

Zee Media announces winners of unveiling India Quiz



STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The grand finale of the Unveiling India Quiz, a landmark initiative by Zee Media in collaboration with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), captivated audiences nationwide as it aired on Zee Media's network, gaining its status as one of India's most impactful knowledge-driven initiatives. The overwhelming response to the telecast highlighted the scale, excitement, and cultural significance of the event. The telecast provided a riveting recap of the months-

long journey-starting from an online Olympiad, advancing through intense state-level rounds, and culminating in a fiercely contested national finale. Viewers watched as the top eight teams battled for glory, with Army Public School, Jammu Cantt, emerging as the ultimate champions, securing the first prize. Rajagiri Public School, Kerala, claimed the second position, while Little Flower English Medium School, Kerala, took third place. Their stellar performances resonated with audiences, reinforcing the power of education in shap-

ing future leaders. The telecast also shed light on the quiz's unique focus on Geographical Indication (GI) tags, a defining element that introduced young minds to India's indigenous craftsmanship and region-specific products. This emphasis on cultural and economic awareness transformed the competition into an immersive educational experience beyond traditional learning. Reflecting on the immense success of the initiative, Karan Abhishek Singh, CEO of Zee Media Corporation Limited (ZMCL), said, "At Zee Media, we believe that

news is not just about delivering information; it is about shaping a better, more informed society. Our commitment goes beyond headlines-we actively create platforms that empower different sections of society, be it through financial literacy initiatives, business summits, or programs that inspire and educate young minds. Unveiling India Quiz is one such initiative, designed to encourage school children to learn about India's glorious past and promising future." Adding to this, Amardeep Singh Bhatia, Secretary, DPIIT, stated, "The

Unveiling India Quiz has successfully instilled a deep sense of national pride and awareness about India's economic and cultural diversity. This initiative is not just a competition-it is a long-term movement to nurture curiosity and appreciation for India's vast legacy." As the winners celebrate their well-earned triumph, the Unveiling India Quiz leaves behind a profound impact, encouraging millions of students across the country to embrace our unique culture, explore their heritage, and take pride in India's incredible journey. Zee Media and DPIIT remain steadfast in their commitment to expanding such educational initiatives, ensuring that young minds continue to be inspired, empowered, and prepared for a global future. The resounding success of Unveiling India Quiz reaffirms the importance of knowledge-driven infotainment, setting a new benchmark in nationwide student engagement.

Jammu girls lift Sub-Junior Kabaddi title



Winners girls team of district Udhampur poses with guests at Indoor Hall, Subash Stadium, Udhampur on Sunday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: The formidable side of district Jammu lifted the girls title in the 23rd Sub-Junior UT Kabaddi (Boys and Girls) Championship, organised by the J&K Amature Kabaddi Association at Indoor Hall of Subash Stadium on second day of the event, here on Sunday. In the final, Jammu girls trounced hosts Udhampur 47-33 in a high scoring and thrilling contest. Semifinal: Udhampur beat Kathua 22-19; Jammu beat Rajouri 31-09.

The winners and runners-up trophies presented by Ashok Kumar Salhotra, former Director Sports SMVDSB Katra and senior vice president of the School Games Federation of India. The final officiated by the technical panel including Mir lam and Naveen Sharma. Among those prominent present were Sheikh Tanveer, president Udhampur District Kabaddi Association; Ashok Kumar and Abdul Rehman Paddar. Meanwhile, Jammu boys could not advance beyond the quarterfinals stages of the

competition when they were defeated by the Budgam in a closely contested game. Four teams qualifying for the last four stages are Budgam, Poonch, Baramulla and Udhampur. Now, in the semifinals, slated for tomorrow morning, Budgam faces Baramulla while Udhampur shall take on Poonch. Results (Quarterfinals) Boys: (Budgam beat Jammu 28-23; Baramulla beat Kathua 39-37; Udhampur beat Rajouri 47-20; Poonch Beat Anantnag 28-16.

Saima Khan qualifies Ph.D

STATE TIMES NEWS
KATRA: Saima Khan has been declared qualified for the award of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Biotechnology by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU). She worked on the topic, entitled "Exploration of in vitro raised cultures of *Atropa acuminata* for the production of acid phosphohydrolase", under the supervision of Dr. Ashok Ahuja, Principal Scientist (Retd.), CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIM), Jammu and Co-supervision of Prof. Sharada M. Potukuchi, School of Biotechnology, SMVD University.



During the final oral defence, Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of the University, Dr. Sunil Wanchoo, Dean Faculty of Science and the External Examiner Dr Ram Kumar Sharma, Chief Scientist, CSIR-IHBT, Palampur and Head, Biotechnology; appreciated the work done and

congratulated the student for her successful Ph.D. Viva-Voce. Saima has published her research findings in the International Journals of repute and presented her results at International and National conferences. Saima expressed her gratitude to CSIR-IIM and the School of Biotechnology, SMVD University for providing all the facilities for carrying out the research work and the financial assistance in terms of scholarship and contingency during her tenure at the CSIR-IIM. Her study implements the existence of plant cell culture system as a viable and alternative approach for the production of acid phosphatase

at commercial levels using cell and tissue cultures of *Atropa*. The findings have significant implications for addressing global food security and environmental sustainability. By leveraging the power of plant cell cultures, researchers can develop innovative strategies to enhance crop productivity and minimize the environmental impact of agriculture. This research offers rational strategies to develop phosphate efficient plants in order to reduce our over reliance on non renewable Pi fertilizers which can further encourage continual agriculture and help to convene future needs.

Asmita Judo City League held at Panthal

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Two days long Asmita Judo City League concluded on Sunday at Amba Kids Home School Panthal, Katra in district Udhampur. The event was organised by Judo Association J&K under the aegis of Sports Authority of India (SAI) and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. Ashwani Katoch, chairman of the host school was the chief guest, who presented medals and certificates among winners and other participants. Suraj Sharma, general secretary Judo Association J&K was guest of honour. Prinyaka Gupta was special guest. The bouts officiated by



Winners of Asmita Judo City League at Amba Kids Home School Panthal in Katra.

Manish Chatwal, Judo Instructor and Sunakshi Devi. Earlier, around 100 female judokas participated in this event. Medal Winners: Gold: Muskan, Iritiva,

Shallu, Sumeha, Ruksana, Fiza, Shilpa, Sumakha Khajuria, Harshika Gupta, Monika, Mansi Bhagat, Samreeti Devi, Sumakha. Silver: Ayaat, Ulfat, Alisha, Surbhi, Arushi, Pinkey,

Samreeti, Khushi, Khushi, Mansi Bhagat, Samreeti Devi. Bronze: Anamika, Lakshvi, Maryam, Anshika, Sajal, Sunakshi, Nitike, Divyanshi, Surbhi, Mehreen, Jnavi Bhagat, Tanya, Anjali.

Sainik School Nagrota cadets shine in J&K Police Run for Fun Marathon



Faculty members along with students posing with medals.

STATE TIMES NEWS
NAGROTA: Cadets of Sainik School Nagrota exhibited outstanding endurance and competitive spirit at the J&K Police Run for Fun Jammu Marathon, held on Sunday at Gulshan Ground, Jammu. The event witnessed remarkable performances from the young cadets, reinforcing the school's commitment to excellence in both academics and athletics. In the Under-18 Boys Category (10 km race), Cdt Vibhram Pandey (School No. 4202, Class XII) secured an

impressive Second Position with a remarkable timing of 36 minutes 44 seconds. His stellar performance earned him a cash prize of Rs 10,000, which was presented by the Director General of Police, J&K. Similarly, in the Under-14 Boys Category (5 km race), Cdt Umamr Shaukat (School No. 4405, Class IX) showcased his athletic prowess by securing Second Position in his category. In recognition of his commendable achievement, he was awarded a cash prize of Rs 5,000 by the

Director General of Police, J&K. The outstanding performances of these cadets are a testament to the school's dedication to holistic development, ensuring cadets excel in academics, sports, and leadership. Capt (Indian Navy) Shibu Devasia, Principal, along with the staff and fellow cadets, extended their heartfelt congratulations to the winners for their exceptional achievements and wished them continued success in future competitions.

Samba 11 wins Samba Premier T-20 Cup Final

STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBA: The much-anticipated final match of the Samba Premier T-20 Cup, organized jointly by the District Administration Samba and the Excise Department, concluded on Sunday with an impressive victory of Samba 11 over District Administration Samba here at the Rani Suchet Singh Sports Stadium. In the presence of District Magistrate Rajesh Sharma and Excise and Taxation Officer Anil Chandan, the match began on an exciting note. The atmosphere was charged with energy as both teams displayed remarkable skills and determination, making it a thrilling contest. Batting first, Samba 11 posted a competitive total of 163/8 in 20 Overs. In response, District



Administration Samba, led by Captain Abhishek Sambyal, fought hard but managed 141/9 in the allotted Overs, falling short of 22 runs

despite a spirited effort. Anku from Samba 11 emerged as the Player of the Match for his outstanding performance, scoring a

quick 49 runs off 26 balls and taking 1 wicket for 39 runs in his 4 overs. After the match, DC Samba felicitated the players with trophies and praised their exceptional performances. Later, DM Samba addressed the players and spectators with a strong message of "Say No to Drugs." He encouraged everyone to focus on fitness and sports, highlighting the importance of staying healthy and motivated. He assured that such tournaments will be organized on regular intervals in the district to promote a positive and active lifestyle. The match was also attended by Tehsilidar, DIO, former cricketer Surinder Bagal along with other concerned officers and local spectators, adding to the lively atmosphere of the event.

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Regional Centre Jammu conducts Entrance Test for B.Ed., B.Sc. (Nursing)



Dr. Sandeep Gupta Regional Director IGNOU and Dr. Neeraj Sharma Centre Superintendent during Entrance Exam.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) Regional Centre Jammu today conducted the Entrance Test for B. Ed. & B.Sc. Nursing (Post Basic) programmes for admission to January 2025 admission cycle. The Entrance Test was conducted across the Country in more than one hundred Examination Centres. There was only one Examination Centre established for the Entrance

Tests under the Regional Centre Jammu, which is Exam Centre Code: 1232, Govt. MAM College, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Road, Jammu. The entrance exam of B. Ed. (Post Basic) programmes for admission to January 2025 admission cycle. The Entrance Test was conducted from 10AM to 12Noon and the entrance exam of B.Sc. Nursing (Post Basic) was of 2:30 hours duration conducted from 2PM to 4:30PM. For the Entrance Test of B. Ed. programme, 65 candidates from Jammu

region were declared eligible to appear in the Test and for B.Sc. Nursing (Post Basic), 18 candidates appeared in the Entrance Test. Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director Regional Centre Jammu visited the Examination Centre as Observer for the surprise check and found the arrangements and conduct of Entrance Test up to the mark as per the guidelines and procedures laid down by the University. Dr. Neeraj Sharma conducted the Entrance Test as Centre Superintendent of the Examination Centre at Govt. MAM College Jammu. After qualifying the entrance test, the candidates will have to appear in the counselling for admission which would be conducted based on region-wise merit list/rank and availability of seats.

Two-Week Yoga workshop concluded for NCC Cadets of SMVDU

STATE TIMES NEWS
KATRA: The two-week Yoga Workshop organized by Dr. Varun Dutta, NCC Coordinator for NCC cadets at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) concluded successfully. The workshop aimed at instilling the importance of yoga in daily life. The sessions were conducted by Gurnel, who skillfully guided the cadets through various yoga asanas while emphasizing that yoga is not just a form of exercise but a holistic way of life. Throughout the workshop, NCC cadets displayed great



enthusiasm, actively participating in every session and embracing the benefits of yoga. During the concluding session, Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU, commended the NCC cadets for their dedication and encouraged them to continue practicing

yoga for physical and mental well-being. He highlighted that yoga is a valuable discipline that promotes fitness, focus, and inner peace. Prof. Balbir Singh, Dean, Academic Affairs, SMVDU, was also present on the occasion and appreciated

the efforts of the cadets and organizers in making the workshop a success. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to Gurnel for his insightful sessions and to the cadets for their active participation.

Chinar Open Winter Games 2025: Kashmiri youth shine through winter sports

STATE TIMES NEWS
GULMARG: The Chinar Open Winter Games 2025, a flagship initiative by the Indian Army, successfully concluded amidst the breathtaking snow-capped landscapes of Gulmarg on 15th March 2025. Organized by the Pir Panjal Brigade of the Dagger Division, the event was a vibrant celebration of sportsmanship, community spirit, and youth empowerment. Held amidst the picturesque Pir Panjal Ranges, the Games provided an inspiring platform for the youth of Kashmir to showcase their talents and channel their energy into competitive and constructive activities. This edition witnessed record-



breaking participation, with a total of 634 participants competing across 18 events. Among them were 167 girls and 467 boys, reflecting the growing enthusiasm for winter sports across the region. The event featured an exhilarating lineup of winter sports competitions, ranging from high-adrenaline skiing races and thrilling snowboarding

events to elegant skating rink performances. Participants seized the opportunity to test their abilities against some of the region's finest athletes, drawing large and enthusiastic crowds. Beyond the excitement of the sporting competitions, the Games fostered deeper community engagement through impactful outreach programs.

These initiatives highlighted the Indian Army's unwavering commitment to promoting sports and nurturing young talent in the region. As the curtains closed on this successful edition of the Chinar Open Winter Games, the event stood as a testament to Kashmir's rising sporting spirit and its growing prominence as a hub of winter sports in India.

J&K Para Judo athlete selected for World Championship 2025

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir's Para Judo athlete, Anshuman Sharma, has achieved a remarkable milestone by securing a spot to represent India at the World Championship 2025, scheduled to be held in Kazakhstan from May 8 to 15, 2025. Competing at this prestigious international platform is an honor, and Anshuman is determined to bring pride to India, Jammu & Kashmir, and his parents. However, the total expense for his participation amounts to Rs 2,04,900, covering travel, accommodation, and competition fees. Facing financial constraints, Anshuman has appealed to the Jammu & Kashmir government for sponsorship, which would enable him to participate and make the nation proud. The people of J&K, sports enthusiasts, and supporters of para-athletes are encouraged to extend their support and help this young athlete achieve his dream. For sponsorship contributions and further details, Anshuman can be contacted at 9622 3006 83 and Google Pay Number- 705 1080 683.