SSP, Staff Officer to ADG Armed.

In his address, Jain, com-

mended the retiring officers for their exemplary professionalism, integrity, and unwavering commitment to duty. He placed his deep appreciation for their meritorious service and extended his heartfelt wishes for their continued well-being, happiness, and fulfillment in their post-retirement life.

## District Level Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament 2026 held at GDC Ramban

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
RAMBAN: The NSS Unit of Government Degree College (GDC) Ramban, in collaboration with My Bharat and the Department of Political Science on Friday organized an Inter-College District Level Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament 2026.

The Youth Parliament was conducted in two sessions, ensuring active and structured participation. A total of 24 students from different colleges took part in the deliberations, showcasing exceptional oratory skills, critical analysis and a sound understanding of parlia-



mentary procedures. The sessions witnessed healthy debate, thoughtful arguments and disciplined conduct, closely reflecting the proceedings of a real legislative assembly. Earlier, the programme commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and Saraswati Vandana. The auspicious ritual was performed by the Chief Guest, MLA Ramban, Arjun Singh Raju. Former MLA, Ashok Kumar, graced the occasion as Guest of Honour: The College Principal Prof. Romesh Kumar Atri and Former Principal, Prof. Udhay Bhanu also graced the function.

The Youth Parliament was formally declared open by the MLA Ramban and the Principal of the college. Students assumed the roles of Members of Parliament and actively engaged in structured debates, Question Hour pro-

ceedings and discussions reflecting the functioning of the Indian parliamentary system. The event was adjudicated by Former MLA Ashok Kumar, Prof. Udhay Bhanu and Senior Advocate Rajinder Singh Bali. The top five positions were secured by Amit Katoch (GDC Ramban), Misty Thakur (GDC Ramban), Seerat Syed (GDC Ramban), Shazaib Runyal (GDC Ramban) and Farhad Muzaffar (GDC Ukhral).

Later, the participating students were awarded mementos

and certificates by the Chief Guest in the presence of the Principal and other dignitaries.

Speaking on the occasion, the MLA Ramban appreciated the efforts of the college faculty for successfully organizing the Youth Parliament. He urged the youth to actively participate in such activities to strengthen the roots of democracy in the country.

Responding to the issues and demands raised by the students, MLA Ramban Arjun Singh Raju assured that a bus for the college would be provided from his Constituency Development Fund (CDF). He

further stated that all genuine demands projected by the students and the college administration would be taken up with the concerned authorities for early redressal.

The entire session was efficiently moderated by HOD Political Science, Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad Mir.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by HOD Urdu, Dr. Sanjay Kumar, who expressed gratitude to the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour, Principal, faculty members, organizing committee, media persons and students for their valuable participation.