

## J&K men's volleyball team to participate in 26th Youth National Championship

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Youth Men's Volleyball Team is set to participate in the 26th Youth National Volleyball Championship scheduled to be held in Bhubaneswar from March 15 to 20, 2026.

The championship will witness participation from youth volleyball teams representing different states and union territories across the country.

Prior to the national event, the team underwent a 10-day intensive coaching camp organised by the Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council at M.A. Stadium. The camp aimed at enhancing the technical skills, physical fitness, and overall performance of the players ahead of the national competition.



Senior Member of the VAJK along with Arshi Nad, Manager Indoor Complex JKSC posing with JKUT youth men team.

The training camp was conducted under the supervision of Arshi Nad, who also headed the panel of experts responsible for the screening and selection of the team.

The screening process was carried out in the presence of officials from the Volleyball Association of J&K and the J&K Sports Council. During the

interaction with the players, the dignitaries encouraged them to perform with dedication and determination and bring laurels to the Union Territory in the national volleyball arena. The team has been sponsored by the President and members of the Volleyball Association of J&K.

On the occasion, Sidharth Daluja,

President Volleyball Association of J&K, extended his best wishes to the team and expressed confidence that the players would perform well in the championship. Before their departure for the event, uniform kits and track suits were also distributed to all participants and officials.

The team will be accom-

panied by Balbinder Singh Jamwal, Rajan Kumar Sharma, and Intiaz Ahmed, who will serve as the team manager and coaches during the championship.

The players selected for the team include Anuj Sudan (Rajouri), Rajat Kumar (Jammu), Lovely Choudhary (Jammu), Kanu Sharma (Jammu), Amit Kumar (Jammu), Gurjeet Singh (Jammu), Avinash Banal (Jammu), Kshitij Bandal (Udhampur), Umair Aasif (Kulgam), Harshit Raina (Poonch), Haroon Fiyaz (Pulwama), Kaiser Tariq (Srinagar), Aarif Abbas (Anantnag), and Amir Mushtaq (Ramban).

The association expressed hope that the team would showcase excellent sportsmanship and represent Jammu & Kashmir with pride at the national level.

## Reasi District Lawn Tennis Open Championship concludes Hardeep wins U-40 singles, Palvi wins Women's Singles, Sanjay Kotwal-Arun Baru win Doubles title

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: The first-ever Reasi District Lawn Tennis Open Championship concluded on Thursday here at the Lawn Tennis Complex in the Shrine Board's Sports Complex, Katra, with a series of thrilling matches across multiple categories. The tournament was officially launched by Ashok Kumar, Senior Vice President of the J&K Lawn Tennis Association and former Director of Sports at the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB).

The Men's Under-40 category saw Pratham Arora defeat Sanjay Kumar 6-2 in the quarterfinals, while Saksham Amla triumphed over Saurya Veer 6-3.

In the semifinals, Hardeep Singh dominated Mihit Saxena 6-2 and Pratham Arora advanced by walkover.



Winner receiving trophy from the chief guest.

The final of the Men's Under-40 singles was claimed by Hardeep Singh, who defeated Pratham Arora 6-2, 6-3.

In the Men's Doubles Final, the pair of Sanjay Kotwal and Arun Baru defeated Nishant Sharma and Rinka Kapoor with a score of 8-5. Meanwhile, the Men's Singles Above 40 category saw Sanjay Kotwal beat Nishant Sharma 6-4 and Arun Baru edge past Rinka Kapoor 6-5,

7-5 in a tightly contested semifinal. Kotwal went on to win the final against Arun Baru 8-4. The Women's Singles Final was won by Palvi Parihar, who triumphed over Vinamrata with a score of 4-3, 7-3. Dhruv Gupta, JKAS, Director of Sports at SMVDSB Katra, presented prizes to the winners and participants, marking the successful conclusion of the event.

## JU organises workshop on Global Business Communication



**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The International Centre for Cross Cultural Research and Human Resource Management (ICCeR & HRM), University of Jammu (JU) organised a one-day workshop on "Global Business Communication and Executive Image Management" for the students of MBA (International Business).

The session was conducted by Chitrakshi Vij, a Delhi-

based CEO Image Consultant and Executive Presence Coach with over 12 years of professional experience. She has trained more than 6,000 professionals across India and has worked with reputed organisations including the Government of India, UNDP India, Dale Carnegie, NIIT Technologies and UpGrad. During the workshop, Vij interacted with the students through practical demonstrations,

interactive discussions and real-life examples. She focused on key aspects such as effective communication, presentation skills, professional etiquette, executive presence and personal branding. The session helped students understand the importance of confidence, clarity and a professional image in corporate environments. Prof. Hardeep Chahal, Director, ICeR & HRM, appreciated the initiative and emphasized that such workshops play a significant role in enhancing students' professional competencies and preparing them for the evolving corporate landscape.

Faculty members and students actively participated in the workshop and appreciated the efforts of the Centre in organising skill-oriented and industry-relevant programmes.

## 11th Shaheed Bhagat Singh Sub Junior Men Hockey C'ship begins Bandhu Rakh Club defeats MBS Club by 15-0 in opening tie

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The 11th Shaheed Bhagat Singh Sub Junior Men Hockey Championship is being organized by the Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh Foundation in collaboration with Hockey Jammu & Kashmir at the KK Haku Astro turf Hockey Stadium. After a gap of three years, the championship is being held from March 12 to 15, 2026. A total of seven teams are participating in the tournament.



JKCA member, Rajeev Sharma interacting with players.

The championship is open to players born on or after 1 January 2010. This event has been organized annually since 2012 to promote sports among young players and to keep alive the legacy of the great freedom fighter Bhagat Singh and his companions, who sacrificed their lives for the independence of India. Through such events,

the foundation aims to create awareness among youth about the sacrifices of our martyrs and encourage them to adopt sports as a positive path in life.

The championship was inaugurated by Rajeev Sharma, member of the J&K Sports Council, and Patron-in-Chief of Hockey J&K. Speaking on the occasion,

he said his main objective is to promote sports among the youth so that they can channel their energy in a positive direction and bring pride to their families and the nation. He appreciated the efforts of the Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh Foundation for consistently organizing such events and motivating young

players to participate in sports. Dr. Taran Singh, while briefing about the championship and its objectives, appreciated the efforts of Rajeev Sharma for his strong commitment to promoting sports in Jammu and Kashmir.

In the inaugural match, Bandhu Rakh Hockey Club defeated MBS Hockey Club

by a huge margin of 15-0. Tarjot Singh scored five goals, while Sonu netted three goals for Bandhu Rakh. Somarjeet Singh and Ankit scored two goals each, while Harshmit, Gurneet, and Ravi scored one goal each. Both teams played the match in a disciplined manner, and the spectators appreciated the enthusiasm and spirit shown by the young players.

The match officials included Sahil and Sakshiyam as umpires, Minakshi as Scoring Judge, Geetu as Technical Officer, Kirandeep Singh as Timing Judge, and Gurpreet Singh as Reserve Umpire.

Tomorrow Fixtures: Badal Club Srinagar vs Shaheed Bhagat Singh Club - 1:00 PM; and Guru Nanak Nagar Hockey Club vs Maharaja Ranjit Singh Hockey Club - 3:00 PM.

## NSS Unit of GDC Qazigund organizes Quiz Competition on Traffic Awareness and Road Safety

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
QAZIGUND: The National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit of Government Degree College Qazigund organized a Quiz Competition on Traffic Awareness and Road Safety as part of a series of activities aimed at spreading awareness about road safety among students.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students representing various departments of the college. Four teams, each comprising four participants, competed in multiple rounds including multiple-choice questions and rapid-fire rounds. The questions focused on important topics such as traffic rules, road signs, signaling systems and general road safety awareness.



Principal, Prof. Sudhir Singh honouring a participant.

The programme was presided over by the Principal, Prof. Sudhir Singh, who highlighted the importance of quizzes in promoting learning beyond textbooks and motivating students to stay informed about important social issues.

He emphasized that such events not only enhance knowledge but also develop critical thinking and team-work skills among students.

"The spirit of this event is to spread awareness, in addition to encouraging young people to act as ambassadors of road safety

in society," he said.

Dr. Ishtiyah Ahmed Shah served as the observer during the programme.

Earlier, the programme began with a welcome address by Dr. Nehad Kaniz Fatima, NSS Programme Officer, who also hosted and conducted the event.

The quiz competition witnessed a close contest among the teams. Team B, comprising Sheikh Sibbat Zahoor, Uzma Mushtaq Sofi, Suraiya Yusuf and Seerat Nazir, emerged as the winners. Team D, consisting of Naveeda, Fiza Azad, Arooj Koka and Mehak Yusuf, secured the runner-up position. Other participants included Seerat Abbas, Muzamil Rashid Dar, Sanya Rashid,

Ifshana Javid, Shahid Hussain Wani, Bilal Ahmad Wani, Muneed Iqbal Mir and Masroor Ahmad Mir.

The scoring of the quiz was efficiently managed by Dr. Muzaffar Ahmad Zargar, while Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad Dar served as the timekeeper. The programme was attended by Heads of Departments and faculty members of the college.

The winning team was presented with mementos, while other participants received tokens of appreciation. Earlier, painting, slogan writing and poster-making competitions along with an interactive awareness programme were also conducted on the theme of road safety.

## GGM Science College defeats GCW Gandhi Nagar to enter finals of VC Cricket Rolling Trophy



Participating teams posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: GGM Science College defeated Government College for Women Gandhi Nagar by six wickets in Match 3 of the ongoing VC Cricket Rolling Trophy tournament held at the JKCA Ground GGM Science College. The match was conducted under the supervision of Dr. Vinod Bakshi, Director of Physical Education & Sports at the Cluster University of Jammu. After winning the toss, GCW Gandhi Nagar elected to bat first. The team managed to score 80 runs in 16.2 overs. Paramjeet Singh led the batting effort with a composed 23 runs, including four boundaries, while Rahil also contributed 23 runs with

four boundaries. Despite these contributions, the batting side struggled to build strong partnerships, which restricted them to a modest total.

In response, GGM Science College displayed a confident and disciplined batting performance. The team successfully chased the target, reaching 84 runs for the loss of four wickets in just 11 overs, thereby registering a comfortable six-wicket victory.

Dr. Rohit played a crucial role in stabilizing the innings with a valuable 18 runs, while Rajesh remained unbeaten on 14 runs and Gaurav contributed 13 not out, guiding the team to victory with ease. For GCW Gandhi Nagar, Javi was the

most effective bowler, claiming two wickets for 17 runs in three overs.

Rahul Kait was declared the Man of the Match for his outstanding bowling performance. He picked up three crucial wickets, which played a significant role in restricting GCW Gandhi Nagar to a low total and set the stage for his team's victory.

The match was officiated by Deepak Gupta and Manish Sharma as umpires, while Prateek Malhotra performed the duties of scorer.

With this convincing win, GGM Science College has secured its place in the finals of the VC Cricket Rolling Trophy, marking an important milestone for the team in the ongoing tournament.

## Ministry of Education opens Registrations for Yuva Sangam Phase-VI; IIM Jammu partners with IIM Kozhikode

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management Jammu has invited applications for Yuva Sangam - Phase VI, a flagship youth exchange programme under the Ministry of Education, Government of India initiative Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. The programme aims to strengthen emotional bonds among youth and promote the spirit of unity in diversity through cultural and educational exchanges across different regions of the country.

Implemented under the Department of Higher Education, the initiative facilitates structured exposure visits between paired States and Union Territories. Through these visits, participants gain insights into India's diverse cultural traditions, development initiatives, and social landscapes while fostering mutual respect and national integration. Under this initiative, Indian Institute of

Management Jammu will partner with Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode to organise immersive exposure visits. Participants will have the opportunity to explore the cultural and developmental landscape of Kerala, India initiative Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. The programme aims to strengthen emotional bonds among youth and promote the spirit of unity in diversity through cultural and educational exchanges across different regions of the country.

Implemented under the Department of Higher Education, the initiative facilitates structured exposure visits between paired States and Union Territories. Through these visits, participants gain insights into India's diverse cultural traditions, development initiatives, and social landscapes while fostering mutual respect and national integration. Under this initiative, Indian Institute of

Speaking about the initiative, B. S. Sahay said that such programmes play a vital role in strengthening national integration by allowing youth to experience India's cultural diversity firsthand. He emphasized that Yuva Sangam provides a transformative platform for young people to interact with diverse communities, appreciate regional diversity, and build meaningful connections across the country.

He further noted that the initiative aligns with the vision of Viksit Bharat as envisaged by Narendra Modi and supports the objectives of the National Education Policy 2020, which emphasizes experiential learning, cultural awareness, and holistic development of youth.

The programme is structured around five thematic pillars: Paryatan (Tourism), Parampara (Traditions and Culture), Pragati (Development and Governance), Paraspar

Sampark (People-to-People Connect), and Prodyogiki (Technology and Innovation).

Meanwhile, Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode has also invited youth aged 18-30 years from Kerala and Lakshadweep to apply through the official portals. Under the programme, IIM Kozhikode will partner with IIM Jammu to facilitate exposure visits to Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, enabling participants to experience the region's vibrant cultural heritage, traditions, and educational institutions.

At IIM Jammu, Shyam Narayan Lal, Chairperson of Anandam - The Center for Happiness and Media & Publication, will serve as the Nodal Officer for the programme, while Neeraj Soni will coordinate the initiative.

The last date to apply for Yuva Sangam - Phase VI is March 18, 2026. Interested candidates can

apply through the official portals: <https://ebsb.aicte-india.org> and <https://ekbharat.gov.in>.

## Div Com reviews status of highway projects



Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar chairing a meeting.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar on Thursday Friday reviewed the progress of the Highway projects being executed by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHID-CL) and Border Roads Organization (BRO) across the division.

Deputy Commissioners from across Jammu Division, Director Geology and Mining Jammu, Regional Officer NHAI, Jammu, Chief Engineer PWD, Jammu, Chief Engineer Project Beacon/Sampark, ED NHIDCL and PD Udhampur, Jammu and Ramban attended the meeting in person and through virtual mode.

During the meeting, the

Divisional Commissioner took stock of the progress on different packages of road stretches on Lakhampur-Srinagar (NH44), Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway, Jammu Ring Road and Chenani-Patnitop-Nashri National Highway projects, besides Chenani-Sudhmahadev road, Goha Khellani road, Khellani-Khanabal road, Jammu-Akhnoor NH-144A being exe-

cuted by NHIDCL.

Reviewing the project wise progress and issues, the Div Com directed for resolving the bottlenecks, if any, to maintain pace of execution. "The Deputy Commissioners shall expedite the resolutions of any issue impeding the completions of the important National Highway projects," he directed.

The Divisional Commissioner also reviewed the progress on the Jammu-Poonch NH and Budhal-Mahore-Gul Road being executed by BRO under project Sampark. He directed the concerned Deputy Commissioner to take a weekly review to assess the progress of work.

Directions were also issued to clear the remaining cases of land compensation and secure forest clearances.