

Inaugurates 2nd Edition of 'Sikh Cricket Premier League' Confident youth will not stop, bow or tire in nation building journey: LG



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha after inaugurating 2nd Edition of SCPL at Cricket Ground, University of Jammu.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: "The new generation embodies possibility itself. I believe our youth are the solution to every challenge. Provide them apt opportunities, robust platforms, and true mentorship, and they will author history," the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Saturday.

The Lieutenant Governor was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of the 2nd Edition of 'Sikh Cricket Premier League (SCPL)' at Cricket Ground, University of Jammu.

The Lieutenant Governor said that the Sikh Cricket

Premier League is sculpting multifaceted character and in future it will instill discipline, leadership, teamwork, patience, and self-belief in the young generation.

He said that the commendable initiative of All J&K Sikh Coordination Committee and the Hari Singh Nalwa Cricket Club, Jammu is a declaration that the new generation advances not as spectators, but as bearers of brotherhood and social harmony.

To foster inclusivity, All J&K Sikh Coordination Committee has ensured that each team includes youth from other communities.

The Lieutenant Governor spoke to players on training with ferocious discipline and competing with unbreakable unity, on and off the ground.

He emphasised that the true societal wealth and strength reside not in bricks and mortar, but in fresh ideas.

"The energy of our youth is like a river. When guided with purpose, it becomes a source of life and progress. I am confident in the journey of nation-building, our youth will not stop, not bow, and they will not tire," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor

said that vital sporting events like Sikh Cricket Premier League must cultivate youth who view sports not as pastime, but as forge for life's enduring values.

"When youth align with purposeful missions, they grasp that grand transformations demand grand visions. Entrepreneurship and sports harbor that very alchemy," he further said.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the sports landscape in Jammu & Kashmir has undergone a historic transformation over the past few

years.

Driven by substantial financial assistance under the Prime Minister's Development Programme (PMDP), the Union Territory has built a world-class foundation for sports excellence, he said.

The Lieutenant Governor stated that the Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, during his recent visit to Jammu Kashmir, has assured Rs. 200 crore assistance for sports development in UT, with support of BCCL, FIFA and other sports organizations.

S. Ajit Singh, Chairman, All J&K Sikh Coordination Committee; heads of various sikh organisations, prominent citizens, players, coaches and youth in large number attended the inaugural ceremony.

Vikram Randhawa, Member of Legislative Assembly from Bahu; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Bhim Sen Tuti, IGP Jammu; Shakti Pathak, Director Anti-Corruption Bureau and other senior officials were also present.

EuroKids Shiv Nagar celebrates Annual Day with grandeur

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: EuroKids Shiv Nagar celebrated its Annual Day with great enthusiasm and grandeur at the prestigious Jammu Club Auditorium on Saturday, presenting a vibrant showcase of cultural performances by young students centred on Indian culture, moral values, confidence building, and fearless learning.

Sachin Kumar Vaishya, CEO Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Guests of Honour included Ananth Dwivedi, CEO State Health Agency J&K, and Vidhu Shekhar, Additional Deputy Commissioner Jammu. Special Guests Sandeep Seoitra and Karanjit Singh also graced the event with their presence.

The Guests of Honour, while addressing the gathering, appreciated the 25-year legacy of the EuroKids brand, highlighting its international standards, innovative curriculum, and child-centric learning approach. They commended EuroKids Shiv Nagar for bringing global preschool education practices to the region



EuroKids faculty and dignitaries posing with children.

while maintaining strong Indian cultural values, and praised the management for nurturing confidence, creativity, and emotional strength among young learners.

Managing Director Sahil Kishore Sharma stated that the vision of EuroKids Shiv Nagar is to provide scientific and modern education while keeping children deeply connected to India's rooted culture and traditions, ensuring holistic development with confidence, curiosity, and strong moral foundations. He emphasized that early childhood education plays a decisive role in shaping personalities and that the institution remains committed to creating fearless learners prepared for the

future.

The cultural presentations by students were widely appreciated by parents and dignitaries for their discipline, creativity, and meaningful themes reflecting patriotism, respect for heritage, and social values.

Director Rajat Sharma presented the vote of thanks, expressing heartfelt gratitude to the dignitaries, parents, faculty, and staff members for their continued support and for making the Annual Day celebration a memorable success.

The event concluded with applause and celebrations, marking another milestone in the journey of EuroKids Shiv Nagar towards excellence in preschool education.

GCW Parade celebrates National Science Day



GCW Parade students and faculty at National Science Day celebration.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Government College for Women Parade Ground celebrated National Science Day with great enthusiasm and academic fervor, on Saturday. The event was organized by the Science Club of the College to commemorate this year's theme, "Women in Science: Catalyzing Viksit Bharat."

The programme commenced with an insightful introductory talk by Dr. Harmanpreet Kour, who highlighted the significance of the current year's theme in the context of National Science Day.

A symposium based on the theme was the major high-

light of the celebration. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, who presented thoughtful and well-researched talks reflecting the spirit of the theme. The symposium was adjudged by HoD Physics Dr. Balbir Kumar and HoD Chemistry Dr. Shally Chadha. They appreciated the quality, depth and relevance of the presentations. The competition remained intense throughout and the symposium talks were widely appreciated for their impact and clarity.

The winners of the symposium were Manya Sharma (1st prize), Sumiya Anjum

(2nd Prize) and Samiya Sharma (3rd Prize).

The Science Club members-Prof. Aasia Rashid Bhat, Dr. Harmanmeet Kour, Dr. Sarita Parihar, Dr. Pervaiz Ahmed and Prof. Kaurab Singh contributed to the successful conduct of the programme.

The initiative was led by Convener, Science Club Prof. Aasia Rashid Bhat, under the guidance and patronage of Principal of the College, Dr. Ravender Kumar Tiekoo.

The event concluded with the vote of thanks presented by Dr. Sarita Parihar, Assistant Professor Physics.

Goonj 2026 culminates with awards for institutional excellence, sportsmanship, cultural brilliance at JU

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The two-day youth festival Goonj 2026 concluded with a vibrant valedictory ceremony at the University of Jammu (JU), as students and faculty filled the Rajendra Singh Auditorium to capacity. The event celebrated creativity, talent, and youthful enthusiasm, marking the successful culmination of the annual cultural extravaganza.



VC JU Prof Umesh Rai with other dignitaries and winner team.

Prof. Bechan Lal, former Vice-Chancellor of the Cluster University of Jammu and Advisor to the Governor of Assam, graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The function was presided over by Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor, JU, while Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Registrar, attended as Special Guest.

In his valedictory address, Prof. Bechan Lal linked the spirit of Goonj with the broader responsibility of educational institutions toward students' holistic well-being.

He observed that while universities continue to advance in research and academic excellence, equal emphasis must be placed on nurturing emotionally supportive and intellectually stimulating environments. Highlighting the pressures

and appreciated the efforts of participants and organisers. He highlighted that competitions foster discipline, teamwork, and institutional belonging, reinforcing the University as a shared home shaping lifelong connections.

Earlier, Prof. Prakash Antahal, Dean Students Welfare, welcomed the dignitaries and outlined Goonj's vision of channelling youthful energy constructively. Prof. Monika Chadha presented a detailed festival report, acknowledging coordinators, faculty, and volunteers. Prof. Sarika Manhas delivered the vote of thanks, while Dr. Jasleen Kaur conducted proceedings. The ceremony concluded with medal distribution amid applause, celebrating the resounding success of Goonj 2026.

RESULTS

Institutional Best Category based on the cumulative scores of Round I and Round II: The Business School (TBS) secured first prize, Department of Geology second prize, Department of Zoology third prize, while the Department of Journalism and Media Studies received the Consolation Prize. The awards carried cash prizes of Rs 4 lakh for the 1st position, Rs 3 lakh for the 2nd position, Rs 2 lakh for the 3rd position, and Rs 1 lakh for the Consolation Prize.

Poster Making: Rupinder Singh GDC RS Pura, 1st, Urvasi Tiekoo GCW Parade, 2nd and Aaseebjot Kour GCW Parade, 3rd.

Light Vocal Solo: Ritisha Manhas GCW Parade, 1st, Ram Lal IMFA, 2nd Pranav Pandita Department of Math JU, 3rd.

Photography: Sheikh Numan Bin Masood Department of Law, JU, 1st, Virender Pratap GDC Doda, 2nd, Sapna Devi GCW Parade, 3rd.

Short Film Making: GDC Doda, 1st, GDC RS Pura, 2nd and CD&OE Economics Department, 3rd.

Group Folk Dance: GCW Parade, 1st, CD&OE JU, 2nd and Department of Economics JU, 3rd.

Self Composed Poetry: Ansh Khajuria GDC Udhampur, 1st, Sumeet Kumar Centre for Distance & Online Education JU, 2nd and Nitish Department of Dogri JU, 3rd.

Basketball (Men): PG. Department of JU, 1st, BDC Udhampur, 2nd and GDC Kathua, 3rd.

Kabaddi (Men): GDC Kathua, 1st and PG. Deptt. JU, 2nd.

Handball: PG. Deptt. JU, 1st and GDC Udhampur, 3rd.

Kho-Kho (Women): GCW Udhampur, 1st, PG. Department JU, 2nd and GDC Kathua, 3rd.

Volleyball (Women): GDC Rannagar, 1st, PG. Deptt. JU, 2nd and GCW Parade, 3rd.

Badminton (Women): PG. Deptt. JU, 1st, GCW Parade, 2nd and MIER Jammu, 3rd.

Kids Planet Pre School celebrates Annual Sports Day

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Kids Planet Pre School celebrated its Annual Sports Day with great enthusiasm and vibrant participation under the theme "Move, Breathe & Shine." The event aimed at promoting physical fitness, confidence, and sportsmanship among young learners. The celebration commenced with a meaningful plantation ceremony, symbolizing growth and responsibility towards nature. This was followed by a delightful yoga performance by the tiny tots, showcasing flexibility and mindfulness at an early age. A melodious welcome song set the tone



Winner children with faculty after receiving medals.

for the day, after which students enthusiastically participated in various sports games

and fun-filled activities designed to encourage teamwork and coordination. The

programme was graced by Chairman Ravi Gupta and conducted under the guidance of Director Kanchan Gupta and Principal Shilpa Kalsotra.

Addressing the gathering, Ravi Gupta emphasized the importance of physical activity in early childhood development. He stated that sports not only build strength and stamina but also instill discipline, leadership qualities, and a positive attitude in children from a young age.

Director Kanchan Gupta highlighted that such events provide a platform for children to express their energy and talents confidently.

She appreciated the collective

efforts of teachers and parents in making the event successful. Principal Shilpa Kalsotra remarked that the theme "Move, Breathe & Shine" reflects the school's commitment to nurturing healthy minds and bodies. She encouraged parents to support active lifestyles at home as well. Parents extended wholehearted support and encouragement to the young participants. Trophies, medals, and certificates were awarded to appreciate the efforts of all children. The event concluded on a joyful note, leaving students motivated and inspired to stay active and confident.

Sunil Sharma, Sadhotra hail J&K's victory in Ranji Trophy

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Leader of Opposition in the Jammu & Kashmir Assembly, Sunil Sharma on Saturday extended heartfelt congratulations to the J&K cricket team, describing the achievement as a watershed moment in the sporting history of the Union Territory. Sunil Sharma said that this long-awaited triumph is the result of years of perseverance, discipline and an unshakable belief in the immense talent of Jammu & Kashmir's youth. He remarked that the victory has brought unparalleled joy and pride to every household across the region, uniting people in celebration beyond all boundaries of region and community.

"This historic win is not merely a trophy; it is a symbol of determination and resilience. Our young cricketers have shown that with focus, opportunity and consistent effort, nothing is beyond reach," he stated.

Sharma emphasized that the team's journey to the pinnacle of domestic cricket serves as a powerful inspiration for aspiring sportspersons across Jammu, Kashmir and the remote districts of the Union Territory. The Leader of Opposition also lauded the invaluable contribution of the coaching staff, selectors, support personnel and cricket administrators whose collective efforts created an environment conducive to excellence. He noted that sustained encouragement, systematic training and improved sporting infrastructure have finally translated into a landmark achievement on the national stage. Stressing the need to build upon this success, Sharma called for further strengthening of sports infrastructure, promotion of grassroots cricket and consistent institutional support so that more talented youth from J&K can represent the

nation at national and international platforms. Conveying his best wishes for future tournaments, he expressed confidence that this remarkable victory marks the dawn of a golden era for cricket in Jammu & Kashmir and will pave the way for many more historic accomplishments in the years to come.

Former minister and National Conference Additional General Secretary Ajay Kumar Sadhotra also hailed Jammu and Kashmir's victory in the Ranji Trophy as a defining and proud moment, saying the historic achievement has filled the entire region with joy and renewed confidence. Sadhotra described the triumph as a landmark in the sporting history of Jammu and Kashmir and a testament to the hard work, discipline and dedication of the team. "This is a defining and proud moment for Jammu and Kashmir. Our cricketers have demonstrated

remarkable skill, determination and team spirit. Their achievement has made us all proud and jubilant," he said, adding that people across the region are celebrating the success with great enthusiasm. Sadhotra said the

victory would serve as a major source of inspiration for the youth of J&K, proving that with proper guidance, facilities and determination, the region's young talent can excel at the national level.

Women Hockey trials on March 8

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Hockey Jammu and Kashmir shall conduct selection trials for the 16th Hockey India Sub Junior Women National Hockey Championship scheduled to be held at Ranchi in Jharkhand from April 1st to April 12.

The selection trials shall be held on March eight at KK Hakku Hockey Stadium here from 3 pm onwards. "The selection of probable shall be followed by the preparatory training camp of selected girls at the same venue from March nine to March 29," informed general secretary of the Hockey J&K, Dr Taran Singh.

Interested players may join for trials on the scheduled dates and time. Players registered on the MU portal of Hockey India and born on or after January one 2010 are only eligible to participate in the selection process.

"Players need to bring along with Hockey India registration card, Domicile certificate, Adhar card, bank account details and date of birth certificate at the time of reporting for the trials," added Dr Singh.

IIM Jammu hosts landmark 3rd IFAC



Prof. B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu along with dignitaries and students.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management Jammu marked the culmination of its 3rd International Finance and Accounting Conference with a grand valedictory ceremony held on February 28, 2026. Organized over two days, February 27 and 28, 2026, the conference was centered around the theme "Financial Strategies to Achieve Viksit Bharat 2047." The Chief Guest for the valedictory ceremony was Shri Hare Krishna Jena, Managing Director, The Clearing Corporation of India Limited. Prof. B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, presided over the inaugural ceremony. Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Faculty and Research graced the valedictory ceremony. The valedictory ceremony was graced by Prof. Pranab Ranjan Das and Dr. Ashish Kumar, Conference Chairs, IIM

Jammu. The event brought together eminent academicians, policymakers, financial experts, researchers, and scholars from across the country and abroad to deliberate on the evolving landscape of finance and accounting in alignment with India's long-term development vision. During the visit, the Chief Guest Shri Hare Krishna Jena planted a sapling in the Institute's courtyard, symbolizing sustainability and growth. He also toured the state-of-the-art infrastructure at IIM Jammu, including the Nalanda Library and smart classrooms, and visited the Director's Office. The visit concluded with an engaging and thoughtful interaction, reflecting the Institute's commitment to academic excellence and institutional development.

The ceremony also featured the distribution of Best Paper Awards, recog-

nizing outstanding research contributions presented during the conference. The awards celebrated scholarly excellence and innovative thinking in finance and accounting. Certificates were also distributed to participants. A total of 58 high-quality research papers were presented during the conference, reflecting rigorous scholarship and addressing contemporary themes critical to financial stability, inclusion, innovation, and sustainable economic growth.

The 3rd International Finance and Accounting Conference concluded on a note of renewed commitment and intellectual optimism, reaffirming IIM Jammu's dedication to academic excellence, policy-relevant research, and meaningful contributions toward achieving the national vision of a developed and self-reliant India by 2047.