

J&K's Ranji Trophy win reflects impact of sustained investment in region: Jay Shah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: ICC chairman Jay Shah on Thursday said Jammu and Kashmir's recent triumph in the Ranji Trophy reflected the impact of "sustained investment" in developing cricketing infrastructure in the Himalayan region. Jammu and Kashmir bagged their maiden Ranji Trophy title, holding eight-time champions Karnataka to a draw in which the former gained a 291-run first innings lead at Hubballi last week. "Congratulations to the entire J&K team and the cricket fraternity for scripting a remarkable chapter in



Indian domestic cricket. Their progress reflects the positive impact of sustained investment in grassroots cricket and infrastructure in the region," said Shah after meeting members of the victorious J&K outfit. Shah had taken a special

interest in developing the cricketing landscape in the valley during his tenure as BCCI secretary, often visiting the region to assess the progress. The J&K team acknowledged Shah's contribution to the development of cricket in the region. "We sincerely thank Mr. Shah for taking the time to meet the team and for sharing his words of encouragement with the players as they celebrate this historic achievement. "The interaction highlighted the progress made by the team and the growing opportunities for players from Jammu & Kashmir in

domestic cricket," the team said in a release. Earlier, BCCI president Mithun Manhas had highlighted Shah's role in developing cricket in J&K. "We are very thankful to Jai bhai and his vision, the way he made this committee, keeping in mind the administration part, the cricketing part, and involving the right players. "He was the first secretary in the history of J&K in 67 years to come to Jammu and see the facilities himself. Once he was there and he showed us his full support, things started moving in the right direction," he had said.

Sham Lal felicitates Ranji Trophy winners from Jammu North

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Former Minister and MLA Jammu North Sham Lal Sharma felicitated two promising cricketers, Sahil Lotra, son of Vijay Kumar, and Yudhvir Singh Charak, Son of Dharam Singh Charak, both resident of Jammu North Constituency, for being part of the victorious Jammu & Kashmir team that created history by winning the prestigious Ranji Trophy title. While congratulating the players, Sham Lal Sharma said that their remarkable achievement has brought immense pride and recognition to Jammu and Kashmir. He stated that their dedication, discipline and outstanding performances have highlighted the



MLA Jammu North Sham Lal Sharma felicitating J&K Ranji team players Sahil Lotra and Yudhvir Singh Charak.

immense cricketing talent emerging from the region. Sharma said that the historic victory of the J&K team in the Ranji Trophy is a proud moment for the entire Union Territory and a milestone for the development of cricket in the region. He added that such achievements motivate young sports persons to work hard and pursue sports with commitment and determination. The MLA also congratulated the management and the selection committee of the JKCA for their continuous efforts in identifying and nurturing talented players and building a strong team capable of competing at the highest level of domestic cricket. Sham Lal further extended his appreciation to Mithun Manhas, President of

the Board of Control for Cricket in India, for his special focus and support towards strengthening cricketing infrastructure and promoting cricket in J&K. He said that the encouragement and guidance from the BCCI leadership have played an important role in providing opportunities and exposure to young cricketers from the region. He expressed confidence that this historic triumph will further boost the morale of budding cricketers and open new avenues for sporting excellence in Jammu and Kashmir. Sham wished both Sahil Lotra and Yudhvir Singh Charak continued success in their cricketing careers and expressed hope that they will keep bringing laurels to Jammu & Kashmir and the nation in the years to come.

Reasi Tennis meet from March 11

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Lawn Tennis Association shall hold two-day Reasi District Open Championship at Lawn Tennis Court of the SMVDSB Sports Stadium in Katra from March 11. The event is sponsored by the J&K Sports Council as part of the domestic calendar of activities, a handout issued by the Association here today informed. Those interested individuals have been advised to contact Arun Baru (8713077777), president of the district association and Chandni Nargotra (7051133132).

Khalsa Club wins by 8 wkts to enter semis of SCPL

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Khalsa Club on Thursday registered an impressive eight wickets win against Shaheed Jasjit Tral XI to enter the semifinals stages of the ongoing 2nd Sikh Cricket Premier League (SCPL), organised by J&K Sikh Coordination Committee and Hari Singh Nalwa Cricket Club Jammu at University of Jammu grounds, here. Batting first, Shaheed Jasjit XI bowled out for 102 runs in 18.2 overs. In reply, Khalsa Club overhauled the opponent total making 103 runs for two wickets in 14.4 overs. Jeetu was named player of the match for his unbeaten 58 (off 33 balls, 4x4, 6x4) and one wicket. Jeetu was also declared best batter for his unbeaten half century in a low scoring game. The best



Winner team posing with dignitaries.

bowler title went to Deep for his spell of three for 14 in four overs. Earlier, eight teams qualified for the quarterfinals including Hari Singh Nalwa Cricket Club, Khalsa XI, Shaheed Jasjit Singh Tral XI, Preet Nagar Cricket Club, Chardikala Strikers, Nalwa XI, Jaguar Cricket Club and Kaira Cricket Club. In today's first quarterfinal, Minister for Sports, Satish Sharma was chief guest, who along with other dignitaries witnessed the match and interacted with the teams and the members of the organising committee. He appreciated the efforts of chairman of the All J&K Sikh Coordination Committee, Ajit Singh. Earlier, Ajit Singh thanked LG Manoj Sinha for being

the chief guest in the inaugural of the event. He was all praised for the Sports Minister, Satish Sharma encouraging the organising team and the participants as also other officials. He also thanked senior police officers and officers of the civil administration for the support. Among other prominent present were Sandeep Singh Rissam, chairman J&K Congress Panchayati Raj Sangatan; Tejinder Singh Aman, provincial president Youth National Conference; Raghi Jagtar Singh, coordinator SGPC J&K; Raghi Harpreet Singh, Hazoori Ragi DGPC Jammu. Meanwhile, the next quarterfinal of the Tournament shall be held on a later date in view of the unavailability of the grounds.

Harish Raina conducts training session for Teachers at DIET Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Harish Raina, a noted educationist and academic mentor linked with Prachi India Pvt. Ltd., conducted an enriching training session at the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) Jammu. Having trained over one lakh teachers across the country, Raina shared insights on innovative pedagogy, digital tools, and transformative teaching practices. More than 100 teachers from 14 zones of Jammu district participated enthusiastically in the programme. The session emphasized learner-centric approaches to improve class-



Harish Raina with others at training session.

room engagement and overall educational quality. Participants described the interaction as insightful and empowering, helping them strengthen modern teaching competencies. The programme was graced by Dr. Ramesh, Head of Department at DIET Jammu, and Principal R.C. Dogra.

Annual Sports Day celebrated at Lord Mahavira Playway School

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Lord Mahavira Playway School celebrated its Annual Sports Day with great enthusiasm and vibrant participation from students, teachers, and parents. The event created a lively and energetic atmosphere, highlighting the importance of physical activity and holistic development among young learners. The program featured a range of engaging activities including colorful cultural performances, an informative and creative ramp walk show, and a series of fun-filled race competitions for the children. The young participants displayed remarkable confidence, talent, and sportsmanship during their performances and sporting events, which were widely



Lord Mahavira Playway School students and faculty with dignitaries at Annual Sports Day celebration.

appreciated by the audience. The occasion was graced by the Chief Guest, Zorawar Singh Jamwal, Spokesperson, BJP J&K, who distributed prizes and medals to the winning students. Congratulating the children for their enthusiastic participation, he encouraged them to maintain a healthy balance between academics and sports to ensure their overall growth and development. Addressing the gathering, Zorawar Singh appreciated the dedicated efforts of the school management and teachers for organizing such a well-planned and vibrant event. He emphasized that

sports and co-curricular activities play a vital role in the overall development of children by instilling qualities such as discipline, teamwork, leadership, and self-confidence at a very young age. He also highlighted the importance of encouraging children to actively participate in sports alongside academics, as it helps build a healthy body and a strong character. He congratulated the young participants for their spirited performances and wished them success in all their future endeavours. The management of Lord Mahavira Playway School expressed its sincere gratitude to the Chief Guest, parents, and staff members for their valuable support and cooperation in making the event a grand success.

IGP Jammu inaugurates capacity building programme for investigating officers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Zonal Police Headquarters Jammu is conducting a three-day training programme on "Quality Investigation of Cases" at the Conference Hall, District Police Lines (DPL) Jammu for officers of Jammu Zone. The programme is being attended by 94 officers of the ranks of DySPs, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and ASIs nominated from various districts of the zone. The programme was inaugurated by Bhim Sen Tuti, Inspector General of Police (IGP), Jammu Zone, who emphasized the importance of professional and legally sound investigations for strengthening the criminal justice system. Addressing the participants, he highlighted that evolving crime patterns and newly enacted criminal laws require



IGP Jammu Zone, Bhim Sen Tuti during visit to DPL Jammu.

investigating officers to continuously upgrade their knowledge and skills to ensure effective investigation and successful prosecution. The training programme will cover key aspects of investigation under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA), including Zero FIR and e-FIR provisions, arrest procedures, search and seizure, investigation protocols, filing of charge sheets and the role of electronic and digital evidence. Sessions will also cover the Juvenile Justice Act, POCSO Act and NDPS Act, with emphasis on handling sensitive cases involving children, victim protection, crime scene management, evidence handling and maintaining proper chain

of custody for effective prosecution. The programme will further include lectures on UAPA investigation, cyber-crime, digital forensics and financial transaction analysis, focusing on collection and preservation of digital evidence, investigation of terror funding and emerging cyber threats. Among others present on the occasion were Shiv Kumar Sharma, DIG JSK Range; Shamsheer Hussain, Staff Officer to IGP Jammu; Himanshu Mahajan, Sr. PO ZPHQ Jammu; and Tahir Amin Sheikh, DySP DAR Jammu. Resource persons on Day-1 included Lateeq Ahmad Dar, Director Prosecution, CHQ; Amrod Nagpure, SSP Udhampur; Kamini Thakur, Advocate, High Court of J&K and Ladakh; and Shalini Sharma, Member, JJB.

HPV vaccination campaign vital for 'Swasth Beti, Sashakt Bharat': Rekha Mahajan



BJP J&K Vice President Rekha Mahajan attending HPV vaccine drive at Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: BJP J&K Vice President Rekha Mahajan emphasized the importance of the HPV vaccination campaign, describing it as a significant step towards safeguarding the health, dignity, and future of young girls. She said the initiative reflects a strong commitment to building a healthier and empowered society. Speaking about the campaign, Rekha Mahajan said that awareness about preventive healthcare among girls and their families is essential. She highlighted that the HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine plays a crucial role in protecting women from

serious diseases such as cervical cancer and contributes to long-term health security. "The HPV vaccination campaign is a strong shield for the health, dignity, and safe future of our daughters. A healthy daughter means a strong and empowered nation, and this initiative moves us closer to the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi 'Swasth Beti, Sashakt Bharat'," she said. Rekha Mahajan further stated that promoting vaccination and healthcare awareness among adolescent girls is an important responsibility for society. She stressed that families, educational institu-

GDCW Kathua organizes lecture on 'Artificial Intelligence and Internet of Things'



GDCW Kathua students with faculty at a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: The Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) and the Career Counseling and Placement Cell of Government Degree College for Women, Kathua organized a lecture on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT) as part of a skill development programme aimed at enhancing students' knowledge in emerging technologies. The lecture was delivered by Sahil Badyal, Robotics Engineer at PHN Technology Pvt. Ltd., who highlighted the growing importance of AI and IoT in shaping the modern technological landscape. During his interaction, he explained how these two transformative technologies are revolutionizing industries and redefining the way people interact with devices and digital systems. He stated that the Internet of Things (IoT) refers to a network of interconnected physical devices such as vehicles, appliances, and other smart systems embedded with sensors and software that allow them to collect and exchange data through the internet. Artificial Intelligence (AI), on the other hand, involves technologies that enable machines to mimic human intelligence, including learning, reasoning, problem-solving, and decision-making. Badyal emphasized that the integration of AI and IoT creates a powerful synergy that has the potential to transform various sectors including healthcare, manufacturing, agriculture, and smart city development. He also informed the students that knowledge in areas

such as machine learning, data analytics, smart device connectivity, embedded systems, cloud integration, and automation can open wide career opportunities in the technology-driven world. Speaking on the occasion, Principal Dr. Jaipal Singh highlighted the significance of preparing students for the rapidly evolving digital economy. He stated that AI and IoT are shaping the future of industries worldwide, and educational institutions must focus on skill development to equip students with practical knowledge and technological expertise required in the modern era. The programme was successfully organized by the IIC committee members, including Dr. Poonam Sanbyal (Convener), Dr. Nasir Ali, Prof. Manjot Singh, Dr. Ajay Sanotra, and Prof. Sachinjeet Singh. A total of 38 students participated in the lecture and actively interacted with the resource person, making the session informative and engaging. The programme concluded with encouragement for students to explore emerging technologies and develop skills relevant to the digital future.

Yudhvir holds Janata Darbar



Yudhvir holds Janata Darbar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: MLA Jammu East Yudhvir Sethi held a Janata Darbar at Pt. Prem Nath Dogra Bhawan, Kacchi Chawni, where a large number of residents from different areas of the constituency gathered to present their grievances and issues. During the interaction, people raised several concerns related to civic amenities, development works, public utilities, and other local matters. The MLA patiently listened to the issues and assured the participants that their problems would be addressed on priority. Officials and party workers present on the occasion also noted down the concerns raised by the residents for prompt action. Speaking on the occasion, Yudhvir Sethi emphasized the importance of maintaining direct contact with the public. He said that Janata Darbars serve as an effective platform to understand the genuine concerns of the people and work towards resolving them in a timely manner. "My priority is to remain accessible to the people and ensure that their issues are addressed without delay. Public participation and direct interaction help us understand the ground realities and plan development works accordingly," Sethi said. Among those who attended the programme were Shiv Sharma, Bajalta Mandal President; Anuradha Sharma, District President Mahila Morecha; Parveen Kerni, senior leader; and Harvinder Singh, along with other prominent party members. Many residents said that such public outreach programmes help bridge the gap between the administration and the people. The programme concluded with Sethi assuring the public that he would continue to hold similar outreach programmes.